Category : **Brain: Neurologic disease**

A261 - *Prospective evaluation of the pawss ability to detect alcohol withdrawal in icu-patients.*

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Introduction:

Up to 20% of ICU patients present AUDs (Alcohol Use Disorders) in their medical history. An unplanned and brutal stop of alcohol consumption, as it can occur during ICU stay, may lead to an alcohol withdrawal syndrome (AWS). Prediction of Alcohol Withdrawal Severity Scale (PAWSS) has been designed to identify medical ward patients at risk of complicated AWS, with a threshold of 4 (Sensitivity 93%; Specificity 99%)[1]. In this study, we aim to test the accuracy of PAWSS to predict complicated AWS in ICU patients.

Methods:

Prospective cohort of surgical ICU patients of a university-affiliated, community hospital in France. Patients eligible for a PAWSS assessment in the first 24H of their ICU stay were included. Patients were excluded if : hospital length of stay was greater than 5 days prior to ICU admission, patient under sedation, impaired neurological state, patients with AWS at admission in ICU. During their ICU stay, alcohol withdrawal signs were daily assessed by clinicians using the Clinical Institute Withdrawal Assessment-Alcohol, Revised (CIWA-Ar). Primary outcome was the occurrence of a mild or sever AWS within 5 days.

Results:

618 patients were enrolled in the study. 202 patients didn't have any alcohol consumption within the last 30 days. Among the 416 patients with alcohol consumption within the past 30 days, 61 patients had a PAWSS ≥ 4 (14,6%). For a cut-off of 4, PAWSS sensibility for detecting a severe AWS (CIWA > 15) is 91% and specificity is 90%, and for detecting a mild AWS (CIWA > 8), sensibility is 80% and specificity 91%.
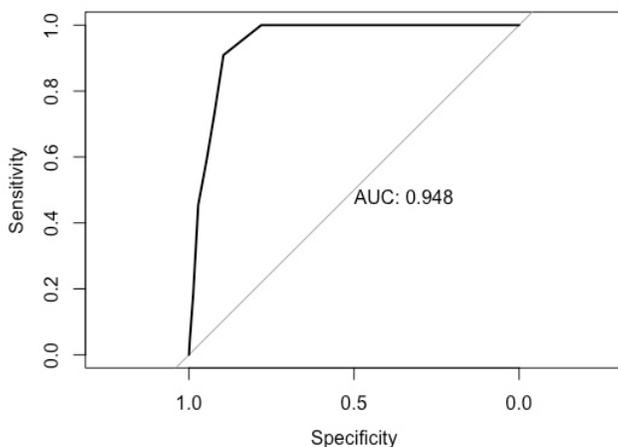
Conclusion:

PAWSS is an excellent tool to predict severe AWS in ICU patients. A cut-off of 4 is able to detect most of patients who will suffer from a severe AWS.

References:

[1]   J. R. Maldonado *et al.*, *Alcohol Alcohol. Oxf. Oxfs.*, sept. 2015

Image :

Receiver operating characteristic analysis for PAWSS and severe AWS