Experience of using antiepileptic drugs in children with Autism spectrum disorder.

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Objectives. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is one of the most frequent neurodevelopmental disorder in pediatric psychiatry with prevalence of about 1 in 68 children. It is characterized by persistent deficits in social, verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction and restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests or activities. Treatment resistance induce psychiatrists to find new methods of diagnostic.

Aim to study bioelectric activity of the brain for presence of epileptiform discharges and its influence on management tactics in children with ASD.

Material and methods. We analyzed 50 children (2-12 years old) with ASD (DSM-V classification) without epileptic seizures in history. All children were examined by a psychiatrist, a neurologist and a speech therapist at least twice. All children were diagnosed with long-term EEG monitoring twice. Group I: 24 children aged 2-12 years with period of normal development and subsequent development regress. Group II: 26 children aged 2-8 years without period of normal development.

Results. 16 of 24 (66,7%) patients in group I and 17 of 26 (62.5%) patients in group II had epileptiform disturbances in EEG. Therapy of these patients was changed to antiepileptic drugs what entailed significant improvement of speech, social skills, repetitive patterns of behavior.

Conclusion. Disturbances in the EEG are a full-fledged but not subsidiary symptom in the diagnosis and choice of tactics for treating ASD in children. There is a clear relationship between ASD and the epileptiform disturbances in the EEG.

Group I

Group II

Result of EEG study

■ discharges in EEG ■ without discharges in EEG

without normal period	17	9
normal period	16	8

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