

DEMENTIA AND DEPRESSION: DIFFERENT MANIFESTATIONS AND GENERAL ASPECTS IN TREATMENT APPROACHES /THE RESULTS OF ACTOVEGIN USE IN THE COMPLEX TREATMENT/

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The aim: The common aspects of dementia and late-life depression are obvious at present. Especially it concerns the cases of co-morbidity of both diseases. The aim of the study was to verify the hypothesis that combination of antidepressants and actovegin can enhance the therapeutic results in such cases.

Material and methods: 32 patients /average age 73,7 + 10,9 years/ with cognitive impairment of vascular origin and depression according to ICD-10, MMSE and neuroimaging were observed. In 16 of them the antidepressant treatment was combined with the actovegin /10 intravenous droplet injections of 200 mg/. The dynamics of the state was assessed on the 21st day with the HDRS and the CGI scales. Statistical analysis included Fisher and Mann-Whitney tests.

Results and discussion: In the case of combination therapy the frequency of significant improvements according the CGI significantly increased / $p < 0,05$ /. The deepening of the effect concerned depressive mood, performance and activity, inhibition and diurnal variation of affect / $p < 0,05$ /.

This results: can be explained by complex mechanisms of depression in late-life, especially if it is co-morbid to dementia process. The correction of the affective state in this case is possibly related to the activation of neuroplasticity. And such mechanism could be boosted by actovegin.

Conclusions: The generality of dementia and depression in old age is reflected in particular in the results of the therapeutic intervention. In the case of co-morbidity of both pathological processes in patients with cerebrovascular disease appropriate addition of antidepressant therapy is the use of actovegin.