NEUROPATHIC PAIN COMPONENT IN PATIENTS OF DIFFERENT AGE WITH OSTEOARTHRITIS OF KNEE JOINTS

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Introduction. Osteoarthritis-induced pain is a result of nociceptor stimulation, associated with local tissue damage and inflammation. Resent data suggest the presence of neuropathic pain symptoms in patients with osteoarthritis.

The aim of this study was to estimate the structure of pain syndrome and reveal the presence of neuropathic pain component in patients suffering from the knee osteoarthritis.

Materials and Methods. We've examined 23 patients with knee osteoarthritis aged 45-89 years (average age 66.9 ±1.3 years). Patients were divided into 3 groups according to age:

A — 45-59 years (n=5);

B — 60-74 (n=12);

C — 75-89 (n=6).

To assess the NP component, we used painDETECT, LANSS, DN4 questionnaires. To assess intensity of pain, visual analogue scale was used.

For statistical analysis of results, ANOVA, correlation and regression analysis were applied.

Results. Regression analysis shows correlation between the questionnaires: LANSS and painDETECT (r=0.76, p=0.000001), DN4 and painDETECT (r=0.8, p=0.000001). 69,6% of patients with knee osteoarthritis taking the painDETECT were unlikely to have the NP component, 21.7% might possibly, 8.7% — probably had it. LANSS scale: 34.8% probably had NP. DN4 scale: 39.1% probably had NP. We found a tendency to an elevating neuropathic pain component, according to all the screening scales. Pain in a group of elderly patients of 75-89 years was found to be intensifying; however, these data were not significant.

Conclusions. Thus, in patients with osteoarthritis the pain syndrome may reveal NP features. Identification of these would promote a targeted treatment strategy.