E-Poster

EP-567

Does Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Type I Continue to Negatively Impact Patients' Function and Hand Strength 10 Years After its Onset?

Topic: Pain

Sana Salah[1], Faten Haddaoui[2], Anis Jellad[1], Mohamed Hedi Bedoui[3], Zohra Ben Salah Frih[4]

[1]*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Fattouma Bouguiba University Hospital, LabTIM Research Laboratory LR12ES06, Faculty of Medicine, University of Monastir, Monastir, Tunisia*
[2]*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Fattouma Bouguiba University Hospital, Monastir, Tunisia*
[3]*LabTIM Research Laboratory LR12ES06, Faculty of Medicine, University of Monastir, Monastir, Tunisia*
[4]*Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Fattouma Bouguiba University Hospital, Monastir, Tunisia*

BACKGROUND

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Type I (CRPS-I) can have enduring effects on patients' function and hand strength even a decade after its onset. Research indicates that individuals with CRPS-I may continue to experience persistent pain, functional limitations, and reduced hand strength over the long term. The condition, characterized by disproportionate pain and sensory abnormalities, can lead to motor dysfunction and impaired hand function. Despite various therapeutic interventions, including physical therapy and medications, some patients may struggle with ongoing challenges in daily activities and occupational tasks. The long-lasting impact of CRPS-I highlights the importance of comprehensive and sustained management strategies to improve the quality of life for those affected by this complex and debilitating condition

The objective of the current study was to investigate whether CRPS-I continue to have an impact on hand function and strength 10 years after its onset.

METHODS

Ninety patients consulting the PMR Department for distal radius fractures (DRF) who had taken part in a study 10 years earlier were invited to participate in the current investigation. Among them, 29 patients had developed CRPS-I at baseline assessment. Hand function was assessed using the Patient Rated Wrist Evaluation (PRWE), while grip strength was measured using a dynamometer.

RESULTS

Only 20 patients, including eight with CRPS-I, consented to participate in the study. Notably, none of the CRPS-I patients exhibited stiffness, atrophy, or remaining symptoms. However, this cohort displayed elevated scores on the Pain subscale, Function subscale, and PRWE total score compared to the DRF group without CRPS-I. The ratio of grip strength affected hand / unaffected hand was 65% in CRPS-I patients, it was 89% in DRF patients who did not develop CRPS-I.

CONCLUSION

Despite the study's limited sample size, the findings are quite intriguing. Hand function and strength appear to be compromised in CRPS-I even a decade after its onset. Further investigations into the long-term outcomes of CRPS-I are imperative to enhance the management of its chronic features.

Statement of Disclosures

None

Doi: 10.5606/archisprm.2026.EP-567

Corresponding Author:
Sana Salah
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Fattouma Bouguiba University Hospital, LabTIM Research Laboratory LR12ES06, Faculty of Medicine, University of Monastir, Monastir, Tunisia
Email: sanasalahdoc@gmail.com