

MANIC EPISODE IN A PATIENT WITH DEGENERATIVE CEREBELLAR DISEASE

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Aims/objectives: To present a case of a 19-year-old man with Friedrich's Ataxia, who had a manic episode and treated with risperidone and Na-valproate. Friedrich's Ataxia is the most common cerebellar degenerative disease.

Methods: The patient had a diagnosis of Friedrich's Ataxia 7 years ago and was admitted to our hospital on a wheelchair with the symptoms of irritability, elevated mood, distractibility, increased activity, logorrhea, macromanic delusions and sleep deprivation. He had a family history of both Bipolar Affective Disorder and Neurodegenerative Disorder.

Results: Cerebellar atrophy was significant on the obtained MRI scans. Risperidone and Na-valproate treatment was started and remission was obtained at the end of the third week.

Conclusion: Despite of the high rate of psychiatric and cognitive disorders in the patients with degenerative cerebellar diseases; mania with cerebellar disease is a rare condition. This case supports previous findings that the cerebellum may have a role in modulating emotion and cognition. Also the role of the genetics in mania and cerebellar disease; and probable common genetic etiologies should be considered. Successful result of treatment with Na-Valproate and Risperidone may show utility of these agents in such cases. All of these issues require systematic assessment.