(S80) IMPACT OF ORAL HEALTH IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND EPILEPSY: A NEUROLOGY CLINIC SURVEY
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Background: Autoimmune disease may affect saliva secretion in animal models and humans. Saliva production is significantly lower in females than in males. It would therefore be expected that multiple sclerosis (MS), which has been characterized as an autoimmune demyelinating disease affecting predominantly females and may also be treated with symptomatic anticholinergic medications, may adversely affect oral health. Objectives: We sought to characterize the impact of oral health on neurologic disorders using the Oral Health Impact Profile (OHIP), a validated survey instrument. Methods: A total of 460 patients completed the OHIP, including 141 controls without neurologic conditions. Results: Of the 319 patients with neurologic diagnoses who were enrolled, 31% had MS, 34% had epilepsy, and 34% had other neurologic conditions. Compared with the control group, mean age, education, and household income levels were significantly lower among epilepsy patients than in the other groups. The majority of the study population was white, and the percentage was highest in those with MS (87%). Patients with any neurologic diagnosis had greater physical pain and disability than controls. Adjusting for demographic variables, impact of physical disability was significantly higher in patients with any neurologic diagnosis (including MS and epilepsy) (odds ratio [OR], 4.49; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.56-12.96). In multinomial regression, the strongest association of physical disability impact was noted with epilepsy patients (OR, 5.17; 95% CI, 1.39-19.21). Conclusions: The physical disability domain of the OHIP is more commonly associated with a neurologic diagnosis, including MS, and the association is strongest in patients with a diagnosis of epilepsy.

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