Dolor fantasma en niños y jóvenes amputados adquiridos: prevalencia y características clínicas

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ABSTRACT

Phantom pain in children and teenagers with acquired amputations: Prevalence and clinical features

Introduction: Phantom pain is a common condition in amputated patients generating significant disability. Prevalence among adult population is estimated at 49-82%. There is little evidence of the incidence and prevalence in child and adolescent population. Objectives: To estimate the incidence and prevalence of phantom pain in amputees aged 10 years and older of the Telethon Institute of Santiago; characterize this population and associate different clinical and demographic factors with the presence of phantom pain. Patients and Methods: Study incidence and prevalence based on a review of medical records to obtain demographic and clinical data. In addition a telephone survey was made to patients 10 years or older diagnosed with one or more acquired amputations who are treated or have been treated at Telethon Institute of Santiago until 2013. Results: The incidence of phantom pain in the study population is 11 per 100 persons/year and prevalence is 62%. Statistically significant associations were found between the presence of phantom pain variables and time since amputation (the longer the time elapsed, less pain) and age of amputation (the older the age at which major amputation was performed more pain). Conclusion: Phantom pain is a common phenomenon in patients with acquired amputation aged 10 years and older treated at the Telethon Institute of Santiago prevalence being 62%.

Key words: Phantom pain, prevalence, amputees.