Stroke; Driving
Introduction.—Currently, the driving resumption procedure for stroke patients is complex in terms of evaluation, medical advice and legislation. Not much data is available on the resumption of driving after a stroke. The objective of our study is to describe the frequency of driving resumption after a stroke based on population, activity status and the driving resumption conditions.

Method.—Retrospective study by phone survey to all stroke patients hospitalized in Neurology (NeuroVascular Unit) at the University Hospital of Caen in 2011.

Results.—Study ongoing.

Discussion.—In the literature, 30 to 50% of patients drive again after a stroke. The average time to complete a driving test is 8.8 months (from 1.9 to 18.5 months), and the time to restart driving is about 18 to 20 months.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.084

P430-e

Stroke in the very elderly: Characteristics and outcome in patients over 90
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Keywords: Stroke; Elderly; Disability; Rehabilitation

Introduction.—The very old are expected to become a growing part of the stroke population in the developed countries, but related information is limited.

Materials and methods.—Retrospective hospital-based population analysis of patients discharged from hospital with a principal diagnosis of acute stroke (ICD-10: 160–164) from 2003 to 2007. Patients over 90 were compared with patients discharged from hospital with a principal diagnosis of acute stroke in the locked in syndrome

Conclusion.—The fall prevention program seems to reduce falls. A good identification of fall risk predictors and respect of the prevention program by caregivers is advisable.

Further reading

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.087

P431-e

Correlation and recovery of balance according to evoked potentials in hemiparetic stroke patients
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Keywords: Stroke; Evoked potential; Balance

Introduction.—This study was undertaken to investigate correlation and recovery of balance ability according to motor evoked potentials (MEPs) and somatosensory evoked potentials (SSEPs) of lower extremity in sub-acute hemiparetic stroke patients.

Material and methods.—Thirty-seven hemiparetic stroke patients (average age, 66.7 ± 12.6 years) were enrolled for this study. All subjects performed motor evoked potentials (MEPs) of tibialis anterior muscle and somatosensory evoked potentials (SSEPs) of tibial nerve at baseline. Two groups were classified as response of evoked potentials (MEPs (+): presence of MEPs response, SSEPs (+): absence of SSEPs response, SSEPs (-): absence of SSEPs response). Patients were evaluated for balance ability using the Bio rescue posturography. Among several parameters, we used weight distribution indices expressed by surface area (WDI-Sa) and pressure (WDI-Pr).

Results.—In comparison of posturographic parameters according to MEPs response, WDI-Sa (EO) (0.83 ± 0.14 vs 0.97 ± 0.22, P = 0.04), WDI-Sa (EC) (0.81 ± 0.17 vs 0.95 ± 0.21, P = 0.04), WDI-Pr (EO) (0.69 ± 0.25 vs 0.90 ± 0.29, P = 0.03) and WDI-Pr (EC) (0.69 ± 0.25 vs 0.98 ± 0.35, P = 0.01) scores were significantly lower in MEPs (-) group than MEPs (+) group.

Discussion.—Our findings suggested that MEPs response was significantly correlated with balance ability at baseline in sub-acute hemiparetic stroke patients.

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.086

P432-e

Prevention of falls among patients with recent vascular hemiplegia at a physical medicine center: Assessment of a specific prevention program
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Keywords: Hemiplegia; Stroke; Fall; Prevention; Risk factors

Objective.—Analyse the effectiveness of a protocol for the prevention of falls in hemiplegia.

Methods.—A descriptive and retrospective study, performed over a period of 24 months of 114 patients older than 16 years of age, all victims of a recent stroke. Two groups were evaluated: one “fall prevention program” (presence of fall risk predictors), the other without these factors. The prevention program decided and followed by the medical team includes: magnetic belt, supervision during transfer, secured facility on toilet.

Results.—There was 42.98% of hemiplegics who fell down. In the group “prevention program” (n = 35), 15.79% fell, this rate increases in the other group (n = 79) up to 27.19%. Serious lesions occurred only in the group “without prevention program”. A breach of protocol was noted in 55.81% of cases.

Conclusion.—The fall prevention program seems to reduce falls. A good identification of fall risk predictors and respect of the prevention program by caregivers are advisable.

Further reading

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.087