

ABSTRACT

Background

Epilepsy is a neurological disorder which demands immediate medical attention and long term medical treatment. Every patient should be achieving a good control with one drug with fewest possible side effects. Treatment methods and compliance of the epilepsy patients should be reviewed regularly

Objectives

To describe the spectrum and distribution of paediatric epilepsy, prescription profile, compliance and adverse events associated with patients treated for epilepsy in paediatric neurology clinic: Lady Ridgeway Hospital Colombo

Methods

Descriptive cross-sectional study conducted in Paediatric Neurology Clinic - Lady Ridgeway Hospital among Patients diagnosed with Epilepsy and who are treated at Paediatric Neurology Clinic. Patient who are on anti-epileptic drugs for less than 6 months and epileptic patients who are off antiepileptic medication were excluded. Interviewer administered questionnaire was applied among 424 study participants selected through convenient sampling technique. Data analysis was facilitated by SPSS version 25.0

Results

A female predominancy was observed among study participants(N=240:56.6%) and 42.9%(N=182) of the study participants were receiving treatment for epilepsy for more than one year. Most prevalent type of epilepsy was focal seizures (N=172:40.5%). Metabolic disorders (N=57:13.7%) and autoimmune disorders (N=42:9.9%) were the most prevalent associated factors for epilepsy. Majority of the participants had demonstrated a successful response for treatment (N=249: 59%). Negligence of the caregivers (N=18;32.1%) and drug ingestion problems (N=18;32.1%) were identified as the major reasons for not taking regular treatment. Sleepiness(n=26) and obesity (n=22) were identified as the most commonly distributed drug induced side effects.

Conclusions

Although majority of children demonstrate a good response to treatment, there are many children with defaulted treatment due to definite and identified reasons.