Objective. -- To investigate causes of death and age at death in cerebral palsy (CP) subjects compared with the general population.

Method. -- Analysis of data supplied by the Centre of Epidemiology on the Medical Causes of Death was conducted. Three thousand and thirty-one death certificates indicating a diagnosis of CP were reported between 2000 and 2008.

Results. -- Median age at death was between 45–54 years and principal cause comprised the category 'Symptoms, signs, and abnormal results of clinical and laboratory tests, not classified elsewhere'. Of these, 66% were related to the circulatory and respiratory systems. 'Diseases of the respiratory system' was the second most common cause of death. The third most common cause was ' Diseases of the circulatory system'. The tumour pathologies were only the fourth cause of death.

Discussion. -- These results concur with other published data, i.e. subjects with CP die younger than the French general population, and the principal causes of death are respiratory and circulatory problems.

Further reading


http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rehab.2014.03.1236

CO64-002-e

Etiologies, comorbidities and causes of death in a population of 133 polyhandicapped patients cared for at specialist rehabilitation centres

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Keywords: Polyhandicap; Death; Comorbidities

Objective. -- This study addresses the questions of the aetiologies, comorbidities, and causes of death in a population of severely poly-handicapped (PLH) patients.

Methods. -- Based on the medical files of all deceased PLH patients, who were cared for between 2006 and 2012. Data collected: etiological diagnosis of the poly-handicap, duration and type of hospitalisation, age, place and cause of death, comorbidities: chronic respiratory insufficiency, recurrent attacks of pulmonary infections, urinary infections, active epilepsy, scoliosis, chronic digestive disorders, and behavioural problems.

Results. -- Hundred and thirty-three patients died, 70 children and 63 adults. The sex-ratio was 84 men to 49 women. The average stay in these institutions was 10 years. The average age at the time of death was 21 years, in 60% of cases the place of death was in the specialist rehabilitation centres. The causes of death in decreasing order were: pulmonary infections (63.2%), sudden death (18%), status epilepticus (6.8%); 79.7% of patients suffered from chronic respiratory insufficiency, 60.2% suffered from serious scoliosis, 66.9% drug-resistant epilepsy, 78.9% had digestive disorders. The main aetiologies of the poly-handicap were: pre- and perinatal encephalopathies (31.6%), metabolic encephalopathies (18%), convulsive encephalopathies (11.3%).

Conclusion. -- The main comorbidity and main cause of death in patients with severe PLH is respiratory failure.

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CO64-003-e

Cognitive disorders in adults with cerebral palsy


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Keywords: Cerebral palsy; Cognitive disorders

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CO64-004-e

The qualitative assessment of general movements in preterm infants with small for gestational age or abnormal echo image: Pilot study

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Keywords: Preterm; Small for gestational age; Brain echo; General movement

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