

Tilmelding af Foredrag

Foredragets titel

Differences in smell and taste of patients with post-viral and sinonasal causes of chemosensory dysfunction

Forfatter(e)

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Afdeling/praksis

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Uddannelsesniveau

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Introduktion

The evolutionary function of taste has been to guide humans towards beneficial and nutrient substances (umami, salty and sweet) and avoid toxins and spoiled food (sour and bitter). Impairment of the gustatory sense (especially bitter and sour function) is associated with an increased likelihood of having infections, which could exacerbate or maintain chronic rhinosinusitis.

This study investigates differences between patients with post-viral and sinonasal causes of olfactory dysfunction and whether chronic rhinosinusitis patients have a reduced bitter taste function.

Materiale/metode

In total 675 patients with olfactory dysfunction were included. The aetiologies were post-viral in 351 and sinonasal in 324 participants. The sinonasal group was divided into groups of chronic rhinosinusitis with and without polyps. The participants were tested for olfactory function with the Sniffin' Sticks and a retronasal test. Gustatory testing was performed with the Taste Sprays. Depressive symptoms were evaluated using the Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale. The prevalence and grading of qualitative olfactory dysfunction were also collected.

Resultater

Post-viral patients, compared to chronic rhinosinusitis patients, were significantly older, had a shorter disease duration, and scored similarly on depressive symptoms. Parosmia was considerably more prevalent in the post-viral group, and olfactory function was significantly better. The gustatory function was similar except for bitter taste function, which was lower in the sinonasal group. When dividing into age groups there was a significant difference in bitter function between post-viral and chronic rhinosinusitis patients without polyps in the oldest age group.

Diskussion

There are significant differences between groups regarding age, disease duration, the prevalence of parosmia, and bitter function in the older patients. This could reflect a lower expression of bitter receptors, but this finding needs to be confirmed with more detailed gustatory testing and with bitter receptor genotyping in future studies.

Forfatters fulde navn

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