

Title: COGNITIVE FUNCTION IN IRANIAN PATIENTS WITH HEPATITIS C

Name: Soroosh Hamzeh
Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is one of the most common blood-borne viral infections in the world, with a high risk of mortality and morbidity .Cognitive dysfunction is common among patients with hepatitis C, and it is estimated that at least one domain of cognition is impaired in one-third these patients. They are also at higher risk of neurodegenerative disorders including dementia and Parkinson's disease. The main aim of present study is to evaluate cognitive function of HCV+ individuals in a clinic-based sample. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study of cognitive performance in Iranian patients with hepatitis C. Cognitive function of HCV-infected patients was assessed by a battery of neuropsychological tests including Montreal cognitive assessment(MoCA) as a screening tool for mild cognitive impairment, Auditory verbal learning test (AVLT) for assessment of verbal memory, Category fluency test for assessment of verbal fluency performance, Digits Span forward and backward tests for assessment of attention and working memory, Digit symbol substitution test (DSST) for assessment of memory, visual scanning and psychomotor speed. We also used The short form health survey (SF-36) and Multidimensional fatigue inventory (MFI) for assessment of general health and fatigue. So far, we have included 10 newly diagnosed male patients with the mean age of 38.7±7.7 years. MoCA test result was abnormal in 50% of patients. Mean MFI score was 71±16.1 which is significantly higher than the normative value from healthy Iranian population (p=0.036). Digit span forward test scores were significantly correlated with SF-36 scores (r=0.845, P=0.034). No correlation was found between SF-36 scores and other neuropsychological tests results. Conclusion: These preliminary results point to the existence of a mild cognitive impairment among Iranian patients with HCV infection. Patients' general health status may contribute to their cognitive performance.

Biography

Soroosh Hamzeh is a 3rd year medicine student at the age of 21 years from Iran University of Medical Sciences. He is a researcher at NIRA – a subgroup of USERN –, science writer at Quarterly Journal of Contemporary Neuroscience, member of PR and translator team of Sadra Neuroscience Scientific Research Association.

Presenting author details
Full name: Soroosh Hamzeh
Contact number: +98-912-812-1728
Twitter account: - (I have no twitter accounts)
Linked In account: Soroosh Hamzeh
Session name/ number:
Category: Poster presentation