THE EFFECT OF AGE ON FUNCTIONAL STATUS IN STROKE PATIENTS

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Introduction: Stroke is the second most common cause of mortality, and the third most common cause of disability (1). Due to age-related etiologic factors and accompanying complications, the effect on functional deficits of advanced age in stroke patients is being investigated for a long time and the results are contradictory. There is no consensus on the fact that advanced age alone is an effect on functional impairment in stroke patients (2).

Purpose: The aim of this study is to evaluate the effect of age on functional disability in chronic stroke patients.

Method: 100 patients who were hospitalized in Istanbul Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Training and Research Hospital with stroke diagnosis were included in the study. Patients were divided into two groups as younger than 65 years and over 65 years old. The demographic characteristics of the patients were questioned. Functional status of the patients was assessed by functional independence scale (FIM) and functional ambulation classification (FAS).

Results: 55% of the patients were under 65 years old, 45% were 65 years old or older. Group 1 consisted of patients have under 65 years of age and group 2 consisted of patients have over 65 years of age. The mean age of group 1 patients was 51.67 ± 7.89 and the mean age of group 2 was 71.68 ± 5.36. Compared with the two groups and the output total FIM, gain total FIM, output cognitive FIM, output FIM and gain motor FIM were statistically significantly higher in group 1 according to group 2 (p <0.05). There was no statistically significant difference between the two groups in terms of input FAS staging (p> 0.05), but the output FAS staging was statistically higher than group 2 in group 1 (p <0.05).

	Group 1	Group 2	
	M±S.D./ %	M±S.D./ %	p
Age	51.67 ±7.89	71.68 ±5.36	
Sex			
Woman	38.8 %	59.9 %	<0.05
Man	61.2 %	40.1 %	
Etiology			
Ischemic stroke	59.1 %	76.2 %	<0.05
Hemorrhagic stroke	40.9 %	23.8 %	
Duration of stroke (months)	48.2±40.5	41.4±48.6	>0.05
Duration of hospitalization (days)	38.09±15.88	36.31±34.77	>0.05

	Group 1	Gorup 2	p
	M±S.D.	M±S.D.	
FAS input	1.16±1.08	0.92±1.61	>0.05
FAS output	3.1±1.18	1.8±1.51	<0.05
FIM input motor	38.16±18.41	35.39±19.61	>0.05
FIM input cognitive	28.49±11.03	27.51±10.50	>0.05
FBÖ input total	67.57±26.21	64.21±27.57	>0.05
FBÖ output motor	60.63±18.11	51.29±19.87	<0.05
FBÖ output cognitive	28.64±8.64	21.763±4.86	<0.05

Conclusion: As a result, the advanced age affected functional outcomes adversely in our study

References

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