

P-446 - SEXUAL SATISFACTION IN MILD AND MODERATE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE PATIENTS AND THEIR SPOUSES

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Introduction: Alzheimer's Disease affects the total quality of the marital relationship and the couple's sexual intimacy.

Objectives: To study changes in sexual activity and satisfaction between AD patients and their spouses.

Methods: Couples whose spouses were diagnosed with mild and moderate AD (n = 36) were included. Instruments:MMSE, CDR, APID, CORNELL, Questionnaire on Sexual Experience and Satisfaction, ZARIT.

Results: Presence of sexual activity was reported by patients (63.8%) and spouses (55.5%); 34.7% of the male patients and 34.0% of the female patients reported sexual dissatisfaction. Interruption of the sexual activity was reported by 44.4% of the spouses and by 36.8% of the patients. There was no significant difference between CDR1 and CDR2 patients' sexual satisfaction (p = 0.47). Spouses were sexually dissatisfied with significant statistical differences between severity of disease groups (p =0.049). Spouses presented a moderate rate of burden of care (48.77 ± 20.13). Feelings of burden related to sexual dissatisfaction were reported by 37.5% of the spouses. Awareness of disease was impaired in 72.2% of AD patients. There was no significant relationship between sexual dissatisfaction and awareness of disease.

Conclusion: AD has an impact in couples' sexual activity and satisfaction. Spouses of mild patients AD are more sexual dissatisfied than the moderate group.