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Central nervous system manifestations in Diabetes Mellitus

Diabetes mellitus is considered one of the main threats to human health in the 21st century. By 2030, the global estimate is expected to rise over 552 million (9.9% of the adult population). Diabetic neuropathy is estimated to affect nearly 50% of patients with diabetes mellitus and is associated with significant increase in morbidity and mortality. A wide variety of disturbances affecting the central and peripheral nervous systems, either directly or indirectly, may be encountered in patients with diabetes mellitus. Neuropathies are common in both type-1 and type-2 diabetes and there are no major structural differences in the pathology of the nerves in the two diabetes types. Peripheral neuropathy has been the primary neuroscience focus of diabetes research. Contrary to some early impressions, however, the CNS is not spared by diabetes. The impact of diabetes mellitus on the CNS has gained attention only recently. Chronically, diabetes mellitus affects the CNS in several ways. Diabetes increases stroke risk and damage, overtreatment with insulin or oral agents can permanently damage the brain and diabetes may increase the prevalence of seizure disorders. Diabetes changes brain barrier transport, blood flow and metabolism, and may produce a chronic encephalopathy. Acutely, glycemic extremes cause coma, seizures, focal neurological deficits and impaired consciousness. The pathophysiological basis for these marked CNS abnormalities seen in hypoglycemia, hyperosmolar coma and ketoacidosis are largely unknown.

Biography

Goutam Kumar Acherjya is currently working as a Consultant of Medicine in the Southern part of Bangladesh. He has completed MBBS from Sher-E-Bangladesh Medical College Hospital, Barisal, Bangladesh. He has done his Fellowship (FCPS) in Internal Medicine from Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons. He has nine publications to his credit and his area of interest in research is on the effects of diabetes on degenerative central nervous system diseases and gerontology.

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