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CORRELATIONS BETWEEN NUCLEUS LENTIFORMIS ASYMMETRY PARAMETERS (MRI DATA) AND MEMORY CHARACTERISTICS (SEMANTIC ASPECT) IN PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA

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Introduction: It's evident that abnormalities of subcortical brain structures asymmetry are related with schizophrenia pathogenesis.

Objectives: Basal ganglia participate in memory processes. Estimation of relationship between their asymmetry parameters and memory characteristics should be examined.

Aims: To investigate correlations between nucleus lentiformis (NL) MRI parameters and memory peculiarities (semantic aspect) in schizophrenia 96 patients and 51 controls were examined.

Methods: 3D MR images were acquired on magnet 0.5 Tomikon S50, Bruker (69 patients` and 34 controls` groups) and 1.5T GE Signa System (27 patients` and 17 controls` groups). Volumes (V) of left and right NL and their asymmetry coefficients ($2 \times (\text{right NLV} - \text{left NLV}) \times 100 / (\text{right NLV} + \text{left NLV}), \%$) were calculated.

Psychological pictogram method^{1,2} estimating mnemonic activity including semantic aspect was used. Quantitative (retention productivity score (RPS)) was analyzed.

Results: Decreasing of the right (more prominent, $p=0.046$, $p=0.044$) and left NL ($p=0.048$, $p=0.048$) volumes were demonstrated in both patients groups. The RPS was less in both patients groups as compared with controls ($p < 0.01$). Correlation between NL asymmetry coefficients and RPS was revealed in patients underwent 0.5 and 1.5T scanners ($r = -0.51$, $p < 0.05$; $r = -0.57$, $p < 0.05$ correspondingly).

Conclusions: The data confirm significance of brain asymmetry and memory dysfunction in etiology of schizophrenia.

References:

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