



Neurologic and Neurocognitive > Dementia

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Vagus Nerve Stimulation in Patients With Alzheimer’s Disease: Additional Follow-Up Results of a Pilot Study Through 1 Year

Charley A. Merrill, PhD; Michael A. G. Jonsson, MD; Lennart Minthon, MD, PhD; Hasse Ejnell, MD, PhD; Hans C-son Silander, MD, PhD; Kaj Blennow, MD, PhD; Mats Karlsson, MD; Arto Nordlund, MA; Sindre Rolstad, MA; Siegbert Warkentin, PhD; Elinor Ben-Menachem, MD, PhD; and Magnus J. C. Sjögren, MD, PhD

Published: August 15, 2006

ARTICLE ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

Cognitive-enhancing effects of vagusnerve stimulation (VNS) have been reported during 6 months oftreatment in a pilot study of patients with Alzheimer’s disease(AD). Data through 1 year of VNS (collected from June 2000 toSeptember 2003) are now reported.

METHOD:

All patients (N = 17) met the NationalInstitute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Strokeand the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Association(NINCDS-ADRD A) criteria for probable AD. Responder rates for theAlzheimer’s Disease Assessment Scale-cognitive subscale(ADAS-cog) and Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) were measuredas improvement or absence of decline from baseline. Globalchange, depressive symptoms, and quality of life were alsoassessed. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels for total tau, tauphosphorylated at Thr181 (phosphotau), and Abeta42 were measuredby standardized enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

RESULTS:

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