

## **CHRONIC SUBDURAL HEMATOMAS: RESULTS OF BURR-HOLE IRRIGATION WITH SUBDURAL DRAINAGE**

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**OBJECTIVE:** Chronic subdural hematoma (CSH) is a very common condition seen usually in the later stages of life, presenting dementia, headache, gait disturbances and so on. Treatment, although apparently simple, is associated with some morbidity and mortality with a potential for recurrence. The aim of this study was to determine the factors responsible for the complications, morbidity and mortality, and recurrence after the surgical treatment of CSHs.

**METHODS:** We did a retrospective analysis between January, 2006, and May, 2010. 214 patients aged between 47 and 99 years old (average: 75.6 y.o.) of CSHs treated in our hospital was studied. All patients were treated with burr-hole irrigation with subdural drainage.

**RESULTS:** The patients were mostly men (154/214; 72 %) in the seventh and eighth decade of life and presented with dementia, headache, or focal deficits. Recurrence occurred in 9 of 214 (4.2%) patients after the surgery. 7 patients (3.3%) had some complications; 4 with pneumonia, 2 with brain infarction, and 1 with intracranial hemorrhage. One of the patients with pneumonia died eventually. 34 (15.9%) patients showed transient delirium which improved immediately after the discharge from the hospital. 13 (6.1%) patients were needed postoperative rehabilitation for one or two months.

**CONCLUSIONS:** It was seen that factors determining of complications were age, and associated illnesses like cardiac and pulmonary failure. Use of a subdural drain significantly reduced recurrences comparing with the results of surgery without drain on the literatures.