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Effect of sodium valproate on retina using electroretinography

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Aim: Sodium Valproate or Depakine is a drug which is used in the patients suffering from epilepsy. It is observed that some of the patients using Sodium Valproate complaining from visual disturbances. In this connection, the present study was planned to search for the possible adverse effect of Sodium Valproate on the retina of the patients following Sodium Valproate prescription using Electroretinography (ERG) technique.

Method: Twenty epileptic patients using Sodium Valproate were selected randomly. The patients were examined for a routine ophthalmologic technique to check for possible structural changes in the visual system. Mainly the retinal part. The subjects were selected from the patients with the normal visual system as far as the ordinary examination of the visual system is concerned. ERG was examined in the total population. Latency (m sec) and amplitude (μ V) of the b wave of ERG were measured in the total population. The result was compared with the control group. SPSS soft wave was used for the possible significant differences between two groups.

Results: It was observed that the latency was 44.2 ± 2.66 and 44.80 ± 2.36 m sec in case and control groups respectively. In another hand the amplitude was 99.88 ± 12.18 and $99.16\pm13.37\mu$ V in case and control groups, respectively. The difference between the two groups was not statistically significant as far as latency and amplitude of b wave of ERG are concerned. However, following the history of patient's subjects wise we came to know regarding some retinal problems in three subjects prior to Sodium Valproate prescription which will be discussed in full paper.

Conclusion: From the result of the present work one can conclude that Sodium Valproate does not affect the retinal segment of the visual system; however, it is advised to check the retinal part of the patients prior. To Sodium Valproate prescription to aware the patients from the safety of Sodium Valproate drug.

Biography

Maryam Naser finished medical school in Tehran Medical Branch, Azad University in Iran. She is studying for board exam and applies in ophthalmology field.

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