

Review of: "Epilepsy surgery in tuberous sclerosis: An overview of neurosurgical concerns in a low-income country"

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Masoudi et al described their experience of epilepsy surgery for drug-resistant epilepsy in ten patients with tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) treated in an Iranian university hospital. Presurgical evaluation included scalp EEG, seizure recording and video-EEG monitoring. Regarding post-operative seizure outcome, seizures disappeared in three patients, and significantly decreased in the remaining seven.

This paper provides useful information that epilepsy surgery for TSC patients may work even in resource-limited settings where PET, MEG and intracranial EEG recordings are not easily available.

There are several issues and questions to be addressed:

1. Despite the title "an overview of neurosurgical concerns in a low-income county", there is neither "overview", description of "neurosurgical concerns" nor a list of problems in low-income countries.
2. In the Introduction, description on subependymal giant cell astrocytoma is too lengthy and not much relevant. This should be replaced by drug-resistant epilepsy in TSC.
3. Wasn't MRI included in the presurgical evaluation? (Materials and methods)
4. The terms "Tuberous sclerosis complex", "TSC" and "tuberous sclerosis" are used inconsistently.
5. In the Abstract, the abbreviation "DRE" is not spelt out where it first appears.
6. Some words and phrases are either awkward or too colloquial: almost always go hand in hand with TSC (Introduction); It strands to reason (Discussion).