

Change in the Frequency of Seizure Attacks and Associated Factors Among Adult Epilepsy Patients at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital (AMSH): A Generalized Linear Mixed Model (GLMM)

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Background: While getting anti-epileptic drugs (AEDs) treatment around two-thirds of the patients with epilepsy enter a seizure-free state, but some of them continue to experience seizures which increase the risk of accident, disability, death, and treatment side effects. Therefore, this study aimed to identify changes in the frequency of seizure attacks overtime and associated factors among adult patients with epilepsy.

Methods: A retrospective two year follow-up study was conducted among adult patients with epilepsy who initiated AEDs between July 2017 and June 2019. A simple random sampling technique was applied to select 394 patient charts. The data were entered into Epi-data and then exported to R software for further analysis. A generalized linear mixed model under a negative binomial family was applied to identify determinants of the frequency of seizure attacks.

Results: The median number of seizure attacks at baseline were 3 with the IQR of 2 and on average the frequency of seizure attacks decrease in a linear pattern over time. Age group 25–34 years (AIRR = 0.81 and 95% CI: 0.69–0.94), smoking (AIRR = 1.28 and 95% CI: 1.11–1.48), khat use (AIRR = 1.39 and 95% CI: 1.19–1.62), sleep deprivation (AIRR = 1.49 and 95% CI: 1.32–1.69), head injury (AIRR = 1.30 and 95% CI: 1.11–1.53), depression (AIRR = 1.39 and 95% CI: 1.17–1.65), treatment mode (AIRR = 1.22 and 95% CI: 1.07–1.39), and clumsiness (AIRR = 1.85 and 95% CI: 1.24–2.75) were statistically significant seizure predicting factors.

Conclusion: The number of seizure attack changes over time was decreased by a linear function that might reflect treatment effects of AEDs. Smokers, khat chewers, suffering a head injury, depression, experienced sleep deprivation, and clumsiness increases the number of seizure attacks. Conversely, the age group 25–34 years saw a decrease in the number of seizure attacks. This underscores that special attention should be given to substance users and those with related mental health disorders.

Keywords: change in seizures frequency, epilepsy, anti-epileptic drugs, Ethiopia, AEDs

Introduction

Epilepsy is a chronic brain dysfunction characterized by an abnormal, excessive, and hyper-synchronous electrical discharge of neurons in the brain which results in the appearance of epileptic seizures. It may be partial which affects only one hemisphere of the brain, or generalized which affects the entire part of the brain. They may be accompanied by loss of consciousness and loss of control of bowel or bladder functions.

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Globally, there are 50 million people with epilepsy, and the majority (80%), of whom live in low and middle-income countries (LMIC), where treatment gaps exceed 75% in most low-income countries and 50% in most middle-income countries. Moreover, the prevalence of epilepsy in Africa ranges from 2.2 to 58 per 1000 population and this makes it the second or third most common reason for consultation and hospitalization.^{1,2} While getting AEDs treatment around two-thirds of patients with epilepsy enter a seizure-free state, but some may continue to experience any of the previously mentioned types of seizure.³

Epileptic patients have poor health outcomes, with greater psychological distress, depression, anxiety, employment restriction, physical injuries such as fractures and burns, and increased mortality. Epileptic seizures also result in devastating social consequences which can lead to a poor quality of life.⁴ Seizure frequency is a significant factor for depression which is among the leading causes of disability. When the number of seizure attacks increases, depression and perceived stigma also increases, which further results in devastating social consequences and diminished quality of life.⁵

A study conducted in Ethiopia shows that out of 194 participants, the majority, 171 (88.1%), of the participants had generalized tonic-clonic seizures (GTCS) and the remaining had focal (partial) seizures.⁶ Another retrospective study on the status epilepticus (SE) stated that from the total study participants who developed GTCS at baseline evaluation, with the frequency of seizure attacks ≤ 8 times and 9–12 times per follow-up period, 23.2% and 13.4% of them died, respectively, but there is no history of death among those who have >13 times frequency of seizure attacks. Among the participants with an unknown history of seizure frequency, 10.3% died due to several factors, but CNS infection and non-compliance with AED account for 43% and 21%, respectively.⁷

Some patients may continue to experience seizures while taking anti-epileptic treatment, even if the uttermost goal of treating epileptic patients is to maintain a seizure-free state. Assessment of seizure frequency is done to show treatment response and is also helpful for stopping treatment, when an individual is seizure-free for at least two years the assessment can aid clinical decision-making. Hence, identifying seizure-predicting factors and changes in the frequency of seizure attacks over time is crucial to improve the patients' health status and quality of life.

Therefore, this study aims to fill the gaps of current knowledge about epilepsy treatment by identifying determinant risk factors of epilepsy and changes in the number of seizure attacks.

Methods

Study Design and Period

An institution-based retrospective two year follow-up study was conducted among adult epileptic patients who initiated treatment between July 2017 and June 2019.

Study Area and Population

The study was conducted at Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital (AMSH) located in the western part of Addis Ababa in Addis Ketema Sub-city Kebele 08. It has been serving as the only public specialized psychiatric hospital since 1948 under the Ministry of Health. The hospital has 259 beds including 11 private wing beds and 23 emergency beds. The hospital has 13 outpatient departments. An average of 26,400 follow-up and new patients receive outpatient services annually, and most of the patients attend with family members. A total of 2200 patients with epilepsy are seen by the neuropsychiatry case team each month, and it ranks second in outpatient department patient volume in the hospital.

Adult patients of epilepsy on AED treatment follow-up between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2019 in the hospital was the study population. Meanwhile, patients who initiated anti-epileptic medications between July 2017 and June 2019 and had at least two measurements for the outcome of interest were included. Whereas, patients who had incomplete records for major variables like the outcome of interest and had no follow-up sheets within their medical records were excluded. In addition, those patients who had been diagnosed to have SE were also excluded.

Sample Size and Sampling Procedure

The sample size was calculated by using Diggle et al formula for sample size calculation of repeated measurements.⁸ The final sample size for this study was 394 with 95% CI and 90% power. Initially eligible study population who have enrolled in antiepileptic treatment since July 2017 was identified (filtered) from the hospital medical record unit or documentation unit. Then final study subjects were selected by a simple random sampling technique using computer-generated random numbers by

R software and stopped when the calculated sample reached.

Data Collection Procedures

A data collection checklist was prepared and used to extract socio-demographic, behavioral, clinical, and treatment-related characteristics of patients by reviewing patient charts. Data for this study was secondary data routinely recorded from patients followed up at AMSH usually every month. BSc psychiatry nurses who have been working on neuropsychiatry (NEP) cases were assigned as data collectors.

Measurements

In this study, the outcome variable was the frequency of seizure attacks which is the number of uncontrolled involuntary shaking involving only one part of the brain or involving the entire brain. The independent variables were age, sex, marital status, educational status, occupation, head injury, burn, fracture, depression, psychotic disorder, anxiety, duration, drug type, type of seizure, and treatment modalities.

The frequency of the seizure attacks was registered by asking either the patients or family members, or relatives in the vicinity of a patient since GTCC and focal seizures with loss of consciousness are usually cannot be observed by the patient himself.

Khat: is a stimulant drug, which speeds up the transmission of impulses between the brain and the body.⁹

Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate

The ethical review committee of the Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Gondar approved the study protocol, and a letter of approval with Reference Number IPH/837/6/2020 was granted. A waiver letter was obtained from the medical director of the hospital to access the medical records of patients. Because data were collected from the patient's follow-up chart, informed consent was not obtained from all participants in the study. Confidentiality during all phases of research activities was kept and data was held on a secured password-protected system. All the procedures are based on the principles of the Helsinki declaration.

Statistical Analysis

The data were checked for inconsistencies, coding error, completeness, clarity, and missing values before it was entered. The data entry was done using Epi-data version 4.64.0 and then it was exported to R statistical software Version 3.5.2 for further analysis. Missing data were handled by using multiple imputations techniques.

Descriptive statistics were carried out and presented using tables, text, and graphs. Individual, mean profile plots and observed variance plots were considered as parts of the data exploration technique which gives some directions to select the appropriate statistical model to a given data.

Both bi-variable and multivariable generalized linear mixed models under a negative binomial family analysis were performed. To determine the association between the frequency of seizure attack and explanatory variables using a generalized linear mixed model and checked for over-dispersion and zero-inflation in the data using R-software. Variables with a p-value <0.2 in the bi-variable analysis were selected for multivariable analysis.

Akaike information criteria (AIC), Bayesian information criteria (BIC), and Deviance were applied for model selection after fitting the appropriate model for the data by assuming random intercept only model, the random slope only model, and random intercept and random slope model. Finally, the adjusted incidence rate ratio (AIRR) with 95% CI was presented and interpreted accordingly.

Results

Socio-Demographic and Behavioral Characteristics

A total of 394 patients' charts were reviewed and their ages ranged between 15 to 65 years. The average age of the participants was 25.94 with a standard deviation (SD) of 10.76 years. The majority of the participants (56.35%) were aged 15–24 years and 56.85% of the participants were male. Nearly two-thirds (63.45%) of the participants were single and 13.71% had an educational status of diploma and above. Regarding their occupation, around 52.54% of the participants were students. A history of alcohol consumption was seen in 30.20% of the participants and only 22.10% of patients had a family history of epilepsy. Besides, 43.65% of them suffered from sleep deprivation, in which the seizures occurred after it (Table 1).

Table 1 Socio-Demographic and Behavioral Characteristics of AED Attendants, Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, 2017–2019

Variables with Category	Epilepsy Cases Among Each Category (n=394)(%)
Age at diagnosis	
15–24	222(56.35)
25–34	96(24.37)
35–44	50(12.69)
45–54	10(2.54)
55–65	16(4.06)
Sex	
Male	224(56.85)
Female	170(43.15)
Marital Status	
Single	250(63.45)
Married	130(32.99)
Divorced	9(2.28)
Widowed	5(1.27)
Occupation	
Government Employed	23(5.84)
Non-government employed	76(19.29)
Farmer	54(13.71)
Student	207(52.54)
Housewife	34(8.63)
Educational Status	
No formal education	54(13.71)
Primary	117(29.70)
Secondary	169(42.89)
Diploma and above	54(13.71)
Smoking	
Yes	79(20.05)
No	315(79.95)
Alcohol	
Yes	119(30.20)
No	275(69.80)
Khat	
Yes	71(18.02)
No	323(81.98)
Sleep deprivation	
Yes	172(43.65)
No	122(56.35)
Family History	
Yes	87(22.08)
No	307(77.92)

Clinical and Treatment-Related Characteristics

Around 15.74% of participants had a history of head injury which is the result of epilepsy and 16.75% of them had a psychotic disorder, i.e., brief psychotic disorder. Nearly two-thirds (64%) of patients had a generalized type of seizure attack and the mean duration of the illness was 5.06 years (SD =3.80). More than half 51.50% of the participants were treated by phenobarbital and mono treatment modality was seen in 74.40% of the patients. About 8.63% of the patients had complained of treatment-related side effects, like clumsiness, rash, drowsiness, etc. (Table 2).

Seizure Frequency and Change Overtime

The minimum and the maximum number of measurements for the number of seizure attacks per individual were 2 and 8 respectively. While the average number of measurements, i.e., the average repetitive times that the number of seizure attacks recorded was 5.5. Over the follow-up period, patients had a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 30 seizure attacks. The median baseline number of seizure attacks among patients was 3 times with the interquartile range (IQR) of 2 and it showed a quick decline over time. In addition, the average number of seizure attacks at baseline was 3.57 times/patient with an SD of 2.75 times/patient (Table 3).

Exploratory Data Analysis of Seizure Frequency Overtime

The individual profile plot for a sample of 100 subjects was done. From the panel we noted that there is a considerably large difference in the intercepts of individual trajectories and similarly, some trajectories were steeper while others were almost horizontal, indicating the possible variability in the slope of the number of seizure attacks (Figure 1).

The subjects have a largely varying number of seizure attacks at the start and also possibly different evolutions over time; this suggests that perhaps generalized linear mixed models with random intercepts and slopes could be a plausible starting point. The overall mean profile plot shows that approximately a linearly decreasing pattern of the number of seizure attacks over time even if it increases at some time points which suggests that a linear time effect is reasonable (Figure 2).

Table 2 Clinical and Treatment Related Characteristics of AED Attendants, Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital, 2017–2019

Variables with Category	Epilepsy Cases Among Each Category (n=394) (%)
Head Injury	
Yes	62(15.74)
No	332(84.26)
Burn	
Yes	15(3.81)
No	379(96.19)
Fracture	
Yes	9(2.28)
No	385(97.72)
Depression	
Yes	49(12.44)
No	345(87.56)
Psychotic disorder	
Yes	66(16.75)
No	328(83.25)
Anxiety	
Yes	32(8.12)
No	362(91.88)
Type of treatment when treatment started	
Phenobarbital	203(51.52)
Carbamazepine	49(12.44)
Phenytoin	29(7.36)
Sodium-Valporate	52(13.20)
Two or more treatment	61(15.48)
Treatment Modality	
Monotherapy	293(74.37)
Polytherapy	101(25.63)
Treatment related side effects	
Yes	34(8.63)
No	360(91.37)
Type of Seizure during diagnosis	
Partial	27(6.80)
Generalized	252(64.00)
Unclassified	115(29.20)

Factors Influencing Seizure Frequency

The response variable for the study was the number of seizure attacks among epileptic patients which is a count variable and recorded repeatedly per person. An initial assumed model for count longitudinal data is a GLMM for the Poisson family which assumes that the mean is equal to variance but for this particular data this

Table 3 Descriptive Statistics for the Number of Seizure Attack per Follow-Up Time

Follow-Up Time (Months)	Median	Mean	Std.Dev	N
Baseline	3	3.56	2.75	394
1	1	1.73	2.12	394
2	1	1.26	1.76	383
3	0	1.08	1.65	341
4	0	0.97	1.70	269
5	0	0.79	1.40	191
6	0	1.05	1.72	118
7	1	1.50	2.00	58

assumption is violated which was checked by using package DHARMA on R and implies that there is over-dispersion in this particular data. In order, to handle this over-dispersion a GLMM for the negative binomial family was considered and from the model output, the dispersion parameter was found to be 2.69 with a p-value < 0.0001. Regarding the zero-inflation factor Vuong test was done and it favors a GLMM for the negative binomial model over a GLMM for the zero-inflated negative binomial family. Therefore, a final model used in this study is a GLMM for the negative binomial family building on function glmer on R-software.

Firstly, we used a stepwise automatic variable selection method (backward elimination method) to select appropriate fixed-effects. After arriving at an optimal subset, the selected fixed-effects model was fitted with different random effects to have an appropriate generalized linear mixed-effect model (GLMM). Finally, when we look at the improvement of the model with the inclusion of random intercept to that of random linear time effects of the GLMM, there was an improvement of the model and this model has lower AIC and BIC values than the remaining two GLMMs. Hence, we consider the GLMM with random intercept and linear time effects as a better parsimonious model (Table 4).

It was found that keeping all other variables constant, for each additional three months, the number of seizure attacks would decrease on average by 16% (AIRR = 0.84 and 95% CI: 0.82 0.85). Conditional on the random effects the incidence rate of seizure attack was decreased by 19% (AIRR = 0.81 and 95% CI: 0.69 0.94) among the age group of 25–34 as compared to those who are in the age group of 15–24. Conversely, conditional on the random effects the incidence rate of seizure attacks among those who smoked was increased by 28% (AIRR = 1.28 and 95%

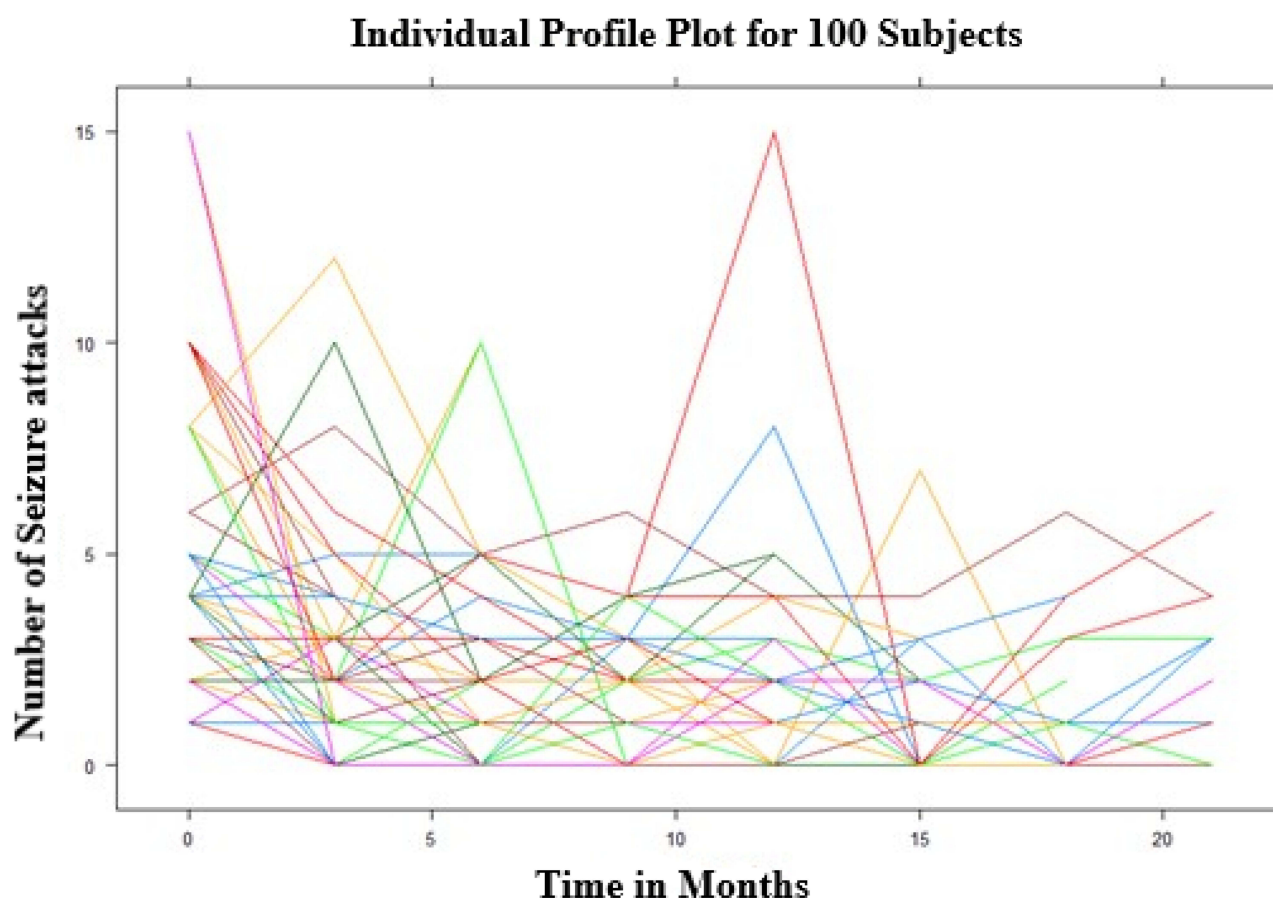


Figure 1 Individual profile plot for the number of seizure attacks.

CI: 1.11 1.48) as compared to those who do not. Conditional on the random effects, the incidence rate of seizure attacks among those who have experienced sleep deprivation was increased by 49% (AIRR = 1.49 and 95% CI: 1.32 1.69).

Conditional on the random effects those patients who have a history of depression were found to be a 1.39 times more incidence rate of seizure attacks than those who do not have a history of depression (AIRR = 1.39 and 95% CI: 1.17 1.65). Conditional on the random effects the incidence rate of seizure attack among those who take polytherapy was increased by 22% (AIRR = 1.22 and 95% CI: 1.07 1.39) as compared to those who take monotherapy (Table 5).

Discussion

From an individual's profile plot, we observed the existence of variability in the number of seizure attacks within and between individuals. The exploratory analysis result for mean structure also suggested that on average, the number of seizure attacks decreases in a linear pattern

over time. This supports the results of who found that after the patients initiated to the AEDs the number of seizure attacks decreased due to the therapy even if some patients are refractory to any AEDs.¹⁰ This linear decrease in the number of seizure attacks is the positive effect of treatment on controlling seizures. Besides, the finding showed good control of seizure attacks through therapies. However, an increase of the mean profile after some time might be associated with AED dose tapering that might decrease serum level that leads to a resurgence of seizure frequencies. Also, as the duration of the treatment increased patients may have become exhausted from adverse drug effects and that could compromise the adherence of the patients to their AED medication.

From the Multivariable GLMM, we found that covariates that have a significant effect on the number of seizure attacks change, those covariates are observation time, age, smoking, khat use, sleep deprivation, head injury, depression, clumsiness, and treatment mode.

This study found that a negative significant association between observation time and seizure attacks, which

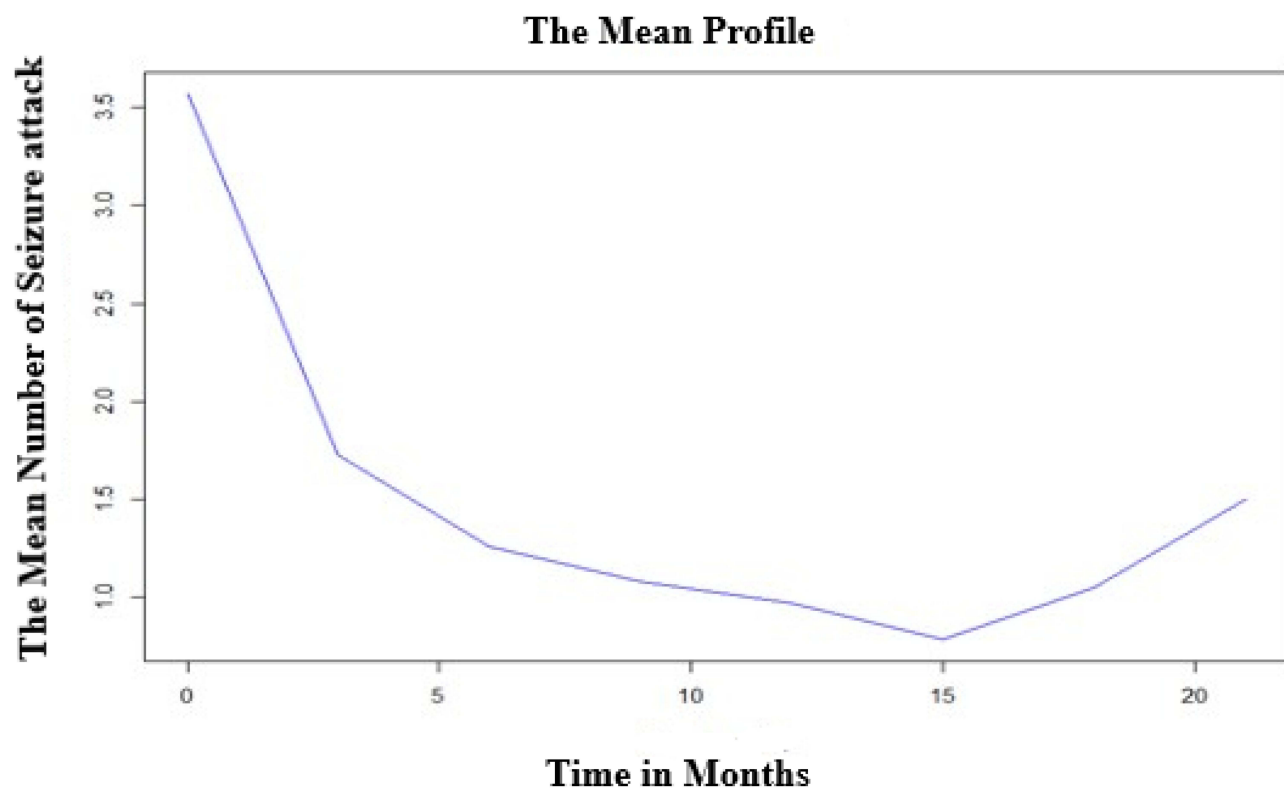


Figure 2 Mean profile plot for the number of seizure attacks.

means that as an observation time increases the number of seizure attacks would decrease. This is in line with the study conducted in Bahir Dar.¹¹ This indicates a positive treatment outcome on controlling seizures. However, this study differs from a study conducted in Sweden.¹⁰ This could be because, some patients tend to be stable or “spontaneously” get poor, which could be attributed to poor compliance with their current medications. The other possible reason for this might be the inclusion of those patients who have SE in the other studies.

This study found an association between age and seizure attacks, indicating that patients in the age group of 25–34 had a lower incidence rate of seizure attack as compared to those who were in the age group of 15–24. This was in line with a previous study.¹² This differed from a study conducted in the United States, which

demonstrated no significant correlation between the changes in the seizure frequency from the baseline to the end of the follow-up period and age.¹³ This could be because patients aged 25–34 years may have good adherence compared to those aged 15–24 years.¹⁴ However, no consistency was found between the cited and the current study concerning patients’ age.

Substance use, such as a history of smoking and chewing khat, were found to have more frequent seizure attacks compared to those who had no such history. This is in line with the study conducted in Ayder comprehensive hospital.¹⁵ This could be explained that chewing khat and smoking are related to generalized tonic-clonic seizures, and they may progress into SE.¹⁶ Besides, substance use causes less adherent to medications. Hence, substance abuse needs adequate management to improve the hospital outcomes of epilepsy patients.

This study found a positive significant association between sleep deprivation and seizure attack. Respondents who reported sleep deprivation had a higher incidence rate of seizure attack as compared to those who do not report. This is in line with a multi-center study conducted in Denmark, Norway, and United States which reports that patients with generalized epilepsy were found to be highly

Table 4 Selection of Random Effects to be Included in the GLMM

No.	Random Effects	AIC	BIC	Deviance
1.	Only intercept	6815.2	6900.3	6785.2
2.	Only linear time slope	6572.4	6657.4	6542.4
3.	Intercept and linear time slope	6564.0	6654.7	6532.0

Table 5 Risk Factors for Seizure Attacks Among Adult Epilepsy Patients at AMSH

Variables with Category	CIRR(95% CI)	AIRR(95% CI)
Time	0.83(0.82–0.85)***	0.84(0.82–0.85)***
Age		
15–24	1	1
25–34	0.985(0.98–0.99)***	0.81 (0.69–0.94)**
35–44	1.014(1.013–1.015)***	0.94 (0.78–1.13)
45–54	1.002(1.001–1.003)***	0.71(0.48–1.04)
55–65	1.181(1.180–1.182)***	0.94(0.69–1.27)
Smoking		
No	1	1
Yes	1.54(1.31–1.81)***	1.28(1.11–1.48)**
Khat		
No	1	1
Yes	1.69(1.44–1.99)***	1.39(1.19–1.62)***
Sleep deprivation		
No	1	1
Yes	1.66(1.45–1.91)***	1.49(1.32–1.69)***
Head injury		
No	1	1
Yes	1.71(1.44–2.04)***	1.30(1.11–1.53)**
Depression		
No	1	1
Yes	1.63(1.34–1.98)***	1.39(1.17–1.65)***
Treatment Modality		
Monotherapy	1	1
Polytherapy	1.27(1.08–1.49)**	1.22(1.07–1.39)**
Clumsiness		
No	1	1
Yes	2.59(1.65–4.10)***	1.85(1.24–2.75)**

Notes: ***Implies p-value <0.00001 and **implies p-value <0.01.

sensitive to sleep deprivation and seizure attacks.¹⁷ The possible reason could be the majority of the respondents in the present study diagnosed with epilepsy were with generalized seizure type. Sleep pattern disorder has been shown to lower the seizure threshold, doing so makes it easy to provoke a seizure attack.¹⁸ However, the same study showed no statistically significant association between sleep deprivation and seizure attack.¹⁹ This may be because the study was limited to patients with refractory epilepsy and the participants did not consume any illicit drug. However, in the present study, some respondents consume alcohol, cigarette, and chat.

Participants who experienced head injury were more likely to had more seizure attacks as compared to those who did not experience a head injury. This finding is in line with that of Addis Ababa and Gondar.^{20–22} This may be explained by the head injury that may cause the deposit of iron associated with extravasation of blood, the increase in excitotoxicity due to the accumulation of glutamate, and diffuse axonal injury edema or ischemia.²³

In this study, depression was found to have a statistically significant positive association with seizure attacks. This is supported by the study conducted in Ethiopia.²⁴ The possible reason could be that depression seems to affect the quality of life of epileptic patients and this leads to a poorer treatment outcome.¹⁶ Thus, clinicians need to focus more on comorbid depression to improve treatment outcomes.

This study found a positive statistically significant association between treatment modality and seizure attack. Respondents who have taken two or more treatments at a time had a higher incidence rate of seizure attack as compared to those who have taken only one treatment. This is supported by different studies.^{13,24,25} The possible reason could be Polytherapy increases the potential for drug–drug interactions, may affect compliance and is associated with a higher cost of medication requirement of therapeutic drug monitoring.²⁶ In addition, those patients who were resistant to Monotherapy featured by high-frequency seizure attacks are eligible for Polytherapy. Thus, patients who were on Polytherapy had a high frequency of seizure attacks compared to those on Monotherapy.

This study found a positive statistical association between the side effects of medications and seizure attacks. People who had side effects of medication like that of clumsiness were found to have frequent seizure attacks as compared to people who had no side effects of medications. This is in line with the study.²⁴ This might be due to the patients in this study were taken a Polytherapy and have psychiatric comorbidities which both expose the patients to treatment-related side effects.

This study has an implication for improvement in the health care practice of health professionals while providing care for patients with epilepsy including improvement in communication between health professionals and patients with epilepsy. The other implication of this study goes to decision-makers to consider epilepsy care-related programs and policy. This study also indicates the need for a future prospective study.

Limitations

The main limitations of this study are since the study was based on record review and data was not available for some relevant variables (e.g., Cause of epilepsy, cost of medication, Adherence to medication, mode of diagnosis, and baseline clinical factors like a bacterial infection, viral infection, etc.), the effect of such unmeasured variables was not estimated separately. Some of the variables used like depression were not measured we took the only diagnosis from the patient medical follow-up sheets. In addition, some of the studies used for discussion have a very small sample size which makes the comparison difficult.

Conclusion

The number of seizure attack changes over time could be sufficiently described by a declining linear function, which implies AED were controlling the seizure frequencies. The number of seizure attacks was relatively high at the baseline. The influences of several covariates on the evolution of the number of seizure attacks were identified. Among this age, smoking, khat use, sleep deprivation, head injury, depression, clumsiness, and treatment modality was the determinant factors that determine the change in the number of seizure attack in this study. Results revealed that a reduction in the number of AEDs used led to a considerable improvement in seizure control. We recommend future researchers conduct a multi-center prospective study by including other essential covariates that were not included in this study (e.g., Cause of epilepsy, cost of medication, adherence to medication, mode of diagnosis, and baseline clinical factors like a bacterial infection, viral infection, etc.).

Abbreviations

AED, anti-epileptic drug; AIC, Akaike Information Criteria; AIRR, Adjusted Incidence Rate Ratio; AMSH, Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital; BIC, Bayesian Information Criteria; CI, Confidence Interval; CIRR, Crude Incidence Rate Ratio; CNS, Central Nervous System; EEG, electroencephalographic; GLMM, Generalized Linear Mixed Model; GTCS, generalized tonic-clonic seizures; IQR, interquartile range; LMIC, low and middle-income countries; LRT, Likelihood Ratio Test; NB, negative binomial; NEP, Neuropsychiatric; SD, standard deviation; SE, Status Epilepticus.

Data Sharing Statement

The dataset analyzed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

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Author Contributions

All authors made a significant contribution to the work reported, whether that is in the conception, study design, execution, acquisition of data, analysis, and interpretation, or in all these areas; took part in drafting, revising or critically reviewing the article; gave final approval of the version to be published; have agreed on the journal to which the article has been submitted; and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

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Disclosure

The authors report no conflicts of interest related to this work.

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