

THE EFFICACY OF GABAPENTIN THERAPY IN PERSISTENT POST-STROKE HICCUPS. CLINICAL CASE.

Bălănuță Tatiana², Vasilieva Maria¹, Cucusciuc Cristina¹, Manea Diana², Groppa Stanislav¹.

¹ Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of neurology no.2, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
² Institute of Emergency Medicine, Clinical Department of Neurology, Epileptology and Internal Disease, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Introduction:

In the stroke rehabilitation, **hiccups** are estimated in **1,1%** of patients. Intractable hiccups manifest a negative impact on quality of life for patients with stroke [1]. Some scientists reported efficacy of Gabapentin treatment in persistent hiccups [1,2].

Purpose: Highlighting the use of Gabapentin treatment of patient with intractable hiccups, caused by left, paramedian-posterior ischemic stroke of medulla oblongata.

Material and methods: A clinical case of a **47-year-old man**, with **paramedian-posterior ischemic stroke of medulla oblongata**.

Keywords: Ischemic stroke, medulla oblongata, hiccups, Gabapentin.

Results:

The patient was admitted at Emergency Department with persistent **hiccups**, **difficulty swallowing**, **numbness in the left side of the face**, **dizziness**, and **the inability to maintain the equilibrium**.
Medical history: hypertension, chronic erythremia.

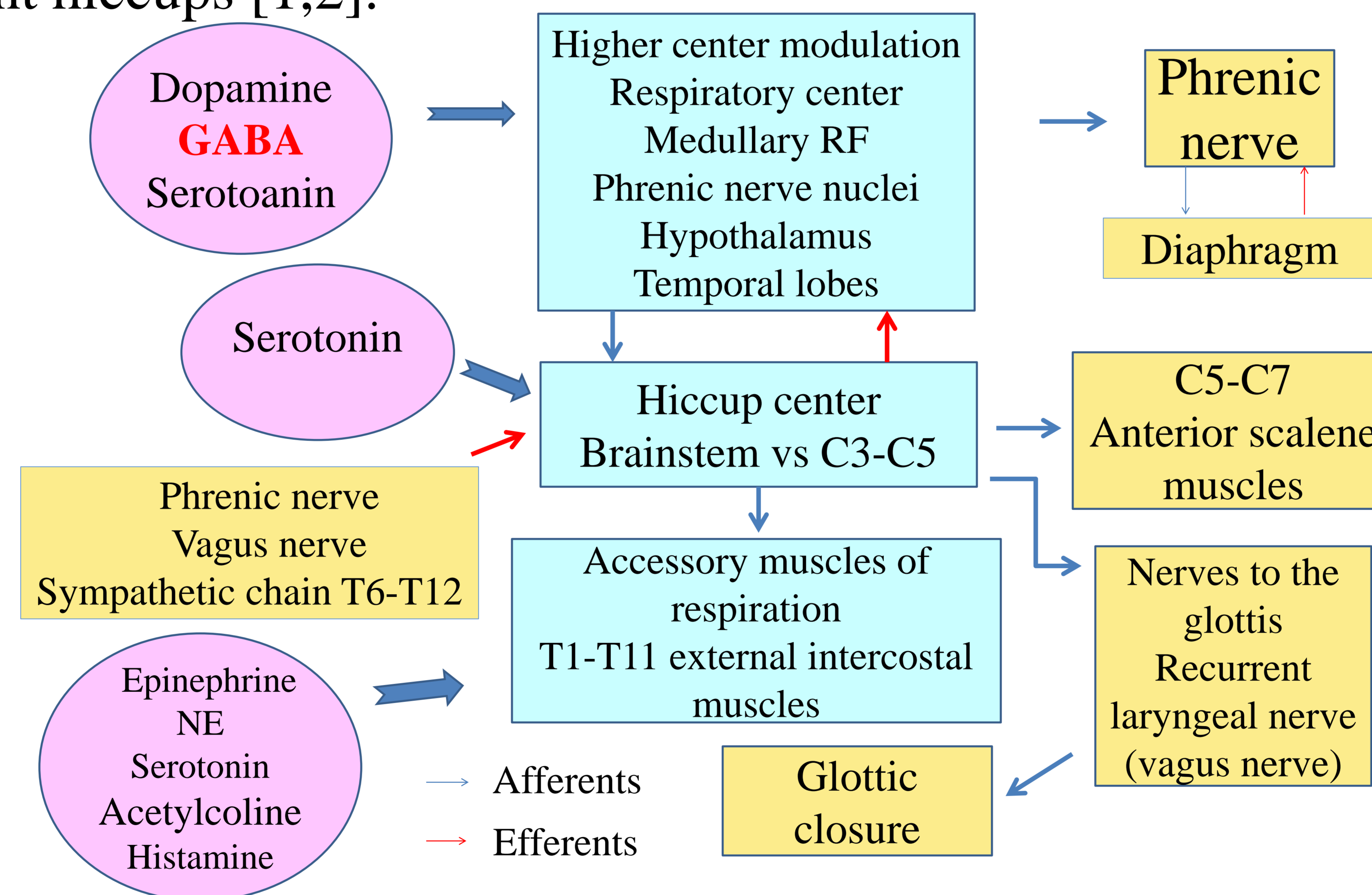
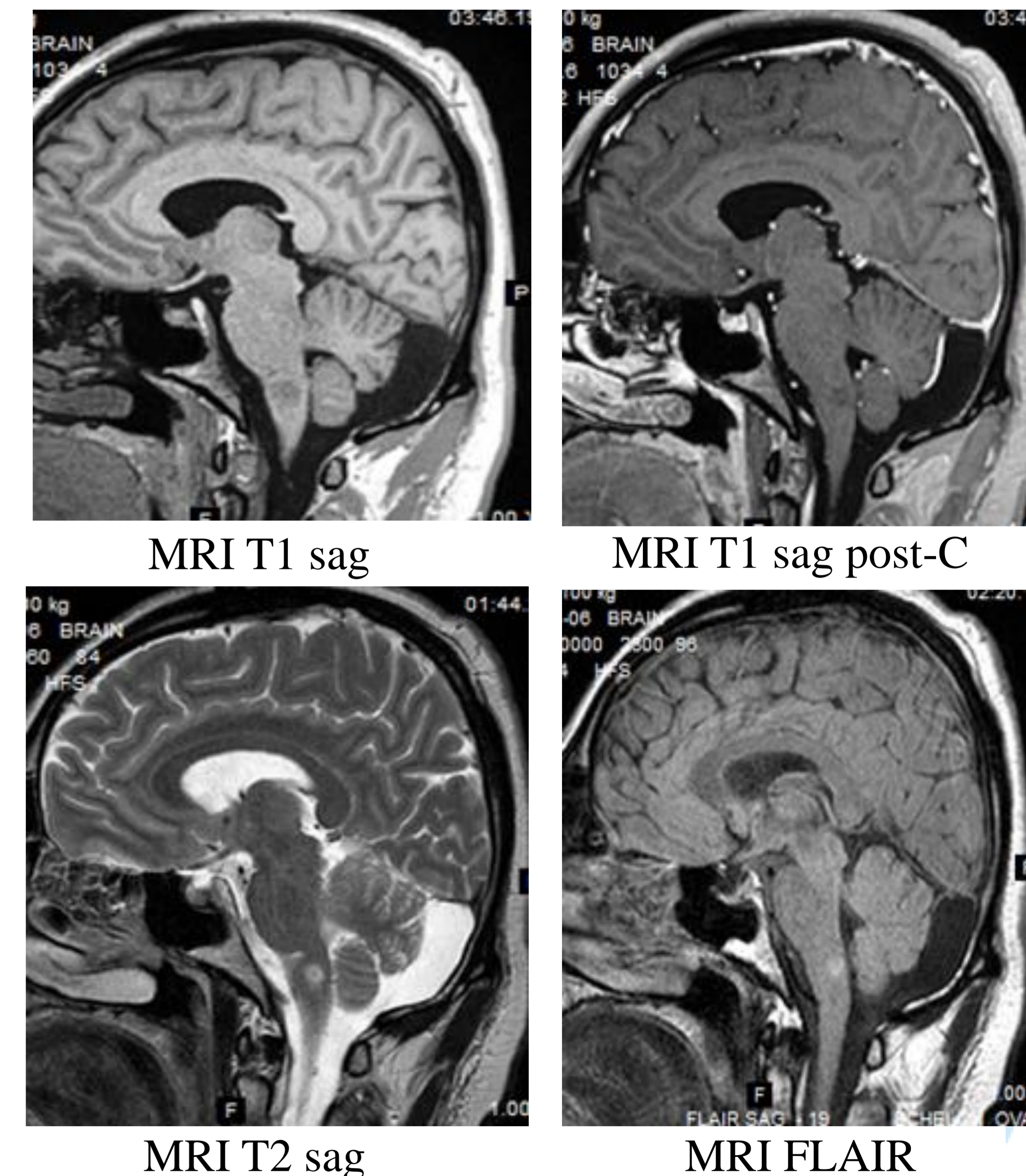


Fig. 1 Hiccup reflex arc with neurotransmitters [3]

Only, Gabapentin treatment of hiccup showed good results.



Conclusions: Our case report demonstrates efficient therapeutic effect of Gabapentin in the treatment of persistent hiccups, in the stroke rehabilitation of patients.

References

1. Got T, Vivas L, Fan C, MacNeill H. Treatment of hiccups in stroke rehabilitation with gabapentin: A case series and focused clinical review. *Top Stroke Rehabil.* 2020 Oct 17:1-6.
2. Moretti R, Torre P, Antonello RM, Ukmar M, Cazzato G, Bava A. Gabapentin as a drug therapy of intractable hiccup because of vascular lesion: a three-year follow up. *Neurologist.* 2004 Mar;10(2):102-6.
3. Nausheen F, Mohsin H, Lakhan SE. Neurotransmitters in hiccups. *Springerplus.* 2016 Aug 17;5(1):1357.