Abstract

Clinical signs manifested by psychiatric patients are often assessed differently by medical staff members; that is, clinical scores such as BPRS (brief psychiatric rating scale) and CGI-S (clinical global impression scale) are not the same, particularly between attending psychiatrists and nurses, while functional and imaging data can be similarly evaluated by medical staff members. It is sometimes difficult to precisely evaluate the clinical signs of psychiatric patients even with commonly used rating scales, and to express these signs appropriately. This may cause gaps in the assessment of clinical signs, the language for reporting these signs and the diagnosis of the severity of clinical manifestations by medical staff members (psychiatrists and nurses). The aim of the present study was to clarify such gaps. Five inpatients with schizophrenia were randomly selected and their medical conditions were evaluated with BPRS and CGI-S independently by attending psychiatrists and 18 ward nurses. The results of these scales were compared between the groups. As a result, common assessment and the recognition of the clinical condition of psychiatric inpatients, which should have been constant between the two groups, were not...