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A systematic reviewProbability of medical catatonia

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The probability that catatonia in the hospital has a medical cause and the relative proportions of its causes: A systematic review

Running head: Probability of medical catatonia

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Abstract

Objective: The objective of this review is to determine the probability that catatonia in the hospital has a secondary cause (“medical catatonia”) and to calculate the relative proportions of these causes stratified by hospital setting.

Methods: PRISMA systematic review of PubMed.

Results: Eleven studies were included. Hospital-wide, 20% of catatonia was medical. In acute medical and surgical settings, medical catatonia comprised more than half of cases. At least 80% of older adults seen by consult psychiatry and critically ill patients had a medical cause. Two thirds of medical catatonia involved CNS-specific disease including encephalitis, neural injury, developmental disorders, structural brain pathology, and seizures.

Conclusions: Patients in acute medical and surgical settings with catatonia generally deserve medical workup that prioritizes CNS evaluation.

Keywords: medical catatonia; delirium with catatonic features; catatonic disorder due to another medical condition; autoimmune encephalopathy

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