

POSTER PRESENTATION

Open Access

Clinical study of cardiac autonomic dysfunction in HIV patients

Pradheep C Mathew*, Shishir Nagesh Doble

From 2nd International Science Symposium on HIV and Infectious Diseases (HIV SCIENCE 2014) Chennai, India. 30 January - 1 February 2014

Background

Cardiovascular autonomic nervous dysfunction has been demonstrated to severely debilitate HIV infected patients, namely by postural hypotension and syncope. It has important implication in health care of HIV patients. Presence of autonomic neuropathy signals the need for added precautions when invasive procedures are performed on HIV patients.

Methods

Fifty patients (25 HIV +ve without AIDS and 25 HIV+ with AIDS) who fulfilled the inclusion and exclusion criteria and 50 healthy matched controls were enrolled in the study. All HIV positive/AIDS patients were evaluated according to a detailed proforma with elicitation of history, symptoms, signs and routine and specialized investigations.

Results

In the present study, 16% of HIV +ve with the AIDS had abnormal autonomic dysfunction and 4% of HIV positive without AIDS had abnormal autonomic dysfunction. Reduced heart rate variability is the commonest manifestation of autonomic dysfunction noted in both HIV positive without AIDS and HIV positive with AIDS groups. Diastolic BP response to sustained handgrip has a limited role in discriminating autonomic function in HIV infected patients. There is no statistically significant correlation with the CD4 level and the presence of autonomic nervous system dysfunction in both the groups.

Conclusion

Cardiac autonomic nervous dysfunction is a common and relevant clinical problem affecting both HIV

positive without AIDS and HIV positive with AIDS groups. It may provide an alternative explanation for symptoms commonly observed in HIV infected individuals such as bowel and bladder dysfunction, impotence, syncope and sweating abnormalities.

Published: 27 May 2014

doi:10.1186/1471-2334-14-S3-P35

Cite this article as: Mathew and Doble: Clinical study of cardiac autonomic dysfunction in HIV patients. *BMC Infectious Diseases* 2014 14(Suppl 3):P35.

Submit your next manuscript to BioMed Central and take full advantage of:

- Convenient online submission
- Thorough peer review
- No space constraints or color figure charges
- Immediate publication on acceptance
- Inclusion in PubMed, CAS, Scopus and Google Scholar
- Research which is freely available for redistribution

Submit your manuscript at
www.biomedcentral.com/submit



* Correspondence: elroyamat@hotmail.com

Department of General Medicine, Rajiv Gandhi University, AJ Institute of Medical Sciences, Mangalore, Karnataka, India