

mediate, and 21.3% terminal. According to the chronic cases, 41% showed initial insomnia, 40% intermediate, and 19% terminal.

Insomnia was more associated with female sex, divorced and widows, the lowest income classes D/E, low educational degree, and less associated with younger age group (18-30 years old). Sleep-promoting medication was used by 48% of the insomni-

acs; only 17.5% of them visited a physician with the purpose to complain insomnia.

Our findings showed that the insomnia prevalence in the adult population of São Jose do Rio Preto may be compared with the population of North American and European countries as well as other Brazilian cities.

KEY WORDS: insomnia, epidemiology, prevalence.

*Características clínicas e demográficas da insônia na população adulta urbana de São José do Rio Preto (Resumo). Tese de Doutorado. Faculdade de Medicina de São José do Rio Preto (Área Medicina Interna). Orientador: Waldir Antonio Tognola; Co-Orientador: Rubens Reimão.

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CHARACTERIZATION OF *TAENIA CRASSICEPS* CYSTICERCIC AND THEIR APPLICATION TO DIAGNOSIS OF THE HUMAN CYSTICERCOSIS (ABSTRACT)*. **THESIS. SÃO PAULO, 2004.**

NOELI MARIA ESPÍNDOLA**

Taenia crassiceps cysticercic were kept in vitro during 144h. Excretory / secretory (ES) antigens (peptides of <30kDa) were identified in 24 (ES24) and 48h (ES48). ES peptides (30-, 18- and 14-12-kDa) were recognized by polyclonal antibodies in sera from rabbits immunized with *Taenia crassiceps* (Tcra) and *Taenia solium* (Tso) antigens, and also by antibodies in samples of serum and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) from patients with neurocysticercosis (NC).

Monoclonal antibodies (MoAb) were prepared against ES-Tcra, Tcra vesicular fluid (VF-Tcra), Tso vesicular fluid (VF-Tso), Tso total (T-Tso) and scolex (E-Tso) antigens.

Twenty-four MoAb were obtained and they were used for the characterization of Tcra and Tso antigens, and for the antigen detection in samples of patients with NC. Nine MoAb (1 anti-ES-Tra, 1 anti-VF-Tcra, 3 anti-VF-Tso and 4 anti-T-Tso) reacted with peptides in the Tcra (18- and 14-12-kDa) Tso (14-12kDa) antigens. These low-molecular-

weight peptides have been considered the immunodominant and specific antigen for the diagnosis of NC.

The MoAb maintained their reactivity towards VF-Tcra antigen treated with heat and alkaline borohydride and showed reduction after trichloroacetic acid and periodate oxidation treatments. These results indicate that the 18- and 14-12-kDa fractions are glycoproteins.

Peptides of <20kDa in VF-Tcra antigen were purified by anti-Tcra MoAb and were used to detect antibodies in serum and CSF from patients with NC. Anti-Tcra and anti-Tso MoAb were used to detect antibodies by a competitive assay, and anti-Tcra MoAb to detect antigens in serum and CSF from patients with NC. The results showed a better performance than the use of brute antigens or polyclonal antibodies.

KEY WORDS: *Taenia crassiceps* antigens, neurocysticercosis diagnosis, cerebrospinal fluid.

*Caracterização de antígenos de cisticercos e sua aplicação para o diagnóstico da cisticercose humana (Rsumo). Tese (Doutorado), Universidade de São Paulo (Área: Análises clínicas). Orientador: Adelaide José Vaz.

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INTRASELLAR PRESSURE IN PITUITARY TUMORS. RELATION STUDY: INTRASELLAR PRESSURE vs HYPOTHALAMIC – PITUITARY FUNCTION. (ABSTRACT)*. **DISSERTATION. SÃO PAULO, 2004.**

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Between August 2002 and May 2003, 30 patients with pituitary adenomas had their intrasellar (tu-

moral) pressure measured during transsphenoidal endoscopic surgery for these tumors. The age var-

ied between 19 and 73 years, 16 were males and 14 females. The adenomas had a volume smaller than 1 cm³ in nine cases, between 1 and 4 cm³ in six cases and in 15 patients, the volume was superior to 4 cm³. Of the 30 cases studied 21 (70%) were functional adenomas (9 producing adrenocorticotropin hormone, 4 producing growth hormone – prolactine hormone, 3 producing growth hormone, 3 producing prolactin hormone, and 2 cases were plurihormonal adenomas).

The presence of an increased intrasellar pressure in patients with hypopituitarism is evidenced in this series: 17 patients presented a medium intrasellar pressure of 20.3 mmHg while in the 13 patients with normal pituitary function the pressure was 16.2 mmHg. This result suggests that the increase of the intrasellar pressure would be involved in the pathogenesis of the hypopituitarism, either by the intrasellar tumoral compression of the pituitary or by the extrasellar hypothalamic compression of the macroadenomas. However in our cases this results did not present statistical significance.

The intrasellar pressure (PIS) was measured ba-

sed on the classification of Hardy and Vezina (1976). It was more elevated in the type I microadenomas with average 32.6 mmHg, sharply superior to the value of a normal intracranial pressure. In the type 0 adenomas PIS was of 7.66 mmHg, in the type II it was 19.2 mmHg, in the type III it was 11 mmHg, and in type IV it was 14.8 mmHg. These values showed that the macroadenomas confined in the sella without destruction of the floor and integrity of the diaphragm presented a value of PIS much higher than extrasellar macroadenomas. The statistical study of these data showed that the patients classified as degree I differed from the others.

It was evidenced that these patients presented the highest intrasellar pressure and they were different from all the other degrees. The patients with adenomas classified as degrees II, III and IV presented an intrasellar pressure comparatively similar. The adenomas classified as degree 0 and III were also considered statistically the same.

KEY WORDS: intrasellar pressure, pituitary, adenoma, endoscopy, sella turcica.

*Pressão intra-selar nos tumores da hipófise. Estudo da relação: pressão intra-selar X função hipotalâmica-hipofisária (Resumo). Dissertação de Mestrado, Universidade Federal de São Paulo. Orientador: Osvaldo Inacio de Tella Junior.

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A SLEEP DISORDERS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS (ABSTRACT)*. **DISSERTATION, HABANA, CUBA, 2004.**

*JOSÉ MÓL***

In Minas Gerais steel valley, one of the main Brazilian iron mining fields, large industrial plants as USIMINAS, ACESITA and CENIBRA are located. These large plants together with smaller ones have a greater part of their workers in shift work. We know that the night worker is particularly exposed to sleep difficulties, with a two to five times higher chance of sleeping during workhours than the that of the daytime worker.

Sleep disorders lead to higher risk to the individual worker as well as to those who work with him. Sleep impairment means health hazard and also increased traffic safety risk. There are already 88 sleep disorders coded and described in the International Classification of Sleep Disorders. Our con-

cern of how these sleep disorders patients are treated lead this research in order to identify the learning needs of practicing physicians about sleep and sleep disorders.

In most Medical school graduation curricula, time dedicated to sleep disorders is not enough or this subject have not yet been included. A total of 120 physicians from the steel valley region were evaluated with standardized questionnaire in order to detect their learning needs regarding sleep disorders.

The results allowed us to design a sleep disorders program to enable medical professionals to diagnose and manage sleep disorders.

KEY WORDS: sleep, sleep disorders, medical learning, shift work.

*Transtornos do sono: o programa de um curso de capacitação para profissionais médicos (Resumo). Dissertação de Mestrado, Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública (Escuela Nacional de Salud Publica), Havana, Cuba. (Área: Educação Médica). Orientador: Ramón Salas Perea; co-orientador, Rubens Reimão. Assessor em Cuba: Ramón Aneiros Riba (in memoriam).

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