Comparative analysis of predictive significance of neuroimaging parameters in patients with spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhage

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The main purpose of the study was to conduct a comparative analysis of the neuroimaging parameters informative value for the determination of vital and functional outcomes prognosis of the spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhage (SSICH) in the acute period, depending on the secondary intraventricular hemorrhage (SIVH) presence or absence at the disease onset.

Materials and methods. A prospective cohort study was conducted in 154 patients (88 men and 66 women, mean age 64.4 ± 0.9 years) with SSICH on the basis of conservative treatment. This study included clinical assessment and visualization of cerebral structures. Intracerebral hemorrhage volume (ICHV), average midline shift (AMS) and intraventricular hemorrhage volume (IVHV) were detected. The modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score >3 on the 21st day of the disease was considered as an unfavourable functional outcome of SSICH in the acute period.

Results. Secondary intraventricular hemorrhage was revealed in 70 (45.5 %) patients. It was found that ICHV was less informative than IVHV in patients with SIVH for the vital outcome prognosis of disease in the acute period determination (AUC_{IVHV} = 0.72 ± 0.09 (0.60–0.82) versus AUC_{ICHV} = 0.94 ± 0.04 (0.86–0.98), P = 0.026), whereas the informative value of ICH volume and AMS were not significantly different in patients without SIVH for the vital outcome prognosis determination (AUC_{AMS} = 0.77 ± 0.11 (0.67–0.86) versus AUC_{ICHV} = 0.87 ± 0.05 (0.78–0.94), P = 0.257) in the acute period of disease. It was detected, that IVHS >24.5 mL was the predictor of SSICH lethal outcome in the acute period (Se = 84.6 %, Sp = 96.5 %).

Conclusions. Predictive value of the neuroimaging parameters at SSICH onset depends on SIVH presence or absence. Intracerebral hemorrhage volume is less informative than IVHV and AMS for the vital and functional outcomes prognosis determination in the acute period of SSICH with SIVH. The informative value of neuroimaging parameters for the vital outcome prognosis of SSICH in the acute period determination is higher than the one for the functional prognosis determination.
Introduction

Cerebral hemorrhagic stroke is the most severe form of acute cerebral circulation disorders, which is characterized with high rates of mortality and disability of the adult population in most countries of the world [3, 8, 11]. Spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhages (SSICH) are the most common in the structure of cerebral hemorrhagic stroke [1, 9].

The choice of optimal treatment tactics for patients with SSICH is one of the most complicated and, unfortunately, yet unsolved problems of modern angionurology. The aforementioned justifies the reasonability of studies aimed at the research of parameters associated with the outcome of disease in the acute period in order to further develop the criteria for short-term prognosis verification as the basis for making differentiated therapeutic and tactical solutions [12].

Nowadays, the influence of cerebral structures damage severity over the course and outcome of disease in the acute period is convincingly proved [14]. At the same time, SSICH is a pathomorphologically heterogeneous process [2, 6, 15, 18]. In 40–50% of cases SSICH is accompanied by the following complication: the blood breakthrough into the brain ventricular system [4, 7, 16]. All of the above justifies the reasonability of the neuroimaging criteria predictive value differentiated evaluation for the cerebral structures damage severity assessment in patients with SSICH, taking into consideration the pathomorphological heterogeneity of the pathological process.

The purpose

The main purpose of this study was to conduct a comparative analysis of the neuroimaging parameters informative value for the vital and functional outcomes prognosis of spontaneous supratentorial intracerebral hemorrhage in the acute period determination depending on the secondary intraventricular hemorrhage presence or absence at the disease onset.

Materials and methods

In order to achieve the goal a prospective, cohort, comparative study was conducted in 154 patients (88 men and 66 women, mean age 64.4 ± 0.9 years) with SSICH confirmed by the clinical and neuroimaging study results. They were admitted to Acute Brain Circulation Disorders Department within the first 24 hours of the disease onset. The study excluded patients who had acute cerebrovascular accident in the anamnesis, several lesions, decompensated somatic pathology, oncological pathology, indications for surgical treatment in accordance with the neurosurgical examination results. Cases of death due to extracerebral causes in accordance with the autopsy results were excluded from the analysis.

Clinical and neurological study included the neurological deficit level assessment using the National Institute of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS), Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) and Full outline of UnResponsiveness (FOUR) Scale in the acute period dynamics. A computed tomography study was conducted on admission with the help of a multislice computed tomography scanner «Siemens Somatom Spirit». Intracerebral hemorrhage volume (ICHV) was calculated using the ellipsoid formula: 

$$ ICHV = \frac{a \times b \times c}{2} $$

where a, b, c are lesion linear sizes (cm). The dislocation syndrome severity was assessed based on septum pellucidum displacement (SPD) and pineal gland displacement (PGD). The average midline shift (AMS) was used for an integrated estimation of the median brain structures lateral displacement: 

$$ AMS = \frac{SPD + PGD}{2} $$

The severity of secondary intraventricular hemorrhage was assessed in accordance with the Intraventricular hemorrhage scale (IVHS), which takes into consideration different gradations of blood volume in brain ventricles, the presence / absence of hydrocephalus and the distortion of the lateral volume of the III and IV brain ventricles. Intraventricular hemorrhage volume (IVHV) was calculated using the formula: 

$$ IVHV = e^{(\frac{AMS}{5})} $$

All patients underwent conservative therapy in accordance with the Unified Clinical Protocol for the provision of medical care to patients with cerebral hemorrhagic stroke, approved by the order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine No. 275 of April 17, 2014 [1]. The modified Rankin Scale (mRS) score >3 on the 21st day of the disease was considered as an unfavourable functional outcome of acute SSICH period.

Statistical analysis of the results was made with the help of Statistica 6.0 (StatSoft Inc., USA, series number...
AXXR712633214FAN5) and MedCalc (version 16.4) software. The studied parameters were assessed for normality using the Shapiro–Wilk criterion. Descriptive statistics are presented in the form of $M \pm m$ for values with normal distribution and in the form of median (Me) and interquartile range (IQR) due to non-normal distribution of parameters. Comparative ROC analysis was used to compare the predictive value of neuroimaging parameters. Cut-off values were determined along with an optimum ratio of sensitivity (Se) and specificity (Sp). A $P$-value of $<0.05$ was defined as statistically significant.

**Results of the study**

Secondary intraventricular hemorrhage (SIVH) was revealed in 70 (45.5 %) patients.

Clinical and neuroimaging characteristics of the common cohort of patients regarding the SIVH presence or absence are represented in Table 1.

Clinical and neuroimaging characteristics of the sub-cohorts of examined patients with regard to the vital and functional outcomes of the disease in the acute period are represented in Tables 2 and 3.

The results of the neuroimaging parameters informative value assessment for the vital and functional outcomes prognosis of disease in the acute period determination in patients with SSICH and SIVH are displayed in Tables 4 and 5.

As shown in Tables 4 and 5, SIVH volume and indexes which demonstrate the dislocation syndrome severity are the most informative neuroimaging parameters for the vital and functional outcomes determination in the acute period of SSICH with SIVH.

On the basis of comparative ROC analysis it was estimated that ICH volume was less informative than...
IVH volume in patients with SIVH for the vital outcome prognosis of disease in the acute period determination (AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.77 ± 0.09 (0.60–0.82) versus AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.94 ± 0.04 (0.86–0.98), P = 0.026) and did not differ from the average midline shift (AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.72 ± 0.09 (0.60–0.82) versus AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.88 ± 0.04 (0.78–0.95), P = 0.104), whereas ICH volume was not informative for the functional outcome prognosis of disease in the acute period determination (AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.58 ± 0.08 (0.44–0.71), P = 0.3134). However, the informative value of SIVH volume for vital prognosis determination was higher than the one used for the functional prognosis verification (0.94 ± 0.04 (0.86–0.98) versus 0.71 ± 0.07 (0.58–0.83), P = 0.004). On the basis of ROC analysis it has been detected, that IVHV >24.5 mL is the predictor of SIVH lethal outcome in the acute period (Se = 84.6 %, Sp = 96.5 %; OR 95 % CI = 1.18 (1.07–1.30), P = 0.0007).

Table 4. The neuroimaging parameters informative value in patients with SSICH and SIVH for the vital outcome prognosis of disease in the acute period determination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>AUC</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>95 % CI</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICH volume</td>
<td>0.72</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.60-0.82</td>
<td>0.0178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septum pellucidum displacement</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.80-0.95</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineal gland displacement</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.74-0.92</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average midline shift</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.78-0.95</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIVH volume</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.86-0.98</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5. The neuroimaging parameters informative value in patients with SSICH and SIVH for the functional outcome prognosis of disease in the acute period determination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>AUC</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>95 % CI</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICH volume</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.44-0.71</td>
<td>0.3134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Septum pellucidum displacement</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.62-0.86</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pineal gland displacement</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.64-0.82</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average midline shift</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.65-0.88</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIVH volume</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.58-0.83</td>
<td>0.0027</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6. The neuroimaging parameters informative value in patients with SSICH without SIVH for the vital outcome prognosis determination in the acute period of disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>AUC</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>95 % CI</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICH volume</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.67-0.86</td>
<td>0.0139</td>
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<tr>
<td>Septum pellucidum displacement</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.79-0.94</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineal gland displacement</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.80-0.95</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average midline shift</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.78-0.94</td>
<td>&lt;0.0001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7. The neuroimaging parameters informative value in patients with SSICH without SIVH for the functional outcome prognosis determination in the acute period of disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>AUC</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>95 % CI</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICH volume</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.50-0.73</td>
<td>0.0846</td>
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<tr>
<td>Septum pellucidum displacement</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.56-0.78</td>
<td>0.003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pineal gland displacement</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.55-0.77</td>
<td>0.0052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average midline shift</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.55-0.77</td>
<td>0.0047</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the comparative ROC analysis it was determined that the informative value of ICH volume and average midline shift were not significantly different in patients without SIVH for vital (AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.77 ± 0.11 (0.67–0.86) versus AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.87 ± 0.05 (0.78–0.94), P = 0.257) and functional outcomes prognosis (AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.62 ± 0.07 (0.50–0.73) versus AUC<sub>AMS</sub> = 0.67 ± 0.06 (0.55–0.77), P = 0.423) determination in the acute period of disease. At the same time, the informative value of average midline shift for vital prognosis determination was higher than the one used for functional prognosis verification in patients without SIVH (0.87 ± 0.05 (0.78–0.94) versus 0.67 ± 0.06 (0.55–0.77), P = 0.01).

Discussion

As a result of the study it has been determined that the predictive values of ICH and AMS in patients with SSICH are different depending on the SIVH presence or absence. Thus, in patients without SIVH the most informative neuroimaging parameters for the vital outcome prognosis in the acute period of disease determination are the values of septum pellucidum displacement (0.88 (0.79–0.94), P < 0.0001) and pineal gland displacement (0.89 (0.80–0.95), P < 0.0001), as well as ICHV (0.77 (0.67–0.86), P < 0.0001), which is a little less informative. In our opinion, a higher prognostic value of septum pellucidum displacement in comparison with pineal gland displacement for the vital prognosis determination is not only due to ICHV influence, but also to the perifocal oedema severity and its influence on the outcome of disease in the acute period. The obtained data are consistent with the results of other studies in which the leading role of the primary mechanisms of brain damage (including dislocation syndrome) in the lethal outcome of SSICH in the acute period was proved [9,10,13].

The informative value of ICH volume in patients with SIVH is inferior to that of IVH volume and AMS as for the vital and functional outcomes prognosis of SSICH in the acute period determination, which accords with the results of other studies which have proved the negative influence of SIVH presence and severity on the SSICH course and outcome in the acute period [5,13,17]. Our study has determined critical value of IVHV (>24.5 mL), which is the predictor of SSICH lethal outcome in the acute period (Se = 84.6 %, Sp = 96.5 %; OR 95 % CI = 1.18 (1.07–1.30), P = 0.0007).

However, regardless of the SIVH presence or absence, the neuroimaging parameters informative value for the functional outcome prognosis verification in the acute period of SSICH is statistically lower than the one for vital prognosis verification (AUC 0.58–0.78 versus 0.72–0.94, P < 0.05 – in patients with SIVH; AUC 0.62–0.67 versus 0.77–0.87, P < 0.05 – in patients without SIVH). In our opinion it is not only due to the influence of primary mechanisms of brain damage on the functional outcome of SSICH in the acute period, but also to the secondary ones (thrombin-induced inflammatory activation).

Thus, in the prognostic value assessment, it is necessary to take into consideration the SIVH presence or absence. In order to determine the short-term vital and functional prognosis in patients with SSICH and SIVH, it is reasonable to detect the IVHV.
Conclusions

1. Predictive value of the neuroimaging parameters at SSICH onset depends on SIVH presence or absence. Intracerebral hemorrhage volume is less informative than intraventricular hemorrhage volume and midline shift for the vital and functional outcomes prognosis determination in the acute period of SSICH with SIVH ($AUC_{WNV} = 0.72 \pm 0.09$ (0.60–0.82) versus $AUC_{WNV} = 0.94 \pm 0.04$ (0.86–0.98), $P = 0.026$).

2. Intraventricular hemorrhage volume > 24.5 mL is the predictor of SSICH with lethal outcome in the acute period ($Se = 84.6\%$, $Sp = 96.5\%$; OR 95% CI = 1.18 (1.07–1.30), $P = 0.0007$).

3. The informative value of intracerebral hemorrhage volume and average midline shift does not significantly differ for the vital ($AUC_{WNV} = 0.77 \pm 0.11$ (0.67–0.86) versus $AUC_{WMS} = 0.87 \pm 0.05$ (0.78–0.94), $P = 0.257$) and functional outcomes prognosis determination ($AUC_{WNV} = 0.62 \pm 0.07$ (0.50–0.73) versus $AUC_{WMS} = 0.67 \pm 0.06$ (0.55–0.77), $P = 0.423$) in the acute period of SSICH without SIHV.

4. The informative value of neuroimaging parameters for the vital outcome prognosis determination of SSICH in the acute period is higher than the one for the functional prognosis determination ($AUC_{WNV} = 0.72–0.94$ versus 0.58–0.78, $P < 0.05$ – in patients with SIHV; $AUC_{WMS} = 0.77–0.87$ versus 0.62–0.67, $P < 0.05$ – in patients without SIHV).

The perspective for the further scientific research is the development of differential predictive criteria for SSICH in patients regarding the SIVH presence or absence.

References


