Association between mobility spinal cord independence measure (MSCIM) and period of walking recovery in spinal tuberculosis

ABSTRACT

This study aimed to identify the association between initial Spinal Cord Independence Measure's Mobility Sub-score (mSCIM) and the period of walking recovery in Spinal Tuberculosis (STB). This retrospective cohort study divided 36 STB patients into two groups by their initial mSCIM score: 'mSCIM<13' and 'mSCIM≥13'. Both groups were retrospectively followed-up from diagnosis until one year via clinical records. Baseline characteristics, walking outcome and period of walking recovery were recorded. Logical regression tested the association between mSCIM and walking outcome while a timeto-event analysis was done to test the relationship between mSCIM and period of walking recovery. Both 'mSCIM<13' and 'mSCIM≥13' groups had 18 patients each. Logical regression showed the mSCIM≥13 group had higher probability of recovering their walking ability (p=0.021). Time-to-event analysis showed both groups had significantly different period of walking recovery (p=0.001), averaging 10.44 and 4.94 months in those with mSCIM<13 and mSCIM≥13 respectively. In conclusion, patients with mSCIM≥13 require significantly shorter period of walking recovery.