Background

The German Acromegaly Register extracts relevant data on diagnostic procedures (Dx), primary and secondary therapeutic strategies (Tx) and their results, as well as co-morbidity and mortality. Analysis of these data will lead to diagnostic and therapeutic improvements. Approx. 4-5000 pts. are expected to be finally included.

Methods

Treatment centers are visited by two trained study nurses, who extract data from the patient charts, which are then transferred into the databank in the study center in Berlin. An error check system controls the correctness of the entries. All centers will be re-visited after 3, 5 and after 7 years. The British acromegaly database software has been adapted for use in Germany.

Summary

Approx. 20-25% of the pts have so far been included. Time delay from first symptoms to Dx remains a problem. Surgical success improved in successive time periods. Data from 1993-2004 reveal a surgical success rate (strict criteria for cure) comparable to the literature (1.2). Re-operation, DA and SSA were effective sec. Tx in approx. 25, 33 and 40% respect. (GH-cure and control).

Results continued

Fig. 3 Results of secondary therapy after/into one year of 2nd treatment (N=153)*

Discussion

The register provides a basis for further analysis and improvement. The data are preliminary, since subgroup numbers are small and analysis is based on only approx. 25% of the expected total number of patients in Germany. Based on the accumulated experience, the register aims to improve the quality of documentation and develops guidelines for patient evaluation and treatment options.

References:

Sponsored by Novartis