Category :**Brain: cerebro-vascular accidents**

A247 - ***Sex-related differences in patients' characteristics, provided care, and outcomes following spontaneous intracerebral hemorrhage***

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Introduction:

Sex-related differences in patients with hemorrhagic stroke due to spontaneous intracerebral hemorrhage (ICH) are poorly investigated. This study elucidates whether sex-related differences exist in particular with regards to provided care, while also taking into account the patients' characteristics and outcomes in patients with ICH admitted to the neurocritical care unit.

Methods:

This retrospective single center study includes all consecutive patients with spontaneous ICH admitted to the Neurocritical Care Unit in a 10-year period. Patients' demographics, comorbidities, symptoms at presentation, radiological findings, surgical and non-surgical provided care, and ICU- and 12 month-mortality were compared between men and women.

Results:

398 patients were included (male = 198 and female = 200). No differences in demographics, Charlson Comorbidity Index, symptoms at presentation, ICU- and 12-month mortality were observed among men and women. Men received an external ventricular drain (EVD) for hydrocephalus-therapy significantly more often than women did. In the multivariate analysis, EVD insertion was independently associated with male gender (OR 2.82, 95%-CI 1.61-4.95, p-value <0.001) irrespective of demographic or radiological features. Functional outcome after ICH as assessed by mRS was more favorable for women (p = 0.044).

Conclusion:

Sex-related differences in patients with ICH with regards to the surgically provided care exist. We provide evidence that insertion of EVD is associated with male gender disregarding clear reasoning. We suggest that a gender-bias as well as social factors play a significant role in decision-making for the insertion of an EVD.