PubMed | Prevalence of idiopathic scoliosis in anorexia nervosa patients: results from a cross-sectional study

Format: Abstract

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Prevalence of idiopathic scoliosis in anorexia nervosa patients: results from a cross-sectional study.

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Abstract

PURPOSE: A long debate exists about the connection between **anorexia nervosa** (AN) and **scoliosis** due to conflicting evidence. No **study** so far has evaluated the **prevalence** of **scoliosis** in **patients** with AN. The aim of the **study** is to evaluate the **prevalence** of **idiopathic scoliosis** in **patients** with AN.

METHODS: Design: **cross-sectional study**.

STUDY GROUP: convenience sample of all **patients** matching the inclusion criteria.

CONTROL GROUP: female participants coming from an epidemiological screening for **scoliosis**.

INCLUSION CRITERIA: patients had a diagnosis of AN during adolescence according to the DSM-IV-TR criteria. We applied a two-level screening using a Bunnell scoliometer and a radiograph. We calculated the odds ratio compared with participants coming from a school screening.

RESULTS: Seventy-seven females with AN were compared to 816 females screened for **scoliosis**. The **prevalence** of **scoliosis** in the AN group was 16.9% (OR 5.77, 95% CI 3.12-10.67) with respect to the control group. If we consider as positive only those who received a **scoliosis** diagnosis during adolescence, the OR would be 3.15 (95% CI 1.55-6.42).

DISCUSSION: This is the first **study** performed on **patients** with AN showing a sixfold greater odds of presenting with **scoliosis**. A cause-effect relationship cannot be determined due to the design.

KEYWORDS: Adolescent; **Anorexia**; **Idiopathic**; **Scoliosis**

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