Assessment of association between Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Low Birth Weight in 5 to 10 year old children

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Background: ADHD is one of the most common childhood-onset psychiatric disorders that probably have relation with perinatal and postnatal complications.
Objective: to Assessment of association between ADHD and Low Birth Weight among 5-10 year old children.
Method: this study is a cross-sectional study that was performed on 700 children at the age of 5 to 10 years selected through convenient sampling in pediatrics clinic of Dr. Sheikh hospital in 2009-2010. Data were collected using 10-item parent Canners questionnaire and semi structural diagnostic interviews based on DMS-IV diagnostic criteria of ADHD in two group A and B (A: birth weight <= 2500gr and B: birth weight > 2500gr). Each group contains 350 children.
Result: 700 cases (364 male & 336 female) were included. the number of low birth weight cases who had ADHD was 1.3 times the number of control cases who had birth weight upper 2500gr but it wasn't statistically significant (P=0.058). The prevalence of ADHD according to the parents report was 17.3% (68.6% male, 31.4% female). Factor such as gender, history of admission to neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and history of head trauma in infancy were shown to act as associated factor for ADHD(P=0.0001 , P=0.002, P=0.031 respectively). Other risk factors didn't associate with ADHD.
Conclusion: according to our findings low birth weight is not a significant risk factor for ADHD, but there is an association between Male sex, history of admission to NICU, history of head trauma in infancy and ADHD.
Keywords: ADHD, LBW, prematurity

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