Clinical and etiological profile of cerebral venous thrombosis in internal medicine

Yosr Boussoukaya, Wissal Ben yahia, Oumaima Chouchene, Maissa Thabet, Ahmed Guiga, Amira Atig, Neirouz Ghannouchi
internal medecine departement, university hospital Farhat Hached, Sousse, Tunisie

Introduction :

Cerebral venous thrombosis (CVT) is a rare but serious form of venous thrombosis and represents an emergency. Diagnosis is based on clinical and radiological signs and requires a meticulous investigation for aetiology. The aim of this study was to describe the epidemiological, clinical, biological, aetiological, therapeutic and evolutionary features of CVT in an internal medicine department.

Methods :

A descriptive, retrospective, single-centre study of the records of patients treated in internal medicine between 2000 and 2023 for which VCT was selected.

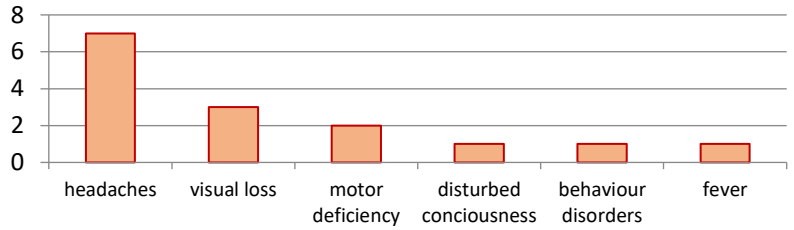
Results :

We included 10 patients.
sex ratio F/H= 1.25).
The median age at diagnosis was 29.5 years [20-83].

Relevant history findings :

- Behçet's disease (n=1),
- a history of thrombosis n=2
- cardiovascular risk factors (active smoking and sedentary lifestyle) n=2.

symptoms of CVT



Physical exam findings

- neck stiffness (n=2)
- pyramidal syndrome (n=2)
- hemiplegia (n=1)
- fever (n=1)

Biological abnormalities

- biological inflammatory syndrome (n=5)
- antiphospholipid antibody positivity (n=2).

Aetiologies

Aetiology	Number
antiphospholipid antibody syndrome	n=3
Behçet's disease	n=2
granulomatous polyangiitis	n=1
major hypereosinophilia	n=1
post-partum context	n=1
idiopathic	n=1

•A diagnosis was made on cerebral angioscan and/or cerebral MRI. The superior longitudinal sinus was the most prominent topography (n=3).

Management :

curative anticoagulation combined with aetiological treatment.

•The sequelae were dominated by chronic headaches (n=3) and only one case of recurrence was noted.

Conclusion :

- A diagnostic and therapeutic emergency.
- Heterogeneous clinical and radiological manifestations.
- Cerebral MRI angiography remains the gold standard.
- CVT may be indicative of several diseases. In our study, inflammatory and autoimmune causes predominated.
- Appropriate management can minimize neurological damage and improve vital and functional prognosis.
- The duration of anticoagulation depends on the etiology.