PREVALENCE OF COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT AMONG FILIPINO PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH LACUNAR INFARCTION AT JOSE R. REYES MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

Sharimah Abantas-Diamla, Erwin Joe, Peter Quitasol, Joseree Ann Catindig, Simeon Marasigan, Jose Navarro
Department of Neurology, Jose R Reyes Memorial Medical Center, Philippines

BACKGROUND: Cognitive impairment is linked to small vessel disease (SVD), which affects the brain diffusely. Lacunar strokes may carry a higher risk of cognitive impairment than would be expected despite their small size as they are part of the spectrum of cerebral SVD. The prevalence of post-stroke cognitive impairment in the Philippines has yet to be estimated. The aim of this study was to establish the prevalence of cognitive impairment among our patients with lacunar stroke.

METHODS: This is a 3-month cross-sectional study from April to June 2015 involving patients with first-ever lacunar infarction who were examined at the Department of Neurology, Jose R Reyes Memorial Medical Center within 12 months of stroke recovery. The Mini-Mental State Examination-Filipino (MMSE-P) and the Clock-Drawing Test (CDT) were used to screening tests. A patient who scored

RESULTS: Among the 93 patients included in this study, the prevalence of cognitive impairment was 31%. From among the identified vascular risk factors and sociodemographic variables, diabetes mellitus, male gender and low educational attainment were associated with the presence of cognitive impairment. Those with formal education of 8.8 years were 74% less likely to have cognitive impairment than those with lesser number of formal education.

CONCLUSION: Cognitive impairment appears to be common after lacunar stroke. Appropriate management of vascular risk factors and follow-up studies are required to assess the long term cognitive outcomes of patients with lacunar infarction.