

Case Report

Substance induced disorder

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Abstract: Substance induced disorder is a growing problem globally. The goal is to discuss pseudo seizure disorder caused by substance use. In results the Substance dependency and abuse have a significant effect in the induction of pseudo seizure disorder. In conclusion pseudo seizure disorder may occur following substance use.

Keywords: Substance; pseudo seizure disorder.

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, health problems especially psychiatric disturbances have been growing problems in the world. In recent decades, health authorities and researchers pay much more attention to the epidemiology, etiology, prevention and treatment of mental problems [1 – 23].

In psychiatric disturbances, addictive disorders, especially substance induced disorders have been considered as an important and growing worldwide problem and at present, stimulants abuse and stimulants induced psychiatric presentations to the polyclinics and also hospitals is a progressing problem [24 – 65].

In the past, substances especially amphetamine derivatives such as ecstasy and methamphetamine was illegally smuggled in from the west, but nowadays it is illegally synthesized and prepared in Iran in 'underground' laboratories. The methamphetamine produced in Iran is more potent and is commonly associated with psychiatric disturbances especially psychosis, mood disorder or pseudo seizure disorder.

PATIENT PRESENTATION

Our patient was a 26-year old divorced vendor woman with no education (fired from school when she was in the first grade of elementary school), living in Shiraz city of Fars province in south Iran with her aunt. She had been smoking cigarette since child hood when she was 10 years old only. She began opium smoking at age of 11. One year later she began smoking of heroin, methamphetamine, hashish and marijuana. She married at age of 16 and divorced one year later. She had history

of three admissions in psychiatric hospitals due to substance induced disorder. Our patient received medications and Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT) in her admissions. Two month prior to the latest psychiatric hospital admission, she was admitted in an addiction camp. Because of pseudo seizure behaviors, impulsive acts and suicidal behaviors in the addiction camp she was transferred to the emergency ward of this psychiatric hospital and was admitted with the impression of pseudo seizure and mood disorders. During hospitalization she received medications and Electro Convulsive Therapy (ECT). Our Patient was much better after 9 sessions of ECT. After three weeks of admission she was discharged with the impression of pseudo seizure disorder and substance-induced mood disorder.

Three month later she referred to the outpatient clinic and was interviewed and examined for substance use disorders. According to our interview, based on DSM-5 criteria, and also our complete medical, psychiatric, and substance use history she was diagnosed as substance induced disorders (pseudo seizure and psychosis). According to our comprehensive evaluation she was diagnosed as opioid (heroin) and tobacco dependant and a frequent user of opium, methadone, and water pipe (huka). In addition, she reported occasional use of methamphetamine, ecstasy, hashish, marijuana, heroin crack (a mixture of heroin and methamphetamine) and benzodiazepine.

DISCUSSION

This presentation indicates that substance use may cause pseudo seizure disorder. ECT could be beneficial in treating pseudo seizure disorder. Its use in

situations like substance induced psychosis has been reported in the past [24-27]. However, a systematic prospective study of ECT in substance induced psychosis, mood disorders and pseudo seizure disorders is yet to be published, and this case study is a significant addition to the literature.

CONCLUSION

Pseudo seizure disorder can occur following substance use. ECT may be practically used in the treatment of this condition which may represent a risk to life. We conclude that ECT can be a good alternative in the treatment of pseudo seizure disorder induced by substance use; therefore this report can illustrate a new result.

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