

## **THE IMPACT OF HEMATOCRIT LEVELS IN STROKE**

S. Xhaxho, **J. Xhaxho**, J. Kruja

*Department of Neurology, CUH Mother Teresa, Albania*

[harikliat@yahoo.com](mailto:harikliat@yahoo.com)

**Introduction:** The hematocrit is the proportion by volume, of the blood that consists of red blood cells. The hematocrit (hct) is expressed as a percentage. It is considered an integral part of a person's complete blood count results, along with hemoglobin concentration, White blood cell count, and platelet count.

**Aim:** To investigate if patients having high or low hematocrit levels present a higher risk of having ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke.

**Methods:** We included in this study 660 patients that were hospitalised in the clinic of neurology, in CUH "Mother Teresa", Tirana. 330 of them had an ischemic stroke and 330 were hospitalised with a different neurological diagnoses (Hemorrhagic stroke, epilepsy, or other diagnoses). For every patient we took the hematocrit levels and we compared those levels for patients presenting ischemic stroke, hemorrhagic stroke, epilepsy or other neurological diagnoses.

**Results:** The average of hematocrit levels was 39.93% for patients having ischemic stroke and 38,89% for patients having a different neurological diagnoses, with a difference of 1.04% between them. The average of hematocrit levels was 38.32% for patients having hemorrhagic stroke with a difference of 1.61% with ischemic stroke and 0.37 with patients having a different neurological diagnoses. The average of hematocrit levels was 37.7% for patients having epilepsy with a difference of 1.19% with patients presenting a different neurological diagnoses. All those levels were statically not significant.

**Conclusions:** Hematocrit levels have no impact on stroke or other neurological diseases.