

Incidence of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms in brain surgery. A misattributed disorder?

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Introduction

Aim of this study was to assess the incidence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms in patients undergoing elective brain surgery.

Methods

A prospective cohort study of 36 patients undergoing elective brain surgery was examined. The incidence of development of PTSD symptoms was evaluated using a structured clinical interview (SCID).

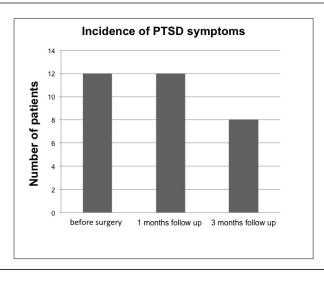
Results

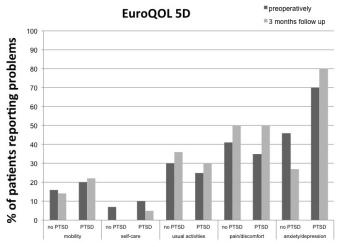




mean age: 52 (range 23-78)

61% 36% previous married psychological treatment





Conclusions

- Our results reveal that PTSD symptoms have a high incidence in patients before undergoing elective brain surgery
- Further research is needed in order to determine the relevant incident triggering the PTSD symptoms
- Psychological support is needed for patients suffering from PTSD symptoms as we could observe a stabilisation in the symptoms also at 3 months follow up