

# TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH. EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT

A Buscemi<sup>1</sup>, E. Costanzo<sup>2</sup>, G. Alagona<sup>2</sup>, G. Rapisarda<sup>2</sup>, G. Di Maria<sup>2</sup>, A. Attinà<sup>2</sup>, Va. Perciavalle<sup>3</sup>, T. Maci<sup>4</sup>, V. Perciavalle<sup>4</sup>, A. Rapisarda<sup>5</sup>, B. Buscemi<sup>1</sup>, A. Tumino<sup>1</sup>, M. Coco<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cooperativa Horus, Ragusa ; <sup>2</sup>Department of Neurology, Cannizaro Hospital, Catania; <sup>3</sup>Department of Formative Processes, University of Catania; <sup>4</sup>Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences, Section of Physiology, University of Catania; Center Studies of Osteopathy Italian, Catania<sup>5</sup>

## OBJECTIVE

Trigeminal neuralgia (TN) has been defined by the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) "as a sudden usually you brief stabbing unilateral severe recurrent episodes of pain in the distribution of one or will more branches of the trigeminal nerve", that has a significant impact on the quality of life of the individual. The study aims to reduce the pain caused by TN and to improve the quality of life of the patient.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

23 patients were recruited in the provinces of Ragusa and Catania with trigeminal neuralgia, average age of the sample was 47 years. Patients were randomized into two groups: a control group (12 patients) who were administered a drug treatment of the case (Neurologist) and one treated group (11 patients) in which were administered a drug treatment and Osteopathic Manual Treatment (OMT) at the same time.

The study lasted 6 months. The osteopathic treatments were performed according to the following time intervals: the first and second month on a weekly basis, third and fourth month every two weeks, fifth and sixth month on a monthly basis, for a total of 14 OMT. All patients were administered monthly, the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) to evaluate pain and the Quality of Life Scale (QOLS), in three different moments to assess the quality of life, precisely at time zero, at 3 months, 6 months. A follow-up was performed at 9 months.

## RESULTS

In both groups there was a significant improvement with decreased pain intensity and reduction of the frequency of attacks. Integration with the OMT treatment showed compared to only pharmacological treatment a statistically significant reduction in pain ( $p < 0.002$ ), of the attacks, and a significant improvement in the quality of life ( $p < 0.003$ ) in particular reference to the quality of night rest ( $p < 0.0001$ ) and a reduction in the use of medication ( $p < 0.05$ ).

## DISCUSSION

The results were maintained to the follow-up. The OMT has been well tolerated by patients, revealing no side effects, only in one case, a patient had an exacerbation of pain between the second and the third session which lasted two days, but was followed by a significant reduction in pain during the remaining months.

## CONCLUSION

Integrated treatment between allopathic and osteopathic medicine ensures greater results in reducing pain and improving the quality of life.

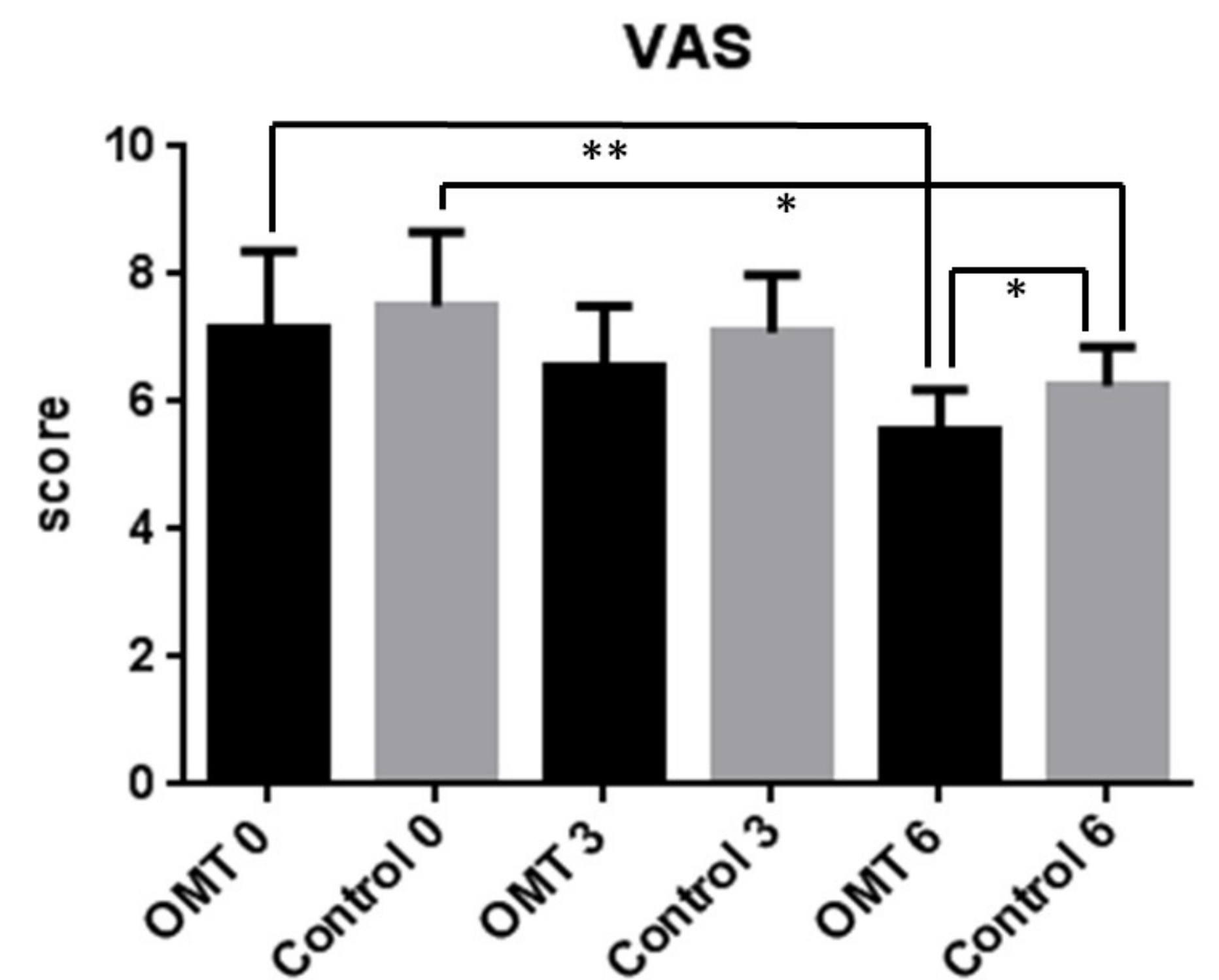
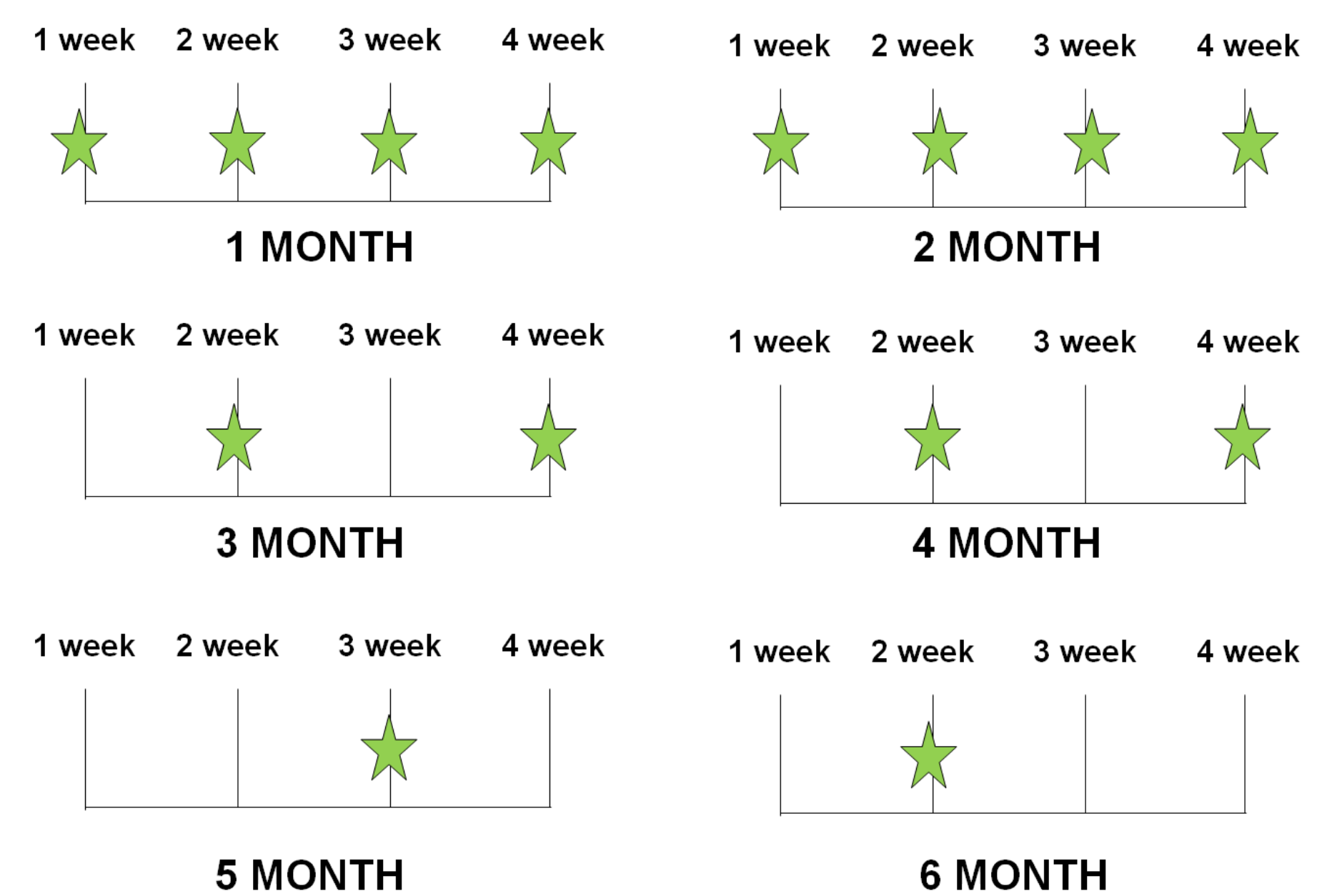
## BIBLIOGRAFIA

Giovanni Grasso, Marcello Passalacqua, Filippo Giambartino, Fabio Cacciola, Gerardo Caruso, Francesco Tomasello. Typical Trigeminal. Neuralgia by an Atypical Compression: Case Report and Review of the Literature. Turkish Neurosurgery 2014, Vol: 24, No: 1, 82-85.

Park CK, Choi HJ, Lee SH, Rhee BA. Trigeminal neuralgia caused by persistent primitive trigeminal artery. J Korean Neurosurg Soc. 2014 Sep;56(3):278-80.

Ma ÄianskytÄ, D JanuÄ3/4is G, Kubilius R, AdomaitienÄ V, Å Äiupokas A. Associations between chronic pain and depressive symptoms in patients with trigeminal neuralgia. Medicina (Kaunas). 2011;47(7):386-92.

## OSTEOPATIC MANUAL TREATMENT (OMT)



BUSCEMI ANDREA DO  
mail: [abuscemi@csdoi.it](mailto:abuscemi@csdoi.it), mobile:3381836296