Psychoeducational care of benign epilepsy of childhood with centro-temporal foci (BECCT) with anterior operculum syndrome based on analysis of the ictal EEG

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BECCT as a common type of benign partial epilepsy in childhood has the characteristic clinical seizures and interictal EEG with epileptic foci on rolandic area and is known to have postictal transient anterior operculum syndrome which is consisted of paralysis of CNVII and IX to XII usually called cortical pseudobulbar palsy. Repeated ictal EEGs were able to obtained in a female patient with BECCT who has normal intelligence and linguistic development. Ideal clinical care method was considered based on the clinico-electroencephalographic analysis. The ictal EEGs taken twice at 6 and 8 years old out of 10 EEG recordings from 5 to 10 years of age on carbamazepine were revealed diffuse poli-spikes and spike and waves with right and bilateral facial clonic movements lasting for 38 and 35 seconds respectively, immediately followed by arousal alpha waves mixed with slow theta waves accompanied by aphasia and difficulty of swallowing of saliva for 3 minutes. No disturbance of spoken language comprehension was observed. She experienced fright during the episodes. So she and her mother were informed about bulbar palsy and manegement for it on the neurological and psychological view points. Even if this epilepsy is categorized into benign one in prognosis, the bulbar palsy with risk of suffocation and psychological problems is not disregarded. Psychoeducational care is important for clinical manegement of children with BECCT.

Safe pregnancy in epilepsy: Registry of epilepsy and pregnancy initiative in India

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Background Care for women with epilepsy (WWE) and pregnancy is suboptimal in most countries. Objectives Indian Registry of Epilepsy and Pregnancy (IREP) is established to monitor reproductive functions in WWE and facilitate their optimal care. Methods First such registry in India was set up at Trivandrum (TVM) in 1998. A consensus protocol was developed to manage WWE during preconception period, pregnancy and post partum period. It includes intensive monitoring during pregnancy, early infancy (Echocardiography, Ultrasound Scan etc.) and late infancy (developmental assessment). Similar registries were set up on the east coast (Vishakhapatnam-VZG, 1999) and in north India (Ludhiana-LDH, 2000). These registries are following a unified protocol and joined together in 2001 to form the IREP. Two new centers are being established. IREP is now pooling data with European Registry (EURAP). Results Total of 547 WWE (mean age 24 years) were enrolled (TVM 386, VZG 125, LDH 36) 320 had completed pregnancies (TVM 224, VZG 66, LDH 30). AEDs included Carbamazepine (141), Phenytoin (98), Phenobarbitone (83), Valproate (63), Clobazam (12), Clonazepam (7) and Lamotrigine (7). Preconception or first trimester folate supplementation was high in TVM (83%) but low in VZG (33%) and LDH (17%). There were 38 (11.9%) cases of malformations (including two termination). Malformations involved nervous system (3), heart (20), skeleton (7), genitourinary system (4) and intestines or abdominal wall (3). Two babies had hemorrhagic disease of newborn with intracranial hemorrhage. Conclusion This new initiative has focused attention on the need for systematic monitoring during preconception period and pregnan