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

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Introduction and objectives.

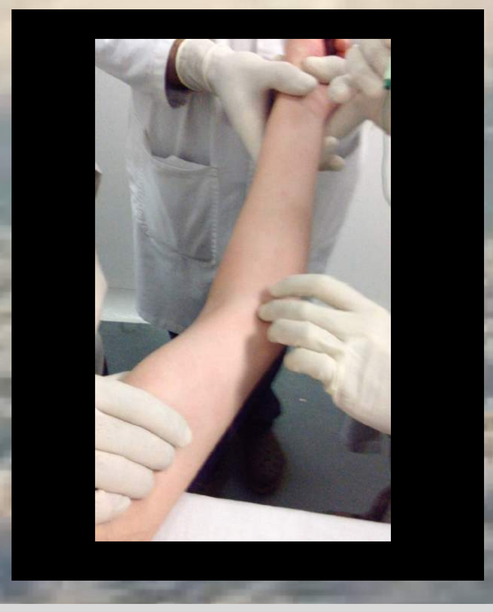
Assessment the presence of pain by using the FLACC scale in patients with cerebral palsy who had indication for the administration of Botulinum Toxin type A (Botox[r]) for the control of spasticity, before and after a week and a month of the procedure to determine if there were any objective changes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

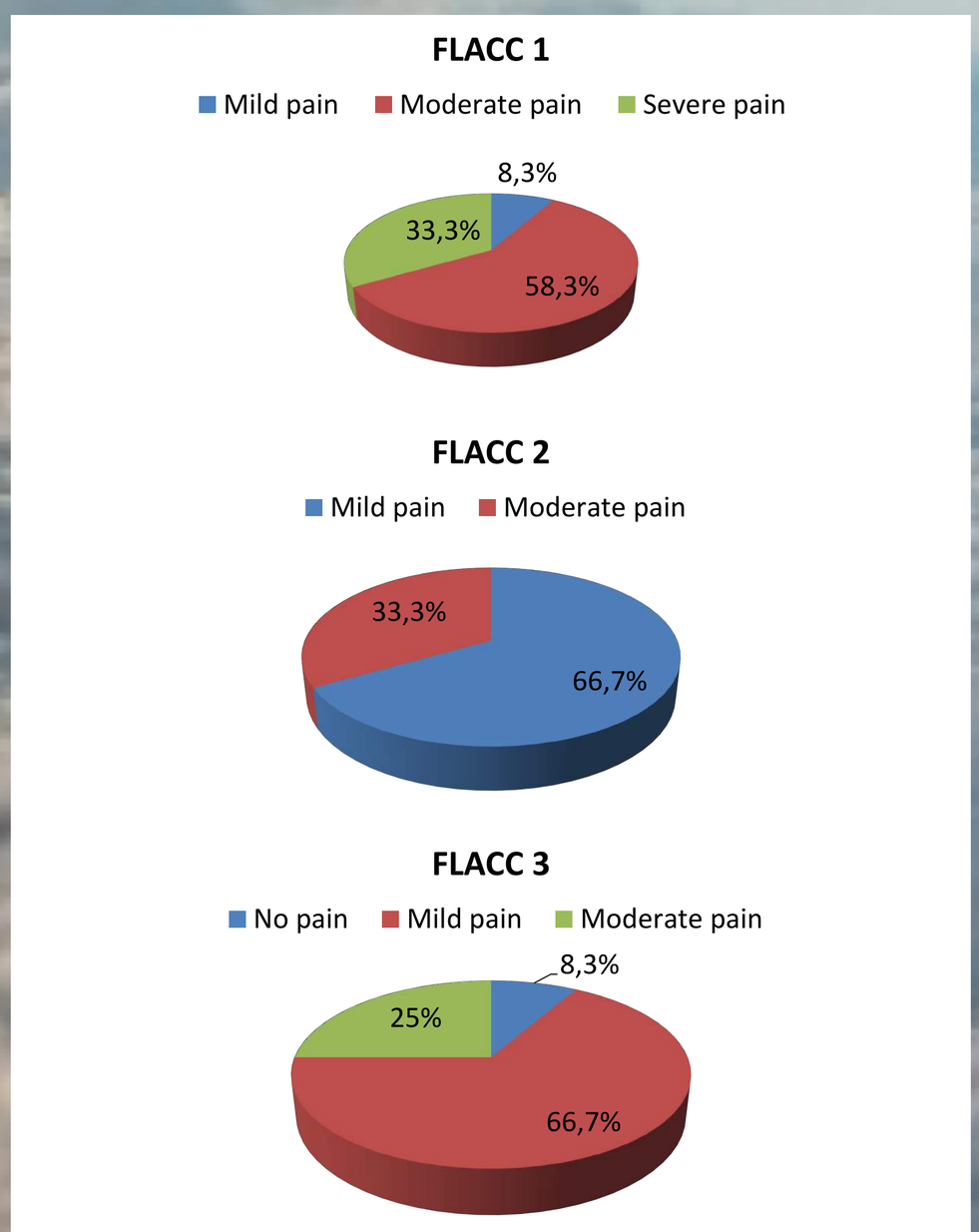
FLACC PAIN SCALE

Behaviour	0	1	2
Face	No particular expression or smile	Occasional grimace or frown, withdrawn, disinterested	Frequent to constant quivering chin, clenched jow
Legs	Normal position or relaxed	Uneasy, restless, tense	Kicking or legs drawn up
Activity	Lying quietly, normal position, moves easily	Squirming, shifting, back and forth, tense	Arched, rigid or jerking
Cry	No cry (awake or asleep)	Moans or whimpers; occasional complaint	Crying steadily, screams, sobs, frequent complaints
Consolability	Content, relaxed	Reassured by touching, hugging or being talked to, distractible	Difficult to console or comfort

Materials and methods:

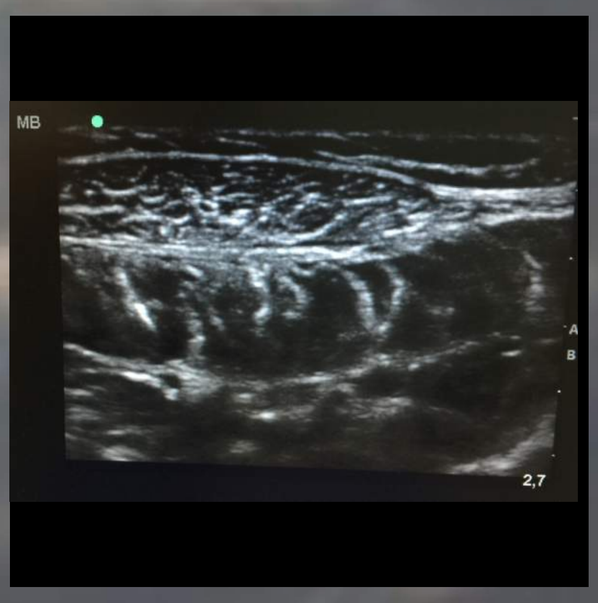
A Prospective longitudinal non-experimental analytical before and after for related samples study was performed in children between 0 and 18 years of age with a diagnosis of spastic cerebral palsy and presence of pain reported by their parents, The T-student statistical test was performed for related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

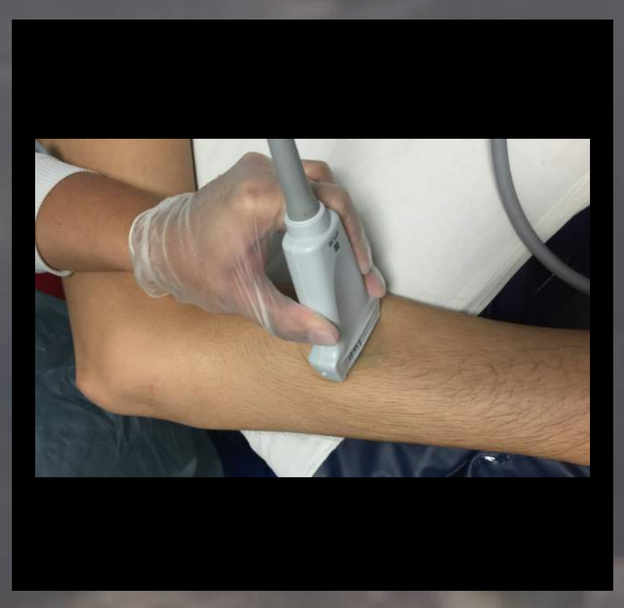




Results:

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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