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Archives of Disease in Childhood

Original article

Cognitive dysfunction in adolescents with chronic fatigue: a cross-sectional study

Table 3
Demographic and clinical characteristics of the study participants

Characteristics	Mean values			Group comparisons (p value)	
	Chronic fatigue group N=120	CFS (CDC) subgroup N=88	Healthy controls N=39	Chronic fatigue group versus healthy controls	CFS (CDC) subgroup versus healthy controls
Gender					
Female (%)	86 (72)	64 (72)	28 (72)	0.98	0.91
Age					
Mean (SD)	15.4 (1.6)	15.3 (1.6)	15.2 (1.6)	0.57	0.79
Age range, years	12–18	12–18	12–18		
BMI					
Mean (SD, Z score)	21.5 (4.2, 0.4)	21.2 (4.2, 0.3)	20.3 (2.9)	0.04	0.14
CDC criteria fulfilled (%)	88 (73)		NA		
NICE criteria fulfilled (%)	107 (89)		NA		
MFQ					
Mean (SD)	17.2 (10.1)	18.7 (10.4)	6.6 (7.8)	<0.001	<0.001
Disease duration months (range)	21.4 (4–104)	21.1 (6–104)	NA	NA	NA
CFQ					
Mean (SD)	19.2 (6.2)	19.9 (6.0)	8.9 (4.5)	<0.001	<0.001
School absence					
Mean % (SD)	65 (30)	66 (30)	2 (7)	<0.001	<0.001
STAI-T					
Mean (SD)	42.8 (9.0)	44.0 (9.1)	32.1 (7.25)	<0.001	<0.001
KSQ					
Mean (SD)	3.4 (0.97)	3.3 (0.9)	4.9 (0.86)	<0.001	<0.001

CFS (CDC) subgroup: Participant subgroup that meets the CDC criteria for chronic fatigue syndrome; School absence: the percentage of days out of school during the last month (20 days/month is 100%).

BMI, body mass index; CDC, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CFS, chronic fatigue syndrome; CFQ, Chalder Fatigue Questionnaire; KSQ, Karolinska Sleep Questionnaire; MFQ, Mood and Feelings Questionnaire; NICE, National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; STAI-T, Spielberger State-Trait Inventory.

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