P1-38: GENDER DIFFERENCES IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS OF IMPLANTABLE CARDIOVERTER DEFIBRILLATORS PATIENTS

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Abstract:

Introduction: Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICDs) have become the standard of care for prevention of ventricular arrhythmia and sudden cardiac death in high risk cardiac patients, yet some patients experience adverse psychological responses. Several studies have suggested that there may be gender differences in psychosocial responses to the ICD, however longitudinal studies are limited. The purpose of this study was to identify gender specific trends in clinical and psychological symptoms of persons with ICDs over the first year after ICD insertion.

Method(s): Participants (176 men and 58 women) were recruited from 5 hospitals at the time of initial ICD insertion with follow up data collection at 1, 3, 6 and 12 months. Clinical variables included: age, functional status (Duke Activity Status Index; DASI,) history of sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), comorbidities (Charlson Comorbidity Index; Ctot) and New York Heart Association class (NYHA). Psychosocial symptoms and instrument measures were: Perceived social support (ENRICHD Social Support Instrument; ESSI), depressive symptoms (Beck Depression Inventory II; BDI-II), anxiety (State Trait Anxiety Inventory; STAI). Demographic, clinical and psychological variables were compared by gender using descriptive statistics, t-tests, Chi-square, and Analysis of Covariance.

Results: Analysis of Covariance was used to compare differences between women and men at each time point adjusting for SCA, Ctot, NYHA, age, as well baseline measures for the variable of interest (ESSI, BDI, DASI and STAI) at the later time points. Preliminary results show significant (p<.05) gender differences with women having lower DASI scores at all time points, greater BDI-II scores at 6 and 12 months, and lower ESSI scores at 12 months than men.

Discussion & Conclusions: Female ICD patients in this study were younger, experienced poorer functional status, increasing depressive symptoms and declining social support over time compared with men. Final analysis will present detailed results of the analytical models and covariates. Preliminary findings suggest a need for gender specific ICD education and support.

Abstract History:
This abstract has not been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.

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No, I (or a member of my immediate family) have not received something of value* from or own stock (or stock options) in a commercial company or institution related directly or indirectly to the subject of my presentation.
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The FDA has cleared all pharmaceuticals and/or medical devices for the use described in this presentation.

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