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**Is early thymectomy a more prudent method of achieving a good clinical response in myasthenia gravis: a descriptive cross sectional study at tertiary care level in Sri Lanka****Senanayake S<sup>1</sup>, Thayalan SN<sup>2</sup>, Senanayake AES<sup>3</sup>, Wijayagunasinghe D<sup>2</sup>, Wijekoon N<sup>1</sup>**<sup>1</sup>*Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Science, University of Sri Jayewardenepura*<sup>2</sup>*Neurology Unit, Colombo North Teaching Hospital*<sup>3</sup>*Neurology Unit, National Hospital of Sri Lanka***Introduction**

Myasthenia gravis (MG) is a disease of the neuromuscular junction which affects quality of life. It is well documented that thymoma has a significant association with MG. Data related to MG in Sri Lankan patients is limited.

**Objectives**

To describe the clinical presentation and response to thymectomy in a cohort of Sri Lankan patients with MG.

**Methods**

A descriptive cross sectional study was conducted in a consecutive sample of patients with confirmed MG and followed up for >1 year at the Neurology clinics of Colombo North Teaching Hospital and National Hospital of Sri Lanka. Data collection was done using an interviewer administered questionnaire and medical records. Subclasses of MG were described according to clinical classification of Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America.

**Results**

65 patients were studied. Mean age was 51.7±11.6 years. 50.8% were males. Out of the 5 subclasses majority of patients were in subclasses 1 (N=34; 52%) and 2 (N=19; 29%). 54 patients were screened for thymoma. Majority were negative for thymoma (overall – 75.9% subclass 1 – 89.3%; subclass 2 – 66.7%). One patient had thymus hyperplasia. 15 patients (overall:27.8%; hyperplasia:100%; thymoma-positive:66.7%; thymoma-negative:9.8%) have undergone thymectomy with majority of them achieving a good response (overall:80%; hyperplasia:100%; thymoma-positive:80%; thymoma-negative:75%).

**Conclusion**

More than half of the patients in the study cohort had ocular myasthenia. Majority of patients who have undergone thymectomy have achieved a good response irrespective of the thymoma status. Early thymectomy might be a suitable option for a better clinical response and further studies are needed.