FATIGUE IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HEPATITIS C: THE FAT-HEP STUDY. A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF FATIGUE AND ITS RELATION TO SUBSTANCE USE AND OST

THORNHØJ R_1, RIIS A_1, HANSEN JF_1, HJERRILD S_2, CHRISTENSEN PB_1, ØVREHUS ALH_1

[1] DEPARTMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL SOUTHERN DENMARK, DENMARK

[2] DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY, AARHUS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, DENMARK

Objective

- To examine fatigue in regard to:
  - Chronic Hepatitis C infection (CHC)
  - Substance Use (Current or Previous)
  - Opioid substitution therapy (OST)
  - Sustained virological response 12 weeks after treatment (SVR12)
  - ALAT levels
  - Transistent Elastometri (TE)

Methods

- Cross sectional study
- Questionaire based study
  - Fatigue Severity Scale (FSS)
  - Functional Assessment of Chronic Illness Therapy – Fatigue (FACIT-F)
  - Fatigue VAS Scale
- Study period: 28.09.2015-13.11.2015
- 56 patients included

Results

- Study population
  - 38/56 (67.9 %) reported clinically significant fatigue (FSS score ≥ 4)
  - 17/56 (30.4 %) had current substance use
  - 30/56 (53.6 %) had previous substance use
  - 20/56 (35.7 %) were on OST treatment

Results

- Fatigue was not associated with
  - Current substance use (OR: 2.9, p=0.14)
  - Previous substance us (OR: 1.7, p=0.35)
  - OST (OR: 2.55, p=0.15)
- Fatigue associated with
  - ALAT ≥ 30/19 (OR: 5.3, p=0.01)
  - TE ≥ 12 kPa (OR: 5.8, p=0.03)
  - SVR12 (OR: 0.2, p=0.02)

Take Home Message

- Fatigue is a prominent symptom in CHC
- The fatigue can not be solely explained by:
  - Substance Use
  - OST
- But with CHC related measures:
  - SVR12
  - ALAT >30/19
  - TE > 12 kPa