Abstract Template

Abstract Title: Vestibular-Evoked Myogenic Potential (VEMP) in the Evaluation of Schistosomal Myeloradiculopathy

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Abstract

Schistosomal myeloradiculopathy (SMR) is the most severe and disabling form of schistosomiasis. The diagnosis is based on clinical, laboratory, and image data. Vestibular-evoked myogenic potential (VEMP) is a neurophysiologic test that assesses the vestibulospinal pathway through acoustic or galvanic stimuli. The aim of this study was to evaluate cervical spinal abnormalities in patients with SMR. Fifty-two subjects were evaluated, of whom 29 had SMR and 30 did not (normal control). Normal VEMP was observed in all volunteers without SMR. Abnormal VEMP was recorded in 34% of the group with SMR. After treatment, abnormal VEMP was found in 80% of those with persistent neurologic abnormalities. VEMP is a functional test, and the alteration may precede image abnormalities. This procedure may be useful for early diagnosis of schistosomal cervical spinal cord involvement.

Key words: Tropical Disease; schistosomiasis; vestibular potential; diagnosis.

Professional Biography

She earned her baccalaureate in Brazil (2004). Her master's (2006) and PhD's (2011) degrees in Medicine (Health Sciences: Tropical Diseases) and Balance Disorders, and post doc in The Netherlands in Maastricht University (2015). Her area of expertise is Balance Disorders, Electrophysiology and Cochlear Implant. She is currently an Assistant Professor for the Department of Speech and Hearing Science in the College of College of Fine Arts and Communication at Lamar University, in Texas. She contributed with more than 30 original papers and (co-) authored in more than 80 presentations at congresses (national and international) and has been serving as an editorial board member of Journal of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology, Journal of Otolaryngology-ENT Research, Global Journal of Otolaryngology. Also, as a Journal Reviewer of Audiology - Communication Research (ACR), Journal of Otolaryngology-ENT Research, Otolaryngology Open Access Journal (OOAJ), Revista CEFAC (Online), The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.



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