

You know multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica?

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Introduction: Multiple sclerosis (MS) and Neuromyelitis Optica (NMO) autoimmune neurological diseases are restricted to the central nervous system. In often affects Caucasians and NMO, non-Caucasians. NMO was considered a variant of in. NMO has characterized the compromise of the optic nerve and spinal cord, with potential to cause blindness, paraplegia and neurogenic bladder.

Objective: to verify the knowledge of the population about in and NMO.

Method: Questionnaire with 10 questions about in NMO and applied via the internet or in person, the 138 people from mainly from the Center-South region by members of the League of Neuroscience and Scientific initiation, in the period from April to June 2013.

Results: Among the respondents, 50.72% were women and 49.27% men, with an average age of 22 years (16-80). About 75% of studied or were studying at tertiary level; 16.65% attending high school and 4.34%; 2.9% performing graduate/master's degree. Only 16% knew NMO 92% who knew against in. The primary means of knowledge about in was the TV (46.5%), followed at 40.75% in school/University, 25% by 23.31% for internet and newspapers/magazine.

Conclusion: Results showed that in is better known than NMO in respondents with high degree of education, being the TV the primary means of communication for in school/University and for NMO. This result suggests greater stimulus to campaigns, particularly through NMO TV on to facilitate early treatment and decrease the degree of disease sequel. In addition, the results suggest that the extension project in NMO is fully justified and other social segments must be questioned.

Keywords: Multiple sclerosis; Neuromyelitis optica; Academic league.