The Investigation of Symptoms and Diagnoses of Adult-Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder in Women with Iron Deficiency Anemia.

Demirci K, Yildirim Baş F, Arslan B, Salman Z, Akpinar A, Demirdaş A.


Abstract

INTRODUCTION:
The aim of this study was to investigate symptoms and diagnoses of Adult-Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in women with iron deficiency anemia, to evaluate the relationship between ADHD with clinical features and to compare with the women without iron deficiency anemia.

METHODS:
Eighty-three newly diagnosed iron deficiency anemia patients and 70 healthy controls were included in this study. All participants were assessed using a sociodemographic form, Structured Clinical Interview I (SCID-I), Wender Utah Rating Scale (WURS); Moreover, participants having WURS scores 36 and above were also assessed using the Adult ADD/ADHD Evaluation Scale and interviewed according to DSM-5 criteria.

RESULTS:
In the study, 22.9% of patients with iron deficiency anemia and 12.9% of healthy controls were found to have WURS scores 36 and above. Fifteen patients (18.1%) in iron deficiency anemia group and two patients (2.9%) in control group had adult ADHD when they were evaluated with Adult ADD/ADHD Evaluation Scale and interviewed according to DSM-5 criteria (p=0.007). The patients with iron deficiency anemia had significantly higher WURS scores compared to controls (p=0.002). The levels of iron and ferritin had a negative correlation (r=-0.166, p<0.05; r=-0.255, p<0.01, respectively) and the levels of serum iron binding capacity had a positive correlation (r=0.255, p<0.01) with the scores of WURS.

CONCLUSION:
The prevalence of adult ADHD is higher than those reported for the general population in patients with iron deficiency anemia. Early diagnose and treatment of adult ADHD may positively contribute to the patients with iron deficiency anemia.