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CHANGES OF METABOLIC PARAMETERS AFTER ELECTROCONVULSIVE THERAPY IN SCHIZOPHRENIA - PRELIMINARY RESULTS

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Introduction: Metabolic abnormalities are commonly associated with antipsychotics treatment and may increase prevalence of cardiovascular disorders. There are some reports that electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) may reduce weight in depressed patients.

Objectives: The study is aimed at comparing metabolic safety of combination of ECT and antipsychotics with antipsychotics alone in schizophrenia.

Methods: Weight, abdominal circumference, body mass index (BMI), fasting plasma levels of cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglycerides, glucose, blood pressure (BP) were recorded for 12 schizophrenic subjects (4W and 8M, age 29.2±9.4 year) before (pre-ECT) and after (post-ECT) 12 to 15 bilateral ECT sessions combined with antipsychotics treatment. These were compared with data for 44 schizophrenic subjects (25W and 19M, age 35.7±13.8 year) collected before (pre-AP) and after (post-AP) in-hospital antipsychotics treatment.

Results: Results (mean±SD) are given in Table 1.

	Pre-ECT	Pre-AP	Post-ECT	Post-AP	р
Weight [kg]	81.4±17.3	80.6±19.5	79.7±17.1	80.6±18.8	NS
BMI [kg/m ²]	27.0±4.2	27.8±6.1	26.3±3.93	27.8±5.88	NS
Abdominal circumference [cm]	97.8±12.0	95.2±15.5	95.5±13.2	95.1±14.9	NS
Cholesterol [mg/dl]	198.9±45.0	205.8±52.9	187.2±34.84	200.4±45.4	NS
HDL [mg/dl]	40.2±13.1	43.8±14.4	40.3±9.84	42.6±13.6	NS
LDL [mg/dl]	122.7±28.0	131.2±44.8	119.3±26.77	123.4±39.9	NS
Triglycerides [mg/dl]	159.0±94.2	144.3±90.1	145.9±74.147	173.5±97.8	NS
Glucose [mg/dl]	108.2±50.6	97.0±21.8	109.8±51.13	98.7±15.24	NS
Systolic/diastolic BP [mmHg]	122.7±7.5/84±13.4	128.4±18.7/85.4±15.1	110.8±14.36/70.6±12.6	120.1±17.6/78.9±8.2	<0.05

[Table 1]

Conclusions: Our results might indicate that bilateral ECT neither improves nor worsens metabolic parameters in subjects with schizophrenia treated with antipsychotics.