

Poster presentation

The role of somatoform disorders in case of aseptic inflammations observed during the Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF)

Armen Nersisyan*¹, Konstantin Danielyan², Eduard Nazaretyan³ and Eduard Sekoyan⁴

Address: ¹National Institute of Health of the Republic of Armenia, Armenia, ²Department of Psychiatry Psychoterapy, Armenia, ³Department of Internal Diseases 1 Center FMF, Armenia and ⁴Medical Institute, Armenia

* Corresponding author

from International Society on Brain and Behaviour: 2nd International Congress on Brain and Behaviour Thessaloniki, Greece. 17–20 November 2005

Published: 28 February 2006

Annals of General Psychiatry 2006, **5**(Suppl 1):S130 doi:10.1186/1744-859X-5-S1-S130

Background

Till the present it has been disputable if somatoform disturbances cause aseptic inflammations, or visa versa, with patients suffering from FMF.

Our previous investigations [1,2] showed that FMF should be classified as a psychosomatic disorder. But a question arises: Are the psychic disorders which precede aseptic inflammation not connected with psychosomatic disorders?

Materials and methods

To answer the above-mentioned question, clinical- psychopathological, experimental psychological, neurological (EEG, Echo-EEG, neurooftalmological) and therapeutic multidiscipline investigations were made among 35 patients (24 men, 6 women 6–30 years old).

The duration of catamnestic observation: 5–20 years.

Results

The results of our investigations showed that 1–2 years before the appearance of aseptic inflammations, changes were observed in the psychic world of the patient, in different organ-systems, where in case of absence of somatic diseases they are classified as somatoform disorders. After the genesis of aseptic inflammations, the nature of psychic disorders sharply changes, which is mainly expressed before the attack in the form of senestopathic and senestohypochondrac phenomena. The mentioned senesto-hypochondrac phenomena are not only situated in the limit of those organs which are included in the aseptic inflammation, but also carry a suffering, unpleasant character. The

idea that the last mentioned are not a result of an aseptic inflammation, proves the fact that these inflammatory processes disappear with psychotherapy and treatment with antidepressants and in not rare cases during the change of residence of the patients.

Discussion

Aseptic inflammations can be observed in different stages of the development of FMF- preceding or following the neurotic disorders. They can begin (not conditioned with somatic diseases) neurotic disorders, later passing to somatised (processing with aseptic inflammation) psychic (with senestopathic and senestohypochondrac) disorders.

These disorders often disappear during psychotherapy [3] and application of antidepressants. As the above mentioned disorders, the lasting nature of the disorders (not in rare cases observed) as well witness that the aseptic inflammation, which is considered to be one of the main symptoms of FMF, belongs to the psycho-somatic disorders.

References

1. Nersisyan A, Danielyan K: **About The Interrelation Of Periodic Disease And Psychosomatic Disorders – Trauma and Recovery.** 6th Congress for Bridging Eastern and Western Psychiatry Abstracts And Papers, October 10–12, 2003, Yerevan .
2. Nersisyan A: **The Treatment of children suffering from FMF by psychotherapy.** International Psychiatric Conference "Mental Health Perspectives in Public Health", October 7–10, 2004, Yerevan .
3. Danielyan K, Nersisyan A: **The role of Somatoform Disorders in the Genesis of Periodic Disease (FMF).** 18th Panhellenic Congress of Psychiatry Abstracts Issue, May 14–18, 2004 Kos .