ASPIRIN RESISTANCE CORRECTION IN THE AGED PATIENTS AFTER FIRST EVER ISCHEMIC STROKE

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Background: The causes of Aspirin resistance in different age groups of the patients have not yet been studied. This laboratory phenomenon could be the reason of low efficacy of the prevention therapy after stroke. Objective: The aim of the study was to evaluate the potential possibility to correct an abnormal platelet function in the aged patients (over 65 years old), who use aspirin after their first ever-ischemic stroke. Methods: Venous blood samples from 46 consecutive post-stroke aspirin users aged over 65 years old were evaluated using the platelet function analyzer-PFA-100. The samples underwent the high shear stress using additional chemical agents: epinephrine (EPI) and adenosine-diphosphate (ADP). The normal duration of these tests ranged between 80-170 sec. for EPI and 71-114 sec. for ADP. Aspirin resistance was determined in the patients who had the duration of EPI test - less than 150 sec. and/or ADP test – less than 66 sec. For patients with aspirin resistance we used double doses of aspirin. Blood tests were repeated two weeks after increasing the previous aspirin doses. Results: Twenty of 46 studied patients (43.5%) demonstrated aspirin resistance. Only in 11 of them (55%) the tests were normalized after the increasing of aspirin doses. Nine of these patients (45%) still demonstrated aspirin resistance. Conclusions: The study demonstrated that 43.5% of the aged patients after first ever-ischemic stroke did not have sufficient anti-aggregation effect of aspirin. We propose that these patients need to be treated using more aggressive prevention therapy.