Baris Isak, MD, MSc, Department of Clinical Neurophysiology, Aarhus University Hospital.

SENSORY CHANGES IN MOTOR NEURON DISEASE

A new PhD project from Health, Aarhus University, shows that different types of sensory nerve fibers were frequently affected in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in a mild to moderate degree. The project was carried out by PhD student and MD Baris Isak.

ALS is a severe and rare disease with about 75 new patients each year in Denmark. The disease is destroying the motor neurons in brain and spinal cord leading to progressing pareses of all muscle groups. In practice, sensory nerve fibres are required to be intact or minimally affected to diagnose ALS.

In her dissertation, Baris Isak thoroughly evaluated both myelinated as well as small unmyelinated fibres of the sensory nerve system in 32 ALS patients using a range of different techniques. She found sensory nerve affection in 72% of the ALS patients, a considerably higher number than previously reported in the literature. The results obtained in the dissertation are important in the early diagnosis of ALS, and suggest that current diagnostic criteria need revision.

The defence is public and takes place on 1st February 2017 at 14:00 in Det Blå Auditorium, Victor Albeck Building, Aarhus University, 8000 Aarhus C. The title of the project is “Electrophysiological and clinical evidence of sensory changes in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis”. For more information please contact PhD student Baris Isak, email: barisisak@gmail.com, phone: +90 506 3092988.

Baris Isak, læge, cand.scient, Neurofysiologisk Afdeling, Aarhus Universitetshospital

Sensoriske forandringer ved motor neuron sygdom

Et nyt ph.d.-projekt fra Aarhus Universitet, Health viser at forskellige typer sensoriske nervefibre ofte er påvirkede i mild til moderat grad ved amyotrofisk lateral sclerose (ALS). Projektet er gennemført af ph.d.-studerende og læge Baris Isak.

ALS er en alvorlig, sjælden sygdom med omkring 75 nye tilfælde i Danmark hvert år. Sygdommen ødelægger motorneuronerne i hjernen og rygsøjlen, hvilket medfører fremadskridende lammelser af alle muskelgrupper. I praksis kræves normal eller minimalt påvirket sensorisk nervefunktion for at diagnosticere ALS.

I hendes afhandling har Baris Isak grundigt undersøgt både myeliniserede såvel som små umyelineserede fibre i det sensoriske nervesystem hos 32 ALS patienter ved hjælp af forskellige teknikker. Hun påviste sensorisk nerveaffektion hos 72 % af ALS patienterne, hvilket er væsentligt højere end hidtil antaget. Afhandlingens resultater er vigtige for tidlig diagnose af ALS og lægger op til en revision af de nuværende diagnostiske kriterier.

Det offentlige forsvar finder sted d. 1. februar 2017 kl. 14:00 i Det Blå Auditorium, Victor Albeck bygningen, Aarhus Universitet, 8000 Aarhus C. Projektets titel er “Electrophysiological and clinical evidence of sensory changes in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis”. For yderligere oplysninger kan man kontakte ph.d.-studerende Baris Isak, e-mail: barisisak@gmail.com, tlf.nr. +90 506 3092988.