

## **TRANSIENT AMNESIA - TRANSIENT GLOBAL AMNESIA OR EPILEPSY?**

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**Purpose:** to evaluate the diagnosis and the assessment of therapeutic response of a small series of patients who presented transient recurring amnesia states.

**Method:** we analysed and we put under medical surveillance for 2 years long, 5 patients with repeated amnesic states. We used clinical examination, repeated EEG, brain scanner, echocardiography, Doppler cerebral, biochemical analysis.

**Results:** All 5 patients and informants underwent a standardised clinical interview, patients aged between 52 -62 years, three men and two women all had vascular risk factors (hypertension, dyslipidemia, smoking, obesity). Tests were performed cognitive and psychological (MMSE, ADAS-Cog) being excluded patients who had MCI or dementia. All 5 patients described attack with sudden onset, 10 to 50 minutes, of anterograde incomplete amnesia, repetitive questioning, and progressive recover. Neuroimaging recorders showed: 1 case with dural sinus thrombosis, 2 cases with ischemic lacunae and 2 cases with normal brain image in computer tomography. Interictal surface EEG recording was performed with non specific modification. All patients received vascular treatment for 6 month and anticonvulsant therapy for 6 month more. 2 of 5 patients were not presented attacks under vascular therapy and the other three after the introduction of anticonvulsant therapy

**Conclusion:** Although the series was small, in some cases only therapeutic test can distinguish between transient global amnesia and transient epileptic amnesia.