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EVALUATION OF RIVASTIGMINE EFFICACY IN TREATMENT OF MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER: A RANDOMIZED DOUBLE BLIND CONTROLLED TRIAL

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Background & Aim: Rivastigmine, a reversible inhibitor of acetylcholinesterase, which is used in treatment of mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease. In recent years, several studies have been conducted on the use of this drug in psychiatric disorders (e.g., dementia, Lewy body and autism), but few reports are exist associated with the use of rivastigmine in the treatment of depression in the absence of cognitive impairment. In this study, the aim was to determine whether adding rivastigmine to the standard therapeutic regimen of patients with major depression could improve some aspects of the symptom burden or not.

Materials & Methods: Twenty patients with major depression were recruited randomly and then received either 3 milligram daily with sertraline regimen or with sertraline regimen only. Hamilton depression scale and Wechsler Memory were evaluated in patients at the baseline, end of first, second and third months. P values of less than 0.05 were considered significant.

Results: During the study, the Hamilton Depression Scale score changes within groups were $F(2/61, 47/1) = 35/8, p < 0/001$, Partial

eta squared=0/66. But the changes of Hamilton Depression Scale scores weren't significant between groups (p value=0.2). The changes of Wechsler Memory Scale were 13 ± 4.7 (95% CI=-9.6-16.3) and 8.07 ± 4.9 (95% CI=-0.8-10.6) in rivastigmine and control group respectively ($p=0.01$) and there was a significant difference in first, third and Seventh Wechsler Memory Subscale scores ($p=0.05, p=0.007, p<0.001$ respectively).

Conclusion: In this study, use of rivastigmine compared with placebo in MDD patients had significant effects on the reduction memory dysfunction, especially in personal information, orientation and auditory memory.

Biography

Amir Mohammad Shabani is a senior Pharmacy student in Mazandaran University of medicine. He published so many articles related to Primary Care.

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