BENIGN PAROXYSMAL POSITIONAL VERTIGO COMMONLY RECURS IN THE IPSILATERAL EAR AND THE SAME CANAL AFTER SUCCESSFUL REPOSITIONING MANEUVERS.

SooHyun Cho, B. Kim

Department of Neurology, Eulji General Hospital, Eulji University, School of Medicine, South Korea

Objectives: Benign paroxysmal positioning vertigo (BPPV) is the most common cause of vertigo. Although repositioning maneuvers have been demonstrated to be useful in its treatment, half of all patients experience recurrence after successful repositioning maneuvers. Nevertheless, the clinical characteristics of recurred BPPV have not been systematically evaluated. The aim of our study was to establish possible clinical factors associated recurred BPPV after successful repositioning maneuvers.

Method: We analyzed the records of 216 patients who experienced recurrence after 1 month apart from successful repositioning.

Results: The posterior semicircular canal was affected in 62.1% and the horizontal in 37.9%. 78.7% of the 216 cases affected the ear ipsilateral to the first episodes of BPPV. Moreover, 109 (71.7%) of cases of all recurrences affected the same canal.

Conclusion: Our data revealed that the recurrence of BPPV after repositioning maneuvers commonly affects the ipsilateral ear and same canal. This can be related to the abnormal pathology at the first episodes of BPPV leading to frequent recurrence even after successful repositioning maneuvers.