History of traumatic brain injury among prisoners: Differences depending on the severity of the reported trauma

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Keywords: Traumatic brain injury; Prison; Prisoner

Introduction.− Two meta-analyses have highlighted a significant prevalence of history of TBI in incarcerated populations [1,2]. A prevalence survey has been conducted at Fleury-Mérogis prison.

Objective.− Establish the prevalence of history of TBI and epilepsy in a population of incomers in prison and to explore the links between TBI, epilepsy and criminality.

Methodology.− A questionnaire was filled with all incomers at Fleury-Mérogis prison during a period of 3 months.

Results.− The prevalence of history of TBI is 32% among adult males. Depending on the TBI severity, different profiles could be described concerning criminal course, perceived health, treatments and psychoactive substances used.

Conclusion.− These results should lead to better screening in this population and adapted support according to the severity of the TBI.

References

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Visual rehabilitation with a vision-trainer instrument for patients with severe acquired brain injury (sABI): Two case reports

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Keywords: Acquired brain injury; Rehabilitation; Visual trainer

Introduction.− The severe impairment of the visual acuity and visual field is one of the perceptual disturbances that most interfere with rehabilitation programs for ABI. Retimax Vision-Trainer is a biofeedback device that has the purpose to improve visual function by means of the detection of a visual evoked potential associated with a sound feedback.

Observation.− We evaluated the effectiveness of rehabilitative treatment in two patients with ABI:
− M.U., male, 53 aged, with a right hemisphere cerebral haemorrhage 24 months before, LCF = 8, no neglect, left homonymous hemianopia;
− G.U., female, 24 aged with a cerebellar haemorrhage (9 years before, with a period of unresponsiveness of 7 years), LCF = 6, bilateral visual acuity 2/10 for distance, 6 DW for near, nystagmus, right exotropia, left homonymous hemianopia.

Patients were submitted to the treatment of photostimulation, 10 sessions twice a week. In M.U. we noticed a significant visual field enlargement to the left, documented by Goldmann perimetry. In G.U. it was observed an increase of 1/10 in visual acuity for distance and near, with functional advantages in BADL.

Discussion.− We believe that Retimax Vision-Trainer may be an effective rehabilitative tool, provided there is a satisfactory attentional and cognitive competence.

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Voxel-based statistical analysis of brain metabolism in traumatic brain injury patients with growth hormone deficiency after growth hormone replacement treatment

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