

ANTICHOLINERGIC DRUGS AND ACETYLCHOLINESTERASE INHIBITORS: A NON RECOMMENDED COMBINATION



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Background: Anticolinergic Anticholinergic drugs exert their effect by opposite mechanism to acetylcholinesterase inhibitors (AChEIs), helping to counteract their modest efficacy and favoring the appearance of adverse events.

Purpose: To determine prevalence of patients with concomitant prescription of AChEIs and anticholinergics in an institutionalized population and to analyze their associated characteristics.

Material and methods: cross-sectional descriptive study (August 2018).

Target population (random sample)

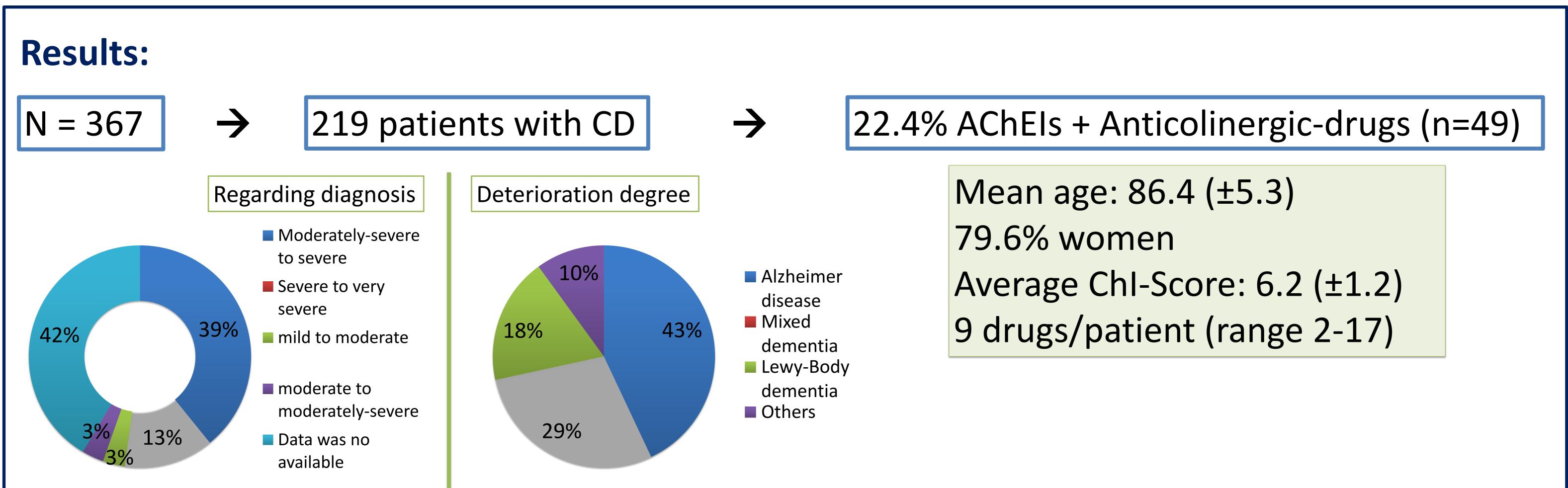
•Patiens from 3 nursing-homes

• AChEls + Anticolinergic-drugs

Variables

•Age, sex, number of drugs, Charlson Index-Sore (ChI) •Presence, type and level of cognitive disorder (CD) •Prescription of AChEls and Anticolinergic-drugs

Anticholinergic-Cognitive-Burden (ACB) scale: CD elevated \rightarrow accumulated score \geq 3. Global deterioration scale (GDS): evaluate CD (last 18 months).



Ŭ	AChEI	Anticolinergic drugs
implicated	Rivastigmine 53% Donepezil (35%) Galantamine (12%)	 67 prescriptions (1,91 per patient) ATC N 82% 16 prescriptions → ACB Scale Quetiapine 87,5% Others (trazodone)

- No statistically significant in taking differences anticholinergic drugs were found between those taking AChEls or not. -

Conclusions: Almost half of our population presented an important/severe CD degree. Concomitant prescription of anticholinergics and AChEls was frequent. Drugs from NS were the most implicated. It was not more likely to take anticholinergics among those taking AChEls. A reappraisal of the therapeutic approach should be periodically considered in this vulnerable group of patients.



