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Clinical characteristics related radionuclide salivagram in chronic brain injured patients

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Objective

Pneumonia is most common complication and is related with mortality in chronic brain injured patients. Saliva aspiration is common finding in chronic brain injured patients with pneumonia. So we investigated the correlation between clinical characteristics and radionuclide salivagram in chronic brain injured patients.

Subjective and Method

We investigated retrospective medical record finding of patients with dysphagia in chronic brain injured from January 2016 to March 2018. Motor-neuron disease, combined cord injury, non brain tumor and Alzheimer dementia patients were excluded. Then 31 patients had examination of radionuclide salivagram and VFSS. We checked clinical character such as age, duration of disease, MMSE-K, K-MBI, Tracheostomy state, feeding method, brain lesion, VFSS PAS and VFSS Dysphagia scoring. Group comparison according to salivagram findings was performed using t-test, Pearson chi-square test and mutiple logistic regression analysis with forward stepwise.

Results

In 31 chronic brain injuries patients 23 patients showed positive finding in radionuclide salivagram. Mean age was 65.3 ± 14.42 . 8 patients showed negative finidngs in radionuclide salivagram and mean age was 60.37 ± 22.41 . Most cause of brain injured was stroke in both positive and negative finding in salivagram. In comparison findings between positive and negative salivagram PAS, VFSS Dysphagia scoring, tracheostomy state and tube feeding were correlated with positive radionuclide salivagram. Age and disesa duration at salivagram were not correlated with positive salivagram. And Tracheostomy state, PAS factor were significantly associated with postive salivagram by multiple logistic regression with forward stepwise.

Conclusion

In chronic brain injured patients high PAS, VFSS Dysphagia scoring, tracheotomy state, non-oral feeding state were correlated with positive radionuclide salivagram. Saliva aspiration is related with aspiration pnemonia so it is poor functional factor in chronic brain injured. Age and disease duration are not related with positive radionuclitde salivagram. So if we consider that swallowing training or tracheostomy training in chronic brain injured patients we evalated saliva aspiration risk and associated factors.

Table1. Characteristics and comparison of brain injured patients with and without on salivagram findings

	Saliva aspiration (23)	Saliva non-aspiration (8)	<i>p-value</i>
Age	65.3±14.42	60.37±22.41	0.47
Sex	M : 13 F : 10	M : 7 F : 1	
Disease cause	Stroke : 19 (Inf.4, Hemo.12) TBI : 4 HBI : 1, IPD : 1, Tumor :1	Stroke : 7(Inf. 2, Hemo .5) TBI : 1	
Lesion	Bilateral : 10, Unilateral : 13	Bilateral : 2, Unilateral : 6	
Duration(month)	12.04±11.09	19±24.06	0.27
K-MBI	10.91±19.23	17.87±16.19	0.36
MMSE-K	6.47±10.02	10.37±10.58	0.37
VFSS PAS	6.26±2.78	2±2.56	0.01*
VFSS Dysphagia scoring	53.13±18.21	31±13.27	0.04*
Feeding state	Tube : 23 Oral : 0	Tube : 5, Oral : 3	

Table2. Correlation factor between clinical characteristics and positive salivagram finding

	상관계수	<i>p-value</i>
Age	0.135	0.47
Duration	-0.202	0.27
PAS	0.577	0.001
VFSS Dysphagia Scoring	0.544	0.004
Tube feeding	0.555	0.001
Tracheostomy	0.644	0.001

Table3. Multiple logistic regression analysis with stepwise method of clinical characteristics related positive salivagram finding

Parameter	Beta coefficient	Standard error	t	<i>p-value</i>
Tracheostomy	0.453	0.1	3.55	0.001
PAS	0.302	0.19	2.16	0.04