

## Characteristics of the restless leg syndrome in patients with diabetic polyneuropathy

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The clinical picture of Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS) is diverse with the wide range of common symptoms of diabetic polyneuropathy (DPN), such as unpleasant feelings, pain, burning sensation, cramps, crawling that might disappear during the movement of the legs. The aim of the study was to examine the efficacy of pramipexole in patients with DPN resistant to standard therapy. The study involved 84 patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus complicated with DPN. In 25 (29.76%) patients, (main diagnostic criteria used), RLS was found. There were 2 groups: I group - 13 patients received gabapentin with dose titration up to 2.4g per day; II - 12 patients received pramipexole 0.750 mg once a day. Patients were interviewed on a quality of life at RLS scale before and 30 days after the treatment. Social function was  $9,51 \pm 0,05$  points; after the treatment, the average score in the first group was  $18,21 \pm 0,12$  points ( $p < 0,05$ ). In the second group, the patients proved a more positive trend, which was  $21,51 \pm 0,11$  points ( $p < 0,05$ ). Sleep violation bothered all patients ( $15,21 \pm 0,14$  points). In the first group, it was  $19,03 \pm 0,17$  points ( $p < 0,05$ ) after the treatment, whereas the patients of the second group indicated a significant improvement ( $26,15 \pm 0,18$ ) ( $p < 0,05$ ). Conclusions. In patients who were resistant to treatment with gabapentin, RLS should be suspected, because of the similarity of symptoms with DPN and pramipexole therapy must be assigned.