

Aphasic status epilepticus caused by transitorial ischemic attack or viral infection.

M. Kekenadze, M. Beridze, N. Kvirkvelia, T. Losaberidze, O. Samushia, M. Khaburdzania

Department of Neurology, The first university clinic of Tbilisi State Medical University, Georgia

Background: Aphasia often develops during stroke and TIA. Presence of senso-motoral aphasia as the sole manifestation of partial status epilepticus due to TIA is a very rare case. Aim: study described the case of the aphasic status epilepticus in a 58-year-old right-handed female who presented the sudden onset of aphasia after the high hypertension episode. Patient was examined by neurologist, blood tests were performed. Brain CT scan and diffusion weighted Imaging (DWI) was done. Patient was taken Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF) and lectroencephalography (EEG) was conducted. Results: Patient was drowsy, expressive speech and comprehension was strongly disturbed. There was the rigidity in both upper extremities, predominantly in the right hand. Motor function was preserved in all extremities. Slight dismetria and reflex increase on the right side was noted. Babinski sign was bilaterally positive. Brain conventional CT was negative as well as DWI. CSF showed slight lymphocytic cytolysis (80/5). EEG revealed the synchronized sharp wave activity in left fronto centro-temporal regions with arising of epileptiform patterns. Patient was injected Diazepam (5 ml/im) twice with 15 min interval and given oral Carbamazepin- 600mg/ daily. Patient started normal speech on second day and all neurological signs disappeared. Discussion: Aphasic status epilepticus is a very rare condition previously reported in relation with stroke, multiple sclerosis, head trauma etc. In present case visualization did not prove any injury to brain but the CSF showed the signs of viral infection. It can be supposed that the viral infection resulted in hypertensive episode and TIA that triggered the cortical spreading depression. Conclusion: According to the present study it can be supposed that TIA can become the cause of aphasic status epilepticus in certain conditions. Key words: ischemia, infection, aphasia, status epilepticus