Neurological soft signs in a sample of Egyptian ADHD children and their clinical correlates

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Abstract

Introduction:
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a common neurodevelopmental disorder in children. It has been found to be etiologically related to delayed brain maturation. Hence, soft neurological signs (NSS) could be a tool to assess ADHD. Moreover, the correlation of neurological soft signs with severity and type of ADHD and the presence of specific learning disability could give further insights into the disorder.

Methods:
The present study was designed to assess the presence of NSS in ADHD patients in comparison with healthy controls and to examine its clinical correlates.

Results:
A total of 50 ADHD children between 6 and 15 years of age and of both sexes were subjected to full psychiatric history taking, diagnostic interviews using MINI-KID, and the Cambridge Neurological Inventory (part 2), and were then compared with a well-matched control group. The ADHD group showed significant perinatal period events (P=0.04) and past and developmental history events (P=0.01), and significant affection on most of the Cambridge Neurological Inventory (part 2) subscales.

Conclusion:
NSS were present in ADHD children regardless of sex, type of ADHD, or perinatal period events and past and developmental history events. It was correlated to younger age of patient and cognitive domains of ADHD.