

TWO SITES - ONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A practice description on early initiation of highly specialised neurorehabilitation

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Background

The construction of Neuro-Intensiv Stepdown Unit (NISA) started in 2008. NISA provides a personal management program with a combination of intensive care and highly specialized neurorehabilitation for patients with severe acquired brain injury.

The Intensive Clinic (IC)/Silkeborg and The Clinic of early neurological rehabilitation(KTN)/Hammel Neurocenter entered a collaboration, focusing on staff with high expertise in neurorehabilitation treats the patients at the IC.

Occupational- and Physical therapist are professional anchored at the KTN, each day they work at the IC, to give the four NISA patients there personalized rehabilitation sessions.

Aims

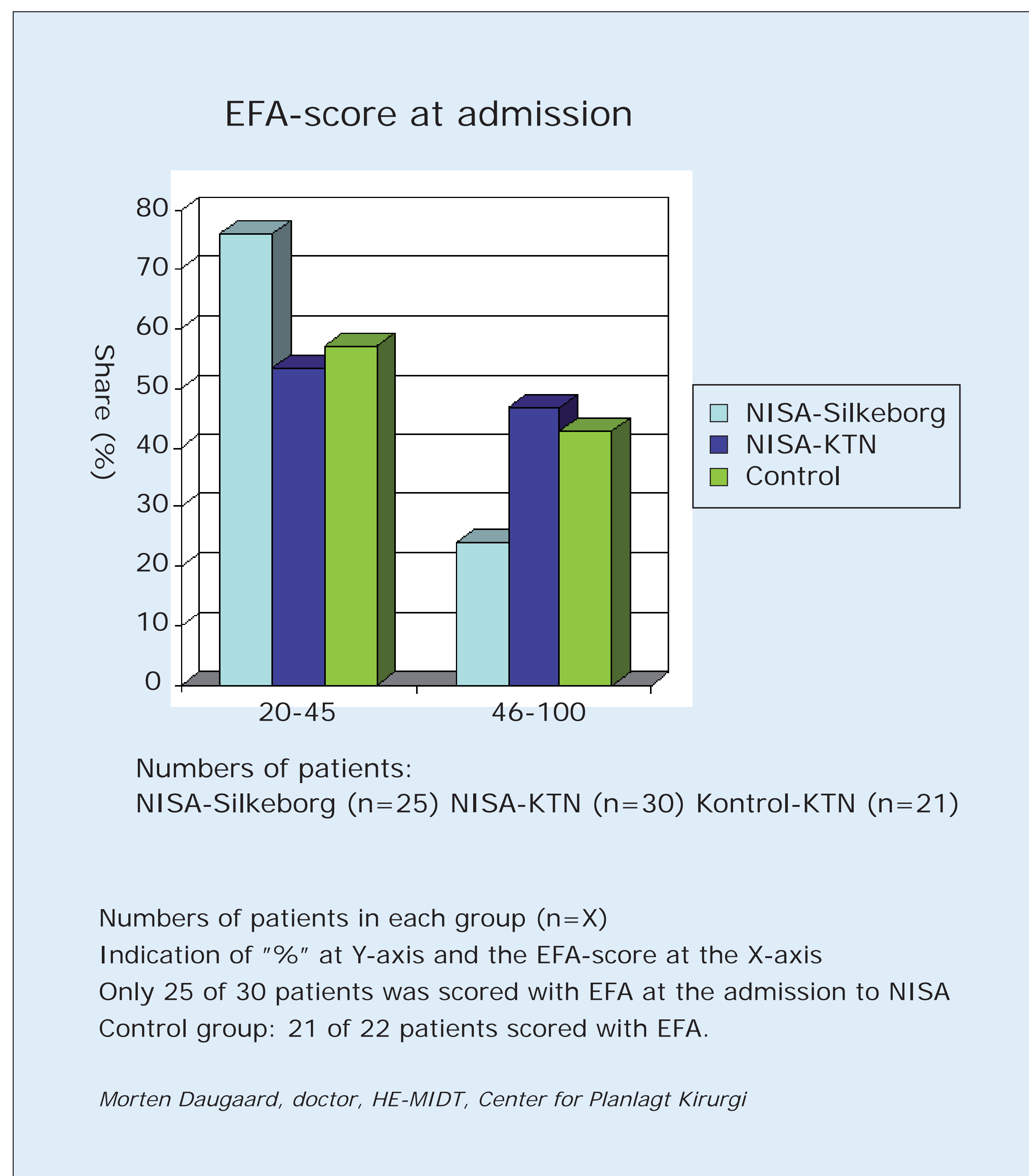
The goal of early initiated of highly specialized neurorehabilitation is to facilitate patients' functional outcome.

When patients are assigned at the IC due to the need of a ventilator, they still receive highly professional rehabilitation.

Methods

Retrospective internal journal audit of patients admitted to NISA from 01.01.12-31.06.12

- 40 patients were admitted in that time of period
- 30 patients were transferred to KTN, for further rehabilitation
- 4 patients were discharged to other clinics at RHN for further rehabilitation
- 4 patients were discharged to home hospitals
- 1 patient passed away
- 3 patients remained hospitalized at NISA after the 30.06.12



Results

Tendency is:

Average hospitalization is 7 days, from the admission at NISA till reported ready to move on.

Patients transferred to KTN from NISA have a similar or slightly higher score at Early Functional Abilities score (EFA) compared with the control group. Reasons could be that patients admitted at NISA have a more severe acquired brain injury, and that they have more complications in the rehabilitation.

Conclusion

The first follow-up study shows, that the collaboration does matter: Patients gain from the early initiated neurorehabilitation. They achieve a higher level of function throughout the rehabilitation.