

Supplementary Material

Neurologists' views on the management of uncontrolled epilepsy in Spain: A preliminary survey

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Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1: Survey questions

1. Are you a neurologist/resident neurologist practising in Spain?
☐ Yes
☐ No
2. What is your specialty within Neurology?
☐ General Neurology
☐ Neurology Resident
☐ Monographic epilepsy consultation
☐ Epileptology
☐ Specialist or monograph of a pathology other than epilepsy
☐ Other
3. How many years of experience do you have in managing patients with epilepsy (since the start of the residency)?
☐ 0–4 years
☐ 5–10 years
☐ 11–20 years
☐ More than 20 years old
4. How many neurologists, not counting residents, are part of your service?
☐ 1–5
☐ 6–10
☐ 11–15
☐ More than 16
☐ Other
5. How much time do you have scheduled in your diary for a first consultation with patients with epilepsy?
☐ 0–15 min
☐ 16–30 min
☐ 31 min–1 h

6. How much time do you have scheduled in your diary for follow-up consultations with epilepsy patients?
- ☐ 0–15 min
 - ☐ 16–30 min
 - ☐ 31 min–1 h
 - ☐ More than 1 h
7. What is the average number of epilepsy patients you see per month?
- ☐ Less than 10
 - ☐ 11–20
 - ☐ 21–50
8. What is the average number of patients with uncontrolled epilepsy that you see per month?
- ☐ None
 - ☐ Between 1–5
 - ☐ Between 6–10
 - ☐ Between 11–20
 - ☐ More than 20
9. Is there a specialised epilepsy clinic in your hospital?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
10. In your clinical practice, what do you consider to be a patient with controlled epilepsy, excluding patients with severe epileptic and neurodevelopmental encephalopathies?
- ☐ Patient free of all types of crises
 - ☐ Patient with a low number of basal seizures per month/year compared to his or her basal situation
 - ☐ Patient free of the most incapacitating seizures (tonic-clonic, with loss of consciousness/awareness, with fall etc.)
 - ☐ A patient who reports being well
 - ☐ Other
11. To what extent do you consider the persistence of some seizures acceptable rather than achieving total seizure freedom?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Very little
- ☐ To some extent
- ☐ Moderately
- ☐ To a large extent

12. To what extent do you think patients accept the persistence of some seizures rather than seeking total seizure freedom?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Very little
- ☐ To some extent
- ☐ Moderately
- ☐ To a large extent

13. What is the impact of time constraints in neurology consultations on the follow-up treatment of patients with epilepsy?

- ☐ None
- ☐ Little
- ☐ Quite
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ A lot

14. Do you consider that the definition of drug-resistant epilepsy (failure of two anti-seizure drugs) leads you to give up the search for seizure freedom?

- ☐ No, never
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Yes, frequently

15. In your experience, what are the main reasons why patients with epilepsy do not comply with their treatment? Multiple answers allowed.

- ☐ Side effects of medicines
- ☐ High number of daily intakes
- ☐ Lack of understanding of treatment

- ☐ Lack of confidence in the effectiveness of treatment
- ☐ Cost of medicines
- ☐ Other

16. Which of the following epilepsy drugs do you have clinical experience with and are you familiar with using? Multiple answers allowed.

- ☐ Brivaracetam
- ☐ Cannabidiol
- ☐ Carbamazepine
- ☐ Cenobamate
- ☐ Clobazam
- ☐ Clonazepam
- ☐ Eslicarbazepine acetate
- ☐ Ethosuximide
- ☐ Fenfluramine
- ☐ Lacosamide
- ☐ Lamotrigine
- ☐ Levetiracetam
- ☐ Oxcarbazepine
- ☐ Perampanel
- ☐ Rufinamide
- ☐ Topiramate
- ☐ Valproic
- ☐ Zonisamide

17. What are the main challenges you face when selecting a drug to treat a patient with uncontrolled epilepsy? Multiple answers allowed.

- ☐ Preference for using drugs with which you have more experience
- ☐ Uncertainty about the efficacy of new drugs in specific patients
- ☐ Side effect considerations
- ☐ Difficulty in keeping up to date with new medicines
- ☐ Limitations of the health system in accessing specific medicines

☐ Other

18. How long does it usually take before you decide to change lines of treatment in a patient with uncontrolled epilepsy?

- ☐ Less than 3 months
- ☐ 3–6 months
- ☐ 7–12 months
- ☐ More than 12 months

19. Of the patients you consider to be under control, what percentage are completely free of all types of seizures?

- ☐ 1–25%
- ☐ 26–50%
- ☐ 51–75%
- ☐ 76–99%
- ☐ 100%

20. How much time usually elapses between follow-up visits for patients with uncontrolled epilepsy in your practice?

- ☐ Less than 3 months
- ☐ 3–6 months
- ☐ 7–12 months
- ☐ More than 12 months

21. To whom do you usually refer patients with uncontrolled epilepsy? Multiple answers allowed.

- ☐ Reference centre or CSUR
- ☐ Epilepsy specialist in your centre
- ☐ I do not routinely refer my patients
- ☐ Other

22. When do you generally think it is appropriate to refer a patient with uncontrolled epilepsy? Multiple answers allowed.

- ☐ After the first unsuccessful treatment attempt
- ☐ After the second unsuccessful treatment attempt

- ☐ After the third unsuccessful treatment attempt
- ☐ When I think they should be a candidate for surgery
- ☐ Other

23. Of all your patients with epilepsy, what percentage do you refer?

- ☐ 0%
- ☐ 1–5%
- ☐ 6–15%
- ☐ 16–30%
- ☐ 30–40%
- ☐ More than 41%