THE FOLLOW-UP OF THE PATIENTS WITH MYASTHENIA GRAVIS TREATED WITH PLASMAPHERESIS

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Background: MG is an autoimmune neuromuscular disease caused by circulating antibodies that block acetylcholine receptors at the postsynaptic neuromuscular junction. PEX is used to treat the MG in Myasthenic crisis and before the Thymectomy.
Objective: To evaluate the efficacity of PEX in MG patients when the cholinesterase and immunosuppressive therapy resulted inefficient, in Myasthenic crisis, pre-Thymectomy.
Methods: In our prospective study a group of 13 patients with MG was evaluated before, immediately after PEX and 1 month later. The evaluation was made using the MGFA clinical classification.
Results: We have evaluated 13 patients with the MGFA clinical classification. The clinical evaluation of them before the treatment with PEX was: 1 of the patients was in class V of MGFA, 4 patients were in class IV – B, 4 in class III – B, 3 in class II – A of the MGFA and pre-thymectomy. We have found a clinical improvement in almost all the patients. Two patients realized only 1 PEX procedure because of the complications. We also found that after PEX treatment, the patients needed less medication than before to be in good clinical conditions.
Conclusions: The PEX treatment in MG patients is efficient. The improvement consisted in a good clinical outcome and in the use of a reduced number of medications and lower dosages after PEX treatment.