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Clinical prediction of rate of response of endogenous depression to electroconvulsive therapy

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In depression, the identification of predictors of fast response is necessary to improve patient selection for ECT. In a double-blind, prospective study of 320 endogenously depressed patients treated with ECT, we attempted to identify the clinical characteristics of ECT responders which predicted fast (requiring ≤ 5 treatments to produce maximum recovery) and slow (requiring ≥ 6 treatments to produce maximum recovery) response to ECT. Of the 220 ECT responders in the study, 130 were fast and 90 were slow responders. We found that male sex, and greater age associated with lesser initial severity of depression were significantly associated with fast recovery. Surprisingly, factors suggested or expected to predict good outcome with ECT failed to predict fast outcome. Finally, the treatment variables of mean seizure duration and stimulus waveform were found to be unrelated to recovery rate. The findings are briefly discussed.

Biography

Milan Sojitra has completed his graduation in MBBS at the age of 22 years from Bhavnagar University and post graduation in Psychiatry from Same institute. He was also a fellow of neurology in a wellknown institute name as shree satya sai institute of higher medical sciences, bangalore and certified in stroke management. He is the director of Amity Neuro Hospital. He has special interest in epilepsy, stroke and electrophysiology.

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