REVIEWING METHYLPHENIDAT'S EFFECT IN PATIENTS WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER IN VIETNAM

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INTRODUCTION

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a chronic condition that affects millions of children and often continues into adulthood. ADHD includes a combination of persistent problems, such as difficulty sustaining attention, hyperactivity and impulsive behavior.

ADHD is commonly treated with medication, education or training, therapy, or a combination of treatments. Methylphenidate is an useful medication in the treatment of ADHD, which has been proven to be effective in many studies in Europe and USA.

However, there are significant differences in the effect of the medication in Vietnamese and other races. In Vietnam, the most common brand of methylphenidate is Concerta. It is important to identify the effectiveness of Concerta on the symptoms of ADHD in Vietnamese patients, especially children over 6 years old.

METHODS

- Non-randomized, before-after study.
- In 32 patients (≥ 6 years old) with ADHD according to ICD 10 criteria were treated with methylphenidate (Concerta) 18 mg/day for 1 month.
- Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Rating Scale (VADRS) was used to assess the ADHD symptoms.

RESULTS

- ✓ There was a significantly improvement on all groups of ADHD symptoms (hyperactivity, inattention, impulsion) ($p < 0.05$).
- ✓ ES of hyperactive symptoms (ES = 0.67) was greater compared to inattentive (ES = 0.24) and impulsive symptoms (ES = 0.28).

CONCLUSION

These results support the efficacy of Concerta in treatment for Vietnamese patients with ADHD in the first month.

Table 1. The main characteristics of subjects

		n	%
Sex	Female	1	3.13
	Male	31	96.87
Age	6-10	30	93.75
	> 10	2	6.25

Table 2. Inattention before and after treatment with Concerta

Inattention	Before ± Sd	After ± Sd	R	P
Change attention	2,52 ± 0,75	2,38±0,71	0,90	<0,05
Focus & sustain attention	2,85±0,54	2,69± 0,60	0,81	<0,05

Figure 1. Hyperactive symptoms before and after treatment with Concerta

Figure 2. Impulsive symptoms before and after treatment with Concerta