Research Article

Sleep Quality and Associated Factors among Peoples with Epilepsy Who Have a Follow-Up at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2019: An Institutional Based Cross-Sectional Study

Kemeriya Adem,1 Tilahun Kassew,2 Addis Birhanu,3 and Ayalew Abate1

1Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, Ethiopia
2Department of Psychiatry, University of Gondar College of Medicine and Health Science, Ethiopia
3Department of Epidemiology, Jimma University Institute of Health, Public Health Faculty, Ethiopia

Correspondence should be addressed to Addis Birhanu; addisbirhanu94@yahoo.com

Received 1 April 2020; Accepted 17 June 2020; Published 26 July 2020

Academic Editor: James Grutsch

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Background. Sleep is an active cyclic biological phenomenon and necessary for survival. Individuals who suffer from sleep disturbance are less productive, decreased performance, and negative effects on mental health. Despite there are different studies on sleep quality in Ethiopia, no studies have been conducted on magnitude and predictors of sleep quality among people with epilepsy in the study setting.

Objective. To assess sleep quality and associated factors among people with epilepsy who have a follow-up at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2019.

Method. An institution-based cross-sectional study was employed from May-June 2019. Systematic random sampling following face to face interview technique was employed. Epi-data version 3.1 and SPSS version 25 statistical packages were used for data entry and analysis, respectively. Frequencies, proportions, means, SDs, and cross-tabulations were used to summarize descriptive statistics of the data and tables, texts, and graphs were used for data presentation. To identify association and significant predictor with the outcome variable, binary logistic regression was fitted. The variable which has statistical significance was identified on the basis of p values ≤ 0.05 and AOR with 95% confident intervals.

Results. A total of 423 participants have been enrolled to the study with a response rate of 98.1%. The prevalence of poor sleep quality among peoples live with epilepsy was found 65.4% (95% CI: 61.0, 69.9). Being female (AOR = 2.94; (95% CI; 1.79, 4.85)), having stress full life events (AOR = 2.38; (95% CI; 1.43, 3.97)), nonadherent to AED medication (AOR = 1.86; (95% CI; 1.05, 2.78)), poly-therapy treatment (AOR = 2.24; (95% CI; 1.05, 2.78)), poor seizure control (AOR = 2.4; (95% CI; 2.21, 12.46)), comorbid medical illness (AOR = 2.6; (95% CI; 1.18, 5.61)), and anxiety (AOR = 2.54; (95% CI; 1.52,4.24)) were factors significantly associated with poor sleep quality. Conclusion. This study revealed that more than half of the study participants were found to have poor sleep quality. So, considering the regular assessment of sleep quality and factors associated followed with appropriate intervention is recommended among peoples living with epilepsy.

1. Introduction

1.1. Statement of the Problem. Epilepsy is a neurologic disorder characterized by recurrent abnormal, excessive, and hypersynchronous discharge of neurons and clinically expressed as the recurrent seizure of various forms [1]. Globally, about 69 million people have epilepsy and subsequently become one of the largest neurological diseases; of this, nearly 90% of the people with epilepsy live in low and middle-income countries [2].

Sleep is an active, cyclic biological phenomenon and necessary for survival. It occupies one-third of human life and is an important physiological process of the brain [3]. Good quality of sleep is important and essential to patients with epilepsy but a frequently overlooked component of general health [4]. Poor sleep quality or insufficient sleep can decrease the person’s feelings, thoughts, motivation, cognitive function, motor activity, learning performance, and impaired physical and mental health well-being of the individual [5, 6].
Poor quality of sleep is a significant public health problem throughout the world [4]. Studies have confirmed that poor sleep quality is a common complaint among patients with epilepsy [7, 8]. Although society tends to accept poor sleep as the norm, it can result in considerable impairment of day time functioning and quality of life even in people without epilepsy. Different studies showed that sleep disturbance in people with epilepsy is about twice higher than among those without epilepsy [7, 9, 10]. The association of sleep difficulty in persons with epilepsy is a reciprocal interaction. Epilepsy can disturb sleep patterns and those sleep pattern disruptions can exaggerate epilepsy [11].

Sleep disorders, affecting more than 45% of the world’s population, have emerged as important global public health problems [12, 13]. An emerging body of epidemiologic evidence supports that sleep disorders are highly prevalent among Sub-Saharan Africans and are important risk factors for seizure attacks as well as other adverse health outcomes [14, 15].

A study done in the USA on persons with epilepsy showed that the magnitude of poor sleep quality was 72% [16]. Additionally, other studies done on sleep quality among patients with epilepsy in high and middle-income countries reported the prevalence of poor sleep quality 63.7% and 48%, respectively [17, 18]. In people with epilepsy, poor sleep quality can contribute to an increasing frequency of seizures, poor daytime functioning, lost productivity, and an overall inability to function at the maximum potential for individuals [19, 20]. In the USA, magnitudes of poor sleep quality and sleep disturbance account for 72% [16] and 34% [21], respectively. According to literatures, poor sleep quality was estimated in Korea (41.1%) [10], Taiwan (50%) [22], Brazil (63.7%) [23], and India (48%) [24].

Factors that affect sleep quality and have the potential to contribute to the alteration of sleep architecture were considered to be presence and frequency of seizures, type of antiepileptic therapy utilized, coexisting primary sleep disorders, presence of psychiatric comorbidity, and subjective quality of sleep [10, 20, 25].

In Ethiopia, there is only one Mental Specialized Hospital where people with epilepsy could get treatment for those who do. Hence, there is a high number of patients who flow to Hospitals more than other Hospitals do have in the country. Even though there is no assessment conducted related to sleep quality in the Hospital so far, sleep quality among people with epilepsy is a very serious problem. Therefore, this study assesses sleep quality and associated factors among people with epilepsy at AMSH. This finding will help stakeholders and AMSH in order to provide the necessary intervention.

1.2. Justification of the Study. Poor sleep quality affects the quality of life which is a very important indicator of the patient’s health status. Poor sleep quality has a negative impact on the quality of life and contributes to poor compliance of medication. Therefore, this study intended to fill this gap by assessing sleep quality and associated factors among people with epilepsy. In Ethiopia, there is no adequate data and information about the magnitude and factors associated with sleep quality. Hence, a comprehensive study was needed to address the given problem, and assessing prevalence and predictors of poor sleep quality was a very critical point to design more effective treatment programs for the management and prevention of its consequences among peoples with epilepsy. The findings support health care providers, stakeholders, and policymakers to strengthen the available intervention and provide new interventions based on the recommendation.

2. General Objective

To assess sleep quality and associated factors among people living with epilepsy who have a follow-up at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2019.

2.1. Specific Objectives

(i) To determine the prevalence of sleep quality among patients with epilepsy
(ii) To identify factors associated with sleep quality among patients with epilepsy

3. Methods

3.1. Study Design and Period. An Institutional based cross-sectional study was employed from May to June 2019.

3.2. Study Area. The study was conducted at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital. AMSH was established in 1938 by the Italians and located in the western part of Addis Ababa in Addis Ketema sub-city Kebele 08. The hospital has 277 beds that serve all types of mental disorder patients including epilepsy. The hospital has 13 case teams; one of them is dedicated to the treatment of people living with epilepsy. There were about 34,210 epileptic patients who had regular follow-up in a year period at the outpatient department and on average of a typical month 2,850 epilepsy patients had a follow-up.

3.3. Source Population. People living with epilepsy and have a follow-up at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital Neurology Department.

3.4. Study Population. People living with epilepsy and have a follow-up at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital Neurology Department during the data collection period.

3.5. Inclusion Criteria. People with epilepsy who were on follow-up for at least six months and aged 18 and or above were included.

3.6. Exclusion Criteria. Critically ill patients were excluded.

3.7. Sample Size Determination. The minimum number of sample required for this study was estimated by using single population proportion formula considering the following assumptions:

\[ n = \frac{n}{Z^2 \times \left(\frac{p(1-p)}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{d}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^2} \]

where:
- \( n \) = sample size required for the study
- \( Z \) = standard normal distribution, \( Z = 1.96 \) with confidence interval of 95% and \( \alpha = 0.05 \), \( P = 50\% \) (0.5), \( d = \) margin of error = 5% = 0.05

Psychiatry Journal
The questionnaire contains the sociodemographic characteristics of the participants. The second part of the questionnaire contains the sleep quality of the epileptic patient was assessed by using the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI). PSQI was introduced in 1989 as an instrument to measure sleep quality. It consists of 19 questions evaluating the following 7 domains: subjective sleep quality, sleep latency, sleep duration, habitual sleep efficiency, sleep disturbances, use of sleep medication, and daytime dysfunction. Each question had a response scale with scores ranging from 0 to 3. A global subjective sleep quality score between 0 and 21 was calculated based on the components mentioned. Higher scores indicate poorer sleep quality and a high level of sleep disorders. A global PSQI score > 5 yielded a diagnostic sensitivity of 89% and specificity of 86.5% (κ = 0.75, P ≤ 0.001) in distinguishing “good” from “poor” sleepers [29]. The third part of the questionnaire assesses sleep hygiene behavior. The 4th part of the questionnaire was used to assess anxiety and depression (HADS) [27]. The 5th part assesses daily stress full-life events; it was assessed by using a standardized Questionnaire which measurement scale assesses one and more events within six months. The 6th part was assessed with illness-related factors. The 7th part of the questionnaire was used to assess the drug nonadherence scale [30].

The last part of the questionnaire was structured questionnaire used to assess psychosocial factors by using social support scale (OSS-3) consists of 3 items and ranges from 3-14. A score of 3-8 is “poor support”, 9-11 is “moderate support”, and 12-14 is strong support [31].

The questionnaire was prepared in English then translated to the local language (Amharic) and back to English by the expertise and senior psychiatrist to ensure its consistency. It took approximately 30-45 minutes to complete each interview.

The data were collected by four BSc psychiatric nurses and supervised by an experienced one MSC Psychiatry professional. Two days of training was given for data collectors and supervisors. The questionnaire was pretested one week before the actual data collection on 5% (21) of sample size at Tikur Anbessa specialized Hospital and was not included in the main survey. Based on the finding from the pretest, the questionnaire was revised and modified, and the time needed for the data collection was estimated. The data collectors were supervised daily and the filled questionnaires were checked daily by the supervisor and principal investigator. While there is any problem during the data collection, the feedback was given by discussing it with the supervisor and data collectors.

3.12. Data Collection Procedure. The data were collected by four BSc psychiatric nurses and supervised by an experienced one MSC Psychiatry professional. Two days of training was given for data collectors and supervisors. The questionnaire was pretested one week before the actual data collection on 5% (21) of sample size at Tikur Anbessa specialized Hospital and was not included in the main survey. Based on the finding from the pretest, the questionnaire was revised and modified, and the time needed for the data collection was estimated. The data collectors were supervised daily and the filled questionnaires were checked daily by the supervisor and principal investigator. While there is any problem during the data collection, the feedback was given by discussing it with the supervisor and data collectors.
with epilepsy. The statistical significance declared at $P$ value $< 0.05$ with AOR with 95% C.I. The model fitness of multivariable binary logistic regression was checked by Hosmer and Lemeshow test for goodness-of-fit, maximum likelihood ratio, and chi-square difference test.

3.14. Ethical Consideration. Ethical approval was obtained from the joint Ethical Review Committee (ERC) of ASMH and UOG College of Medicine and Health Science. The objective and purpose of the study have been explained at each level for participants. Data were collected after obtaining informed written consent from each participant. The full right was given to the study participants to refuse or discontinue participation at any time they want and the chances to ask anything about the study were informed. For confidentiality, participant names were not used at the time of data collection and all other personnel information kept anonymously. Hence, confidentiality has been assured throughout the study period.

4. Result

4.1. Sociodemographic Characteristics of Respondents. A total of 423 participants were included in the study with a response rate of 98.1% ($n = 415$). Among participants, majority of 231 (55.7%) were males and about 150 (36.1%) participants were in the age range of 25–34 years with a median age of 27. Of the participant, about 260 (62.7%) respondents were Orthodox religious followers. The majority of 255 (61.4%) of participants were single. According to the data most of the respondents, 164 (39.5%) were completed elementary school only, in addition to this majority of the respondent 164 (39.5%) were self-employed (Table 1).

4.2. Clinically Related Factors. Regarding treatment regimen, 291 (70.1%) of patients took more than one antiepileptic drug, 309 (74.5%) patients took Phenobarbital for their illness. Age of onset, 202 (48.7%) of the participants was 11–20 years of old and the duration of treatment for 187 participants was <5 years. Of participants, 225 (54.%) were not experiencing seizure during the past one-month duration, and 141 (34.0%) respondents were experiencing less than three times seizure frequency (Table 2).

4.3. Psychosocial and Behavioral Related Factor. Concerning to the psychosocial factors, one hundred fifty-six (37.8%) of respondents had strong social support. Two hundred seventy-two (65.5%) had daily stressful life events. The majority of the respondents had no history of substance use and only fifty-eight (14%) had a substance use history of which 40 (9.6%) respondents were chewing khat (Table 3).

4.4. Prevalence of Sleep Quality. This study revealed that the prevalence of poor sleep quality among people with epilepsy was 272 (65.5%;95% CI: 61.0, 69.9) (Figure 1).

4.5. Factors Associated with Poor Sleep Quality. Binary logistic regression analysis was done to each of the independent variables. In bivariable logistic regression analysis factors fulfilled requirement at $P$ value $< 0.2$ and exported to multivariable logistic regression analysis. In multivariable logistic regression analysis factors like being female, a number of medications, drug adherence, stressful life event, anxiety, comorbid medical illness, and seizure attack were significantly associated with poor sleep quality (Table 4).

5. Discussion

The current study revealed that the prevalence of poor sleep quality was 65.5% with 95% CI (61.0, 69.9). The current finding was in line with the study conducted in Brazil 67.3% ([24]). On the contrary, the finding was higher than studies conducted in Taiwan 50% [32], Karnataka India 48% [24], New Delhi India 17% [33], Korea 41.1% [10], USA 34%
Poor sleep quality was measured using the same PSQI tool. This might be due to the way of treating patients, sample size differences, and hospital setting facilities, and other socioeconomic, cultural effects for the discrepancy.

On the other hand, the current study was lower than studies done at Boston University by using PSQI > 5, reported that 72% [16] of respondents had poor sleep quality. This difference may be due to the design used which was a retrospective study, sociocultural, and technological factors related to participants and sample size.

5.1. Factors Associated with Poor Sleep Quality. In this study, the dominance of poor sleep quality among female patients was found more than two times higher as compared with male patients [AOR (95% CI, 2.94 (1.79, 4.85))]. This result is supported by a study carried out in Taiwan [32]. The possible justification for this strong association could be because females are more victims to stress due to the burden of household responsibilities or excessive workload. In addition to that our culture discriminates, females in their economic, political, and social capacity have distinguished among a
woman which disrupts sleep quality. On the other hand, the present finding was not agreed with a study done in [23]. That revealed the sex factor is not the problem of sleep quality. This discrepancy might be due to sociocultural differences also considered.

The likelihood of developing poor sleep quality among patients who have stressful life events was 2.38 times higher as compared with no stressful life event [AOR (95% CI, 2.38 (1.43, 3.97)]. This indicator was not seen in other research findings concerning patients with epilepsy, but in this study, it has a high impact on sleep quality. This may be because the majority of patient respondents are dependent on their partner; joblessness and social insecurity have increased uncertainty and result in reducing cognitive performance that affects normal sleep pattern this might be a possible reason for this strong association.

This study revealed nonadherent to their AED medication were found 1.71 times higher poor sleep quality when compared as patients adhere to their medication [AOR (95% CI, 1.71 (1.05, 2.78)]. This finding was supported by the study conducted in Brazil [21]. This is maybe more important for patients with epilepsy to control seizures. Besides the odds of developing poor sleep quality among patients who took more than one drug 2.5 times increase than those who took one drug [AOR (95% CI, 2.50 (1.49, 4.21)]. The finding of this study was in line with studies done in Taiwan [1, 33], Nizam’s Institute of Medical Science India [25]. The possible justification, according to those

### Table 4: Bivariable and multivariable logistic regression modeling to identify associated factors with poor sleep quality among peoples living with epilepsy at AMSH Addis Ababa Ethiopia, 2019 (n = 415).

| Variable                      | Sleep quality Good | Sleep quality Poor | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| **Sex**                       | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| Male                          | 103                | 128                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Female                        | 40                 | 144                | 2.90 (1.87, 4.48) | 2.94 (1.79, 4.85) |
| **Social sport**              | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| Strong                        | 61                 | 95                 | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Moderate                      | 41                 | 96                 | 1.50 (0.92-2.44) | 1.13 (0.62-2.06) |
| Poor                          | 41                 | 81                 | 11.27 (0.77,2.08) | 1.052 (0.57-1.95) |
| **Stressful life event**      | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| No                            | 72                 | 71                 | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                           | 71                 | 201                | 2.90 (1.88, 4.40) | 2.38 (1.43, 3.97) |
| **Drug adherence**            | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| Yes                           | 94                 | 138                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| No                            | 49                 | 134                | 1.86 (1.23, 2.83) | 1.71 (1.05, 2.78) |
| **Treatment regimen**         | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| One drug                      | 59                 | 65                 | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| More than one drug            | 84                 | 207                | 2.24 (1.45, 3.45) | 2.50 (1.49, 4.21) |
| **Duration of treatment**     | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| ≤5                            | 52                 | 134                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| 6-10                          | 50                 | 70                 | 1.54 (0.93, 2.55) | 0.56 (0.30-1.02) |
| ≥11                           | 40                 | 67                 | 0.84(0.49, 1.43) | 0.96 (512-1.79) |
| **Seizure attack**            | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| 0                             | 99                 | 127                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| 1-2                           | 35                 | 106                | 2.36 (1.49, 3.75) | 5.24 (2.21, 12.46) |
| 3-4                           | 9                  | 39                 | 3.38 (1.56, 7.30) | 1.79 (0.71, 4.53) |
| **Medical illness**           | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| No                            | 131                | 220                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                           | 12                 | 52                 | 2.58 (1.33, 5.01) | 2.50 (1.18, 5.61) |
| **Anxiety**                  | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| No                            | 89                 | 134                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Yes                           | 54                 | 138                | 1.70 (1.12, 2.57) | 2.54 (1.52, 4.24) |
| **Sleep hygiene**             | Good               | Poor               | COR (95% CI) | AOR (95% CI) |
| Good                          | 91                 | 150                | 1.00         | 1.00         |
| Poor                          | 52                 | 122                | 1.42 (1.0, 1.16) | 1.303 (0.79-2.16) |

Model fitness: Hosmer Lemeshow Goodness of fit test; P value was 0.71.
studies is that maybe the observation of drug interaction sometimes brought more side effects, overtreatment, or excessive number of AED given that results in suboptimal risk to benefit balance and directly linked to the brain by a complex network of nerves and hormones. This complex may be determined by neuropathology and allows the protected function to have a direct impact on healthiness mainly the quality of sleep.

In the present study, participants with seizure frequency that developing poor sleep quality among patients who have poor seizure control were found 5.24 times greater than good seizure control [AOR (95% CI, 2.21, 12.46)]. The result supported by research conducted in Taiwan [1, 32]. This may be because epileptic patients were sensitive in each mistake, so this may contribute to frequent psychological stress and the absence of normal emotional responses to the reality of living with epilepsy. This may be a possible reason for the strong associations of poor sleep quality.

As a result indicated that who developing poor sleep quality among patients with epilepsy who have comorbid medical illness were found 2.6 times elevated than no medical illness participants [AOR (95% CI, 2.50 (1.18, 5.61)]). The researcher has not viewed a study which was found in agreement or opponents with the result associated factors. This may be the limitation of more research findings on the related issue. The current result may be associated with the consequence that comorbid medical illness sometimes brought additional effects on patients with epilepsy that may lead to having poor sleep quality. These comorbid medical illnesses are like hypertension, diabetics, and cardiac. Those illness are difficult chronic medical illness and needs lifelong treatment due to this factor they affect the quality of sleep.

The observed relations in this study to build up poor sleep quality among patients with epilepsy who have anxiety were found 2.54 times higher than no anxiety participant [AOR (95% CI, 2.54(1.52, 4.24)]). This finding was supported by the study done by other country researches conducted in Korea [10], USA [21], and Brazil [23]. The possible reasons behind these are because epileptic patients are more anxious and that affects the timekeeping of regulating good sleep and also due to the stress of illness.

5.2. Limitation of the Study. Recall bias (a tendency of participants to remember symptoms) was the limitation of the study. Lack of appropriate comparison or control group was the major limitation the study has challenged. As the study was a cross-sectional design, the study could not establish a temporal relationship between the outcome and factors associated.

6. Conclusion
Poor sleep quality is a universal problem among people with epilepsy and should be taken into consideration in the management of patients. Being female, stress full-life event, poor drug adherence, poly-drug therapy, multiple seizure attack, comorbid medical illness, and anxiety were statistically significant predictors of poor sleep quality.

6.1. Recommendations. Recommendation to clinicians: promote close monitoring for patients on a follow-up visit to minimize poor medication adherence and poly-drug therapy.

Recommendation to FMOH: to consider capacity building training for health professionals working with epilepsy patients to manage the prevalence of poor sleep quality and factors associated. The Federal Ministry of Health needs to have a special program for epilepsy patients to control their sleep quality and factors associated.

Recommendation for the researcher: it is appreciated to conduct a comprehensive study on General Population in all regions of Ethiopia to estimate the magnitude and factors associated with sleep quality among epilepsy patients.

Abbreviations
AED: Anti elliptic drug
AMSH: Amanuel mental specialized hospital
EDS: Excessive day sleepiness
ESS: Epworth sleepiness scale
NEP: Nero elliptic psychiatry
OPD: Outpatient department
PSQI: Pittsburgh sleep quality index
PWE: People live with epilepsy
QOS: Quality of sleep
SPSS: Statistical package for social sciences
UOG: University of Gondar

Data Availability
The data used to support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon request.

Ethical Approval
Ethical approval was obtained from the Joint ethical review committee of Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital and the University of Gondar. The respondents had been given the necessary explanation about the purpose and the procedure of the study and their right to participate or not to participate in the study. Confidentiality of the response had been declared to the respondents by the anonymity of the interviewer-administered questionnaire.

Conflicts of Interest
The authors declare no potential conflicts of interest concerning the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

Authors’ Contributions
Kemeriya Adem, Tilahun Kassew, Addis Birhanu, and Ayalew Abate were involved in the design of the study and in the coordination, reviewed the article, analysis, and report writing, and drafted the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.
Acknowledgments

The authors would like to acknowledge the Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital and the University of Gondar for the sponsorship. We also would like to extend our appreciation to data collectors and the study participants for their devoted cooperation. Finally, the Principal Investigator would like to address heartfelt thankful for her husband Mr. Awel Ali for his unreserved support.

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