

INCIDENCE OF DISABILITY OF ORAL MEDICATION IN PATIENTS WITH FREQUENCY /URINARY INCONTINENCE OR URINARY URGENCY

Hypothesis / aims of study

Due to the rapid aging tendency of Japanese society, the number of population with urinary frequency/urinary incontinence or urgency has been rapidly increasing. Other than such socially-active population, much higher number of populations with urinary frequency/urinary incontinence or urgency, who are taken care of in nursing home or at home, can not be adequately treated by new oral medication. For the purpose of clarifying the rate of patients who can not take drugs orally or so-called patients with disability to have oral medication among patients with frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency in routine clinical practice, a survey was carried out by questionnaire on physicians in randomly sampled medical institutions.

Study design, materials and methods

The search was performed by website among more than 400 doctors of out-patient clinics or in-patient hospitals with approval of each Ethical Committee. The types of specialties include Urologist, Gynaecologist, Surgeon, and General Practitioner. Questionnaires include the incidence of patients with urinary frequency/urinary incontinence or urgency among all patients, and the incidence of patients who can not take drugs orally or patients with disability to have oral medication among patients with frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency.

Results

Answers obtained from 337 physicians (a total of 136,841 patients) in 337 medical institutions were totalized and analyzed. Patients with disability to have oral medication accounted for about 3.3% of the total out-patients, and about 11.6% of patients with frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency. However, patients with disability to have oral medication accounted for about 20.9% of the total in-patients, while about 19.0% of patients with frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency

Analysis was performed after stratifying by various factors; by clinical sections, the concerned patients were found at a high incidence in the fields of internal medicine and surgery, and by clinical disease types, then the incidence was higher in patients in a chronic stage than acute one. The possible causes were as follows in descending order; 1) cerebrovascular disorders, 2) central nervous system disorder other than stroke, and 3) concerns of the adverse events, etc.

Interpretation of results

Both the incidence of disability to have oral medication and frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency are much higher in in-patients than out-patients, are much higher in patients with chronic stage of cerebrovascular diseases .

Concluding message

These results indicate that there are many patients with frequency /urinary incontinence or urinary urgency to whom existing drug therapy is not applicable because of disability to take oral medication. In addition to the current survey, huge number of patients in nursing home or at home may not be candidate for oral medication. Other methods of drug administration will be needed for the quality of life among those patients.

References:

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HUMAN SUBJECTS: This study was approved by the University of Yamanashi and followed the Declaration of Helsinki Informed consent was not obtained from the patients.