

Other

COGNITIVE DEFICIT AFTER ELECTROCONVULSIVE THERAPY

K Douk², I Belabess¹, E Nawar¹, S Belbachir¹, A Ouanass¹

¹*Psychiatry, university psychiatric hospital arrazi, Morocco*

²*Psychiatry, mohamed V military hospital, Morocco*

Electroconvulsive therapy is a medical treatment used for patients with severe major depression or bipolar disorder who have not responded to other treatments, as well as for resistant schizophrenia, and consists of brief electrical stimulation of the brain while the patient is under anesthesia.

Its mechanism is not well known, but we assumed that ECT is associated with a reduction in brain connections in the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex area, which in turn is associated with a decrease in depressive symptoms.

Despite its great effectiveness, this technique remains limited by numerous contraindications and exposes the patient to a multitude of short and long term side effects.

Our Objective is shed light on cognitive impairment affecting memory, learning and thinking following ECT treatment.

We conducted a systematic review of the literature using the following keywords on the GoogleScholar database: cognitive impairment post electroconvulsive therapy, cognitive effects of electroconvulsive therapy, electroconvulsive side effects, ECT.

Most studies of cognitive impairment following ECT have focused on memory. Other studies have focused on the negative impact of ECT on the speed of information processing, minimal impairment in some aspects of attention and verbal communication. These studies also noted the impoverishment of executive function performance with a decrease in performance on several tests.

cognitive deficit after ECT is a much debated subject with many controversial studies, and despite the large number of studies on this subject, we are still far from conclusive and exploitable results, especially with the intricacy of the diversity of parameters that bias results

