

Report of the CAN/CLAE Epilepsy Training Course in Garoua

Venue: Garoua General Hospital

Date: 26/05/2023

Time: 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

The aim of this course was the initial training of medical students and the continuous medical education of doctors and other health professionals to improve the epilepsy care in the Northern regions of Cameroon where there is no neurologist or epileptologist. 8 faculties and 184 participants attended this course. The first session was dedicated on clinical and EEG video cases. During this session moderated by Dr. Annick Melanie Magnerou, Dr. Victor Sini presented interactively cases of seizures and EEG. In this session, attendees had the opportunity to see different types of seizures and the corresponding EEG recordings. They were able to understand that generalized tonic-clonic seizure (GTCS) is only one type of seizure and that seizures can be spectacular or much more discreet. In addition, they have the opportunity to see cases of psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES) one of the main differentials of epileptic seizures. The next session developed more on epilepsy. Prof. Kuate Tegueu Callixte (***President of the Cameroonian League Against Epilepsy-CLAE***) opened the session with the definition of term and classifications of epilepsy and seizures. Dr. Mbozo'o (Radiologist) presented neuroimaging of epilepsy. He provided practical tools to classify epilepsy in a resource-limited setting. He raised up the interest and limitation of the Brain CT scan which is the available and affordable imaging modality in these regions. Assoc. Prof. Maouly Fall (Senegal) gave a talk on the management of epilepsy. He highlighted the efficacy of antiseizure medications (ASM) and provide simple criteria to choose the most appropriate ASM in a patient-based manner. Dr. Eric Bila discussed on the diagnosis approach in a patient presenting a first seizure. A talk on acute management of convulsive status epilepticus was presented by Dr. Daniel Gams Massi, and Dr. Victor Sini presented on epilepsy and pregnancy. These sessions were closed by a question-and-answer discussion session.

The significant participation and interest shown by the participants in these sessions demonstrates the importance that epilepsy occupies in daily clinical practice and the impact that this training course could have in improving the care of patients with epilepsy in this area. On behalf of the Cameroon Academy of Neurology and the organizing committee of the CAN/CLAE epilepsy training course, we would like to thank the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) for the constant support. This support allows us to reach neurology-deprived areas and share our knowledge and experience where needed.

Dr. Gams Massi Daniel

Secretary General, CAN



Fig 1: opening of the second session by Prof. Kuate T. Callixte, Chair of the Cameroonian League Against Epilepsy



Fig 2: Conference Hall of the Garoua General Hospital with attendees and faculties during the CAN/CLAE training course



Figure 3: Group photo of the event with the Secretary General of the Ministry of Public Health