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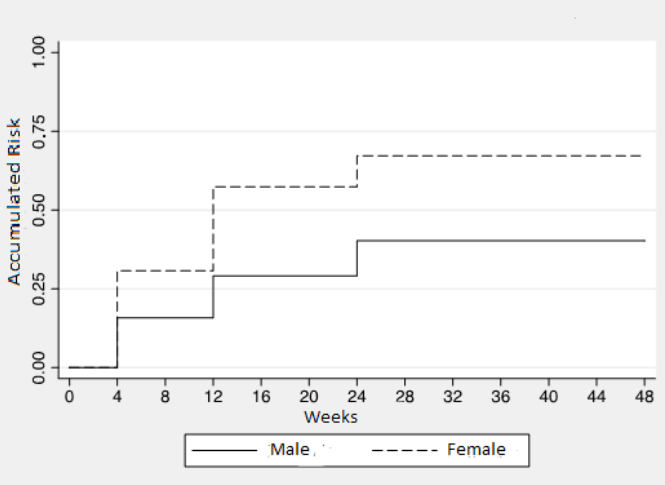
Depressive episode incidence in patients with chronic Hepatitis C treated with Pegylated Interferon and Ribavirin

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Abstract (300 word limit)

The effectiveness of antiviral therapy with pegylated interferon and ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C is far from ideal and presents several adverse events. Among such events, there is the depressive episode that can even lead to treatment discontinuity. Objective - Analyze the incidence of depressive episodes in patients with chronic hepatitis C treated with pegylated interferon and ribavirin, as well as the possible factors associated with its occurrence and its impact on patients' sustained virological response. Methods - People with chronic hepatitis C undergoing antiviral therapy were interviewed at the baseline, at the 4th, 12th, 24th and 48th treatment weeks and 4 weeks after the end of it, using the HADS scale for tracking the depressive episode.Patients with HADS ≥9 were subjected to Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II) to grade the episode.Clinical, sociodemographic,laboratorial and histological variables were obtained to identify factors related to the onset of depression. The sustained virological response rate (negative HCV-RNA 6 months after end of therapy) was compared among patients with and without depressive symptoms.Results - The study comprised 32 patients.The depressive episode was diagnosed in 25% of the patients and the peak incidence was found in the 12th treatment week. The depressive episode was moderate in 87% of the patients.None of the analyzed factors was associated with depressive episode onset. A trend was observed in female patients.The sustained virological response rate was of 75% and 67% in patients with and without depressive episode, respectively.Conclusion-.The study show that the incidence of depressive episodes in Brazilian patients with chronic hepatitis C treated with PEG IFN alpha and ribavirin, is high.It is recommended that patients undergoing antiviral therapy with pegylated interferon should be systematically evaluated in search for depressive episode, especially in the first 12 weeks of therapy, since the depressive episode affects a significant number of treated patients.

Image



Recent Publications (minimum 5)

1-Gorenstein C, Andrade L. Validation of a Portuguese version of the Beck depression inventory and the state-trait anxiety inventory in Brazilian subjects. Braz J Med Biol Res. 1996;29:453-57.

2-Medeiros LPJ, Kayo M, Medeiros RBV, et al. Interferon-induced depression in patients with hepatitis C: an epidemiologic study. Rev Assoc Med Bras. 2014 ;60.

3-Pavlovic Z, Delic D, Nadja P, et al. Depressive symptoms in patients with hepatitis C treated with pegylated interferon alpha therapy:a 24-week prospective study. Psychiatria Danubina. 2011:23:370-377

4-Schaefer M, Capuron L,Friebe A, et al. Hepatitis C infection, antiviral treatment and mental health: A European expert consensus statement. JHepatol.2012;57:1379-90.

5-Zigmond AS, Snaith RP. The hospital anxiety and depression scale. Acta PsychiatrScand.1983;67:361-70.



Biography

Izabella Liguori is a Brazilian, clinical and hospital psychologist, cognitive-behavioral therapist. Master in Health in Brazil in the Federal University of Juiz de Fora with emphasis on research in
chronic hepatitis C. Coordinator in the Department of Hospital Psychology, Hospital and Maternity Therezinha de Jesus, Juiz de Fora, MG, Brazil; working for more than 10 years in this area.

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Notes/Comments: