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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to: Amantadine, COVID-19 and Parkinsonism

To editor,

The author shares some ideas about the use of amantadine for the treatment of people with COVID-19, the author mentions an interesting article by Dr. Kobylecki where he mentions a mortality rate of 22.4% for Parkinson's patients studied between January 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020, where 3 cases were confirmed positive for COVID-19 (1).

It is important to note the following:

a) In Dr. Kobylecki's study, they do not mention whether the Parkinson's patients were medicated with Amantadine.

b) I reviewed an article cited by Dr. Kobylecki, entitled "Effects of COVID-19 on Parkinson's Disease Clinical Features: A Community-Based Case-Control Study DOI: 10.1002/mds.28170. In that observational study of people with Parkinson's, 8.5% were positive for COVID-19. Within the characteristics of the population, none were medicated with amantadine (Table 1. Characteristics of the study population) (2).

The fact that Parkinson's patients get COVID-19 is probably because their main medication was Levodopa and not amantadine.

I would like to point out that amantadine is an antiviral that is able to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 and works excellently (3–5).

References

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