

AB207. SOH22ABS025. Persistent postural-perceptual dizziness management: a case series

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Background: Persistent postural-perceptual dizziness (PPPD) is a chronic, functional disorder characterised by non-spinning vertigo, dizziness or unsteadiness that is typically exacerbated by upright posture, movement and complex visual stimulation. Ongoing research suggests that it may stem from alterations in brain structure and maladaptive multi-sensory information processing, postural control mechanisms and cortical integration of spatial orientation. The mainstay of PPPD treatment includes selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin noradrenaline reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs), vestibular rehabilitation therapy (VRT) and cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT)-based interventions. Greater efficacy of combined CBT and VRT or SSRI treatment is consistently reported. However, a review of the literature identifies certain limitations in PPPD management. These include failure of spontaneous resolution of symptoms in a majority of patients and the development of secondary conditions including functional gait disorder with a reported 75% developing comorbid psychiatric disease.

Methods: We complete a retrospective study on a series of 35 PPPD cases in University Hospital Limerick between 2016 and 2021.

Results: We determine the proportion of patients meeting diagnostic criteria, identify precipitating and comorbid conditions and compare our treatment strategies to proposed guidance in the literature. We explore the

effectiveness of our treatment strategies on patient outcomes, adverse reactions to treatment and complications from residual symptoms.

Conclusions: Larger-scale research into the aetiology, treatment and secondary prevention of PPPD in at-risk patients, is warranted to fill the gaps in our knowledge of the most effective management of PPPD. A sequel to this study involves follow-up of the cases for comparative long-term effectiveness of treatment strategies.

Keywords: Chronic, dizziness; persistent postural-perceptual dizziness (PPPD); vestibular

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Footnote

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