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Epilepsy in Elderly Patients and Affective Disorders

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Introduction: This makes the issues of epilepsy in elderly patients and of emotional and affective disorders more and more topical.

Study objectives: To study the structure of non-psychotic psychiatric disorders (NPD) in post-stroke elderly patients and in patients with symptomatic post-stroke epilepsy.

Materials and methods: Two groups of 56 patients were studied. In Group 1 (37 patients: 21 men and 16 women), the stroke was complicated by the development of symptomatic post-stroke localization-related epilepsy. In Group 2 (19 patients: 7 men and 12 women), no paroxysmal states of the epileptic nature were found. The average age of Group 1 patients was 63.00 years, of Group 2 patients, 62.5 years.

Results: In Group 1, affective d

epression-spectrum disorders were found more frequently than in Group 2 (Group 1 – 78.9%; Group 2 – 33.3%), whereas in Group 2, affective anxiety-spectrum disorders were found more frequently than in Group 1 (Group 1 – 21.1%; Group 2 – 66.7%). The average depression score in Group 1 and Group 2 was 34.81 ± 2.73 and 28.57 ± 3.07 on the BDI scale and 21.84 ± 1.50 and 13.79 ± 1.36 (p≤0.01) on the HRDS scale, respectively.

In Group 1, a considerable correlation dependence between the index of the impact of depression and anxiety on the manifestation of other psychopathological factors (up to .819**) and the General Severity Index (GSI) was found. In Group 2, a weak correlation dependence between anxiety and the GSI (up to .828*)

Conclusion: The study results have shown a high severity of depression in elderly patients with symptomatic post-stroke epilepsy.