MATERIAL AND METHODS
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SAMPLE

The patients suffering from epilepsy who attended the out patient departments of Medicine, Paediatrics, Neurology and Psychiatry of Maharani Laxmi Bai Medical College, Hospital, Jhansi from July' 1987 to June'1989 formed the sample of the study. More than half of the patients were admitted for investigations. Patients of both sexes and every age group were included in the study. All patients had more than one seizure.

METHODS

All the patients were evaluated on the following lines:

1. History: detailed history of epilepsy.
2. Examinations:
   a. General examination.
   b. Systemic examination - especially of central nervous system.
   c. Fundus examination.
3. Investigations:
   b. Serum - Calcium, V.R.L.
   c. Cerebrospinal fluid - cytobiochemical and if necessary for malignant cells.
d. Pathological.
   i. X-ray chest PA view.
   ii. X-ray skull - AP view and lateral view.
   iii. Computerised axial tomography, if possible.
   e. Electro-encephalography - in all the cases.
   f. Other relevant investigations.

History of epilepsy was obtained from the patients and from their relatives, after gaining the full confidence of patients and relatives. Special emphasis was given to the age of onset of epilepsy, frequency of fits, duration of illness, about the last attack, psychiatric problem, aetiological factors, family history of epilepsy, migraine, details of predisposing factors, premonitory symptoms, preictal, ictal and post ictal events were recorded. Patients were interrogated about intake of anti-epileptic drugs.

A general examination and a neurological examination was done in every case. Relevant examinations of other systems were also done.

Electroencephalographic examinations were done in every case using an eight channel EEG recording machine. Ten-twenty system of electrode application was used. Both monopolar (A, B, C and D run) and bipolar (E and F run) montage were taken in use. Routine recording and provocative procedures like - sleep recording, hyperventilation
and photic stimulation were done in all the cases. At times EEG was repeated, if required. Electroencephalographic diagnostic criteria were same as given by Kiloh et al (1982).

Other investigations were also done in every admitted case. CT scan were got done whenever possible.

At last the data were tabulated and analysed.