Neurogenic heart secondary to insula stroke and neurocysticercosis

Ibañez Valdés Lourdes de Fátima
Walter Sisulu University, South Africa

Introduction: Some functions of the right insula lobe are a little bit known such as its role in taste perception for the ipsilateral tongue (rostro-caudal insula) and some functions of the left insula cortex for intensity of the stimulus ipsilateral to the tongue and taste recognition bilaterally, gustatory mechanism, movements of the mouth, and oropharyngeal swallowing (anterior insula) are not well known neither. The insula of the right cerebral hemisphere may play a major role in cardiac autonomic control and left insula stimulation and right vagus nerve stimulation cause same effect on the cardiac rhythm, however clear-cut cardiac manifestations for each insular lesion are uncertain. In this presentation we deliver our hypotheses about this problem secondary to neurocysticercosis (NCC).

Materials & Methodology: All patients presenting imageneologically proven NCC primarily involving the insula and associated ischemic stroke attending to NCC clinic, neurology clinic or stroke unit were included in the study for prospective analysis. The serum from each patient was tested for cysticercus antibody and a routine EEG (electroencephalogram) was done.

Results: Most relevant clinical manifestation were: insular stroke on the right, neglect, disturbances of gustation, functional dysphagia, cardiac asystole, and neurogenic heart. Some ECG abnormalities such as: prolonged QT interval and ST depression and subendocardial haemorrhage were confirmed.

Comments: Right insular may have a major role in cardiac autonomic control. Antiparasitic treatment can be performed with extremely caution. Dying process of the parasite can cause sudden death due to neurogenic heart.

Biography
Ibañez Valdés Lourdes de Fátima graduated as a Medical Doctor (1998) from University of Havana, Cuba. She is a specialist in Family Medicine, holds an MSc Degree. She is an Aggregated Scientist Researcher working in the Department of Neurology at the Nelson Mandela Central Hospital in Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province, Republic of South Africa, where she is the Head of Epilepsy, NCC, and Neurodegenerative Clinic. She has presented more than 60 papers in national and international medical conferences and published 6 chapters in text books and more than 40 articles in peer-reviewed journals. She is a member of 10 medical societies worldwide.

lourdesfibelanzvaldes@gmail.com

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