ABSTRACT
“STUDY ON ETIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF NEW ONSET SEIZURES IN ADULTS IN TERTIARY CARE CENTRE”

BACKGROUND:
Seizures are one of the commonest neurological disorders we encounter in our daily medical practice. Myriad are the causes that can precipitate a seizure. These causes vary between countries and states depending on the demographic features and genetics of the resident population.

AIM OF THE STUDY:
To know about various causes of new onset seizures in adults and to find out the commonest cause in various age groups in this part of south Tamilnadu.

MATERIALS & METHODS:
206 cases of new onset seizures admitted during period of March 2017 to March 2018 were included for this prospective observational study. Information were gathered using a prepared proforma.

RESULTS:
New onset seizures had a male predominance with male: female ratio of 1.2:1. First episode of seizures were most common in 21-30 years with incidence of 24%. Overall most common seizure type was generalised tonic clonic seizures, with incidence 71%. Most common aetiology was cerebrovascular accidents (27%) followed by CNS infections (23%). Among cerebrovascular accidents most common was ischemic stroke (50%) while TB meningitis attributed to maximum cases among infections (38%). Cerebral venous thrombosis accounted for highest number of cases among cerebrovascular accidents in younger age group with a male to female ratio 3:1. Familial adult onset myoclonic epilepsy accounted for 5%, not mentioned as a cause for new onset seizures in similar studies and was unique to a community in this part of south Tamilnadu.

CONCLUSION:
After the study various etiologies causing new onset seizure were found out. Also commonest etiology in various age groups were identified.

KEY WORDS: New onset seizures, familial adult onset myoclonic epilepsy.