EFFECTIVENESS OF BOTULINUM TOXIN TYPE A FOR PAIN CONTROL IN CHILDREN WITH SPASTIC CEREBRAL PALSY

Introduction and objectives.
Assessment the presence of pain by using the FLACC scale in patients with cerebral palsy who had indication for the administration of Botulinum Toxin type A (Botox®) for the control of spasticity, before and after a week and a month of the procedure to determine if there were any objective changes that may favor a better quality of life.

Materials and methods:
A Prospective longitudinal non-experimental analytical before and after for related samples study was performed in children between 0 and 18 years of age with a diagnosis of spastic cerebral palsy and presence of pain reported by their parents. The T-student statistical test was performed for related samples analyzing the results of the FLACC pain scale before and after the administration of Botulinum Toxin Type A (Botox®).

Results:
A total of 12 patients were included in the study, among them, by using the FLACC scale in the first assessment (FLACC1), seven patients (58.3%) evidenced the presence of moderate pain, four (33.3%) presented severe pain and one (8.3%) had mild pain; In the second assessment, one week after the administration of myorelaxant material (FLACC2), the results showed that four (33.3%) had moderate pain and eight (66.7%) had mild pain. Subsequently, in the third assessment, a month after the procedure (FLACC3), three (25%) of the patients presented moderate pain, eight (66.7%) had mild pain and one (8.3%) of them no longer presented any sign of pain.

Conclusions:
The application of the FLACC scale to patients with spastic cerebral palsy allows an objective assessment of the level of pain in patients with limited communication and the application of botulinum toxin as myorelaxant material have significant beneficial effects in reducing pain in this population group.

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**FLACC Pain Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behaviour</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face</td>
<td>No particular expression or smile</td>
<td>Occasional grimace or frown, withdrawn, disinterested</td>
<td>Frequent to constant quavering tone, cackled jaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legs Activity</td>
<td>Normal position or relaxed</td>
<td>Lying quietly, normal position, moves easily</td>
<td>Sippemng, shifting, back and forth, tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cry</td>
<td>No cry (awaaw or asleep)</td>
<td>Moans or whimpers, occasional complaint</td>
<td>Crying, shuddering, screaming, sobbing, frequent complaints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistability</td>
<td>Content, relaxed</td>
<td>Reassured by touching, hugging or being talked to, distractible</td>
<td>Difficult to console or comfort</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**FLACC 1**
- Mild pain: 33.3%
- Moderate pain: 58.3%
- Severe pain: 8.3%

**FLACC 2**
- Mild pain: 66.7%
- Moderate pain: 33.3%

**FLACC 3**
- No pain: 25%
- Mild pain: 66.7%
- Moderate pain: 8.3%