

LIPOIC ACID EFFICIENCY IN DIABETIC NEUROPATHY TREATMENT

E. R. Barantsevitch, K. Vallush, E. V. Melnikova, O. V. Posokhina, A. A. Skoromets, E. V. Schlyakhto

Department of Neurology, Pavlov State Medical University. St. Petersburg, Russia

30 patients with insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, complicated by neuropathy (mean age $38,6 \pm 5,4$ years, 14 men, 16 women), were treated with Espa-lipon (Esparma GmbH, Germany) in daily dose 600 mg intravenously during 21 days, followed by 1200-1800 mg *per os* daily during 4 months. The clinical conditions of patients improved during treatment, the vibration threshold disorders diminished.

A number of electrophysiologic parameters (motor and sensory nerve conduction velocity, electromyography, somatosensory, visual and audial induced potentials) were measured before, during and after treatment. There was no correlation between age, sex, duration of diabetes or degree of compensation (according to data on HbA1c) and the degree of electrophysiological abnormalities at the start of treatment. After treatment with intravenous Espa-lipon all the electrophysiologic parameters tested improved, especially sensory nerve conduction velocity, and underwent further stabilisation up to the end of treatment.