Plasma concentration of galantamine - influence of dose and body mass index in Alzheimer’s disease.

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Plasma concentration of galantamine in Alzheimer’s disease - influence of dose and body mass index

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Background and objectives

Patients with Alzheimer’s disease (AD) are at present treated with galantamine without actual knowledge of plasma concentration levels. The aim of this presentation is to analyse the relationship between galantamine plasma concentration, dose, demographic factors and body mass index (BMI).

Methods and subjects

The Swedish Alzheimer Treatment Study (SATS) is a 3-year ongoing, open-label, non-randomized, prospective, multicentre study in a routine clinical setting. A total of 84 AD patients treated with galantamine and recruited at the Memory Clinic in Malmö were included in this study. They were assessed with several cognitive and functional rating scales at baseline and every 6 months over the course of 3 years. After 180 of these assessments, blood samples were obtained for the analysis of plasma galantamine concentration. Efficacy measures including Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE), Instrumental activities of daily living scale (IADL) and BMI were simultaneously evaluated. The dose, as well as the time from drug intake to plasma extraction was investigated.

One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) with Bonferroni correction was used to compare the mean differences between the groups based on galantamine dose, and T-test was computed for analyses between genders. Pearson’s correlation coefficient was calculated investigating any linear associations between plasma concentration and the variables dose, age and BMI, respectively. A general linear model with plasma concentration as the dependent variable was used to study the multivariate impact on the independent variables.

Conclusions

Galantamine plasma concentration demonstrated a strong relationship with dose. The dose did not differ between genders, whereas the impact of body mass index on plasma concentration was important only among the males.

Results

Fig 1 Association between galantamine plasma concentration and daily dose.

Fig 2 Galantamine plasma concentration level depending on time from drug intake.

Fig 3 Relationship between galantamine plasma concentration and body mass index

Baseline characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of patients (n)</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender (males / females)</td>
<td>29% / 71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at onset</td>
<td>73.9 ± 7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at start of treatment</td>
<td>76.7 ± 7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illness duration, years</td>
<td>3.0 ± 1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MMSE, range 0 - 30</td>
<td>22.7 ± 4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IADL, range 8 - 31</td>
<td>13.4 ± 5.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*a mean ± SD, tIADL – 8 (no impairment) to 31 (severe impairment).

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