spectrum of epilepsy—prevalence, impact, and treatment gap: an epidemiological study from al-Quseir, Egypt

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Abstract:

Background Epidemiology continues to be an important research tool in the study of epilepsy and related disorders, providing a better understanding of the frequency, causes, and natural history of the disorder. Objective To estimate the prevalence of epilepsy in Al-Quseir, Red Sea Governorate, Egypt, and its magnitude of treatment gap. Methods The study was part of a door-to-door study, including every door, to screen all inhabitants in Al-Quseir (33,818 inhabitants) by three specialists of neurology and 15 female social workers (for demographic data collection) using a standardized screening questionnaire. All suspected cases were subjected to detailed history, clinical examination, and electroencephalogram. Neuroimaging studies and estimation of serum drug level were done in select cases if needed. Results The study revealed that the lifetime prevalence rate of epilepsy in Al-Quseir was 2,078 per 100,000 inhabitants, with a treatment gap of 45.5%.

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