## **International Continence Society**

August 22-26, 1999

29th Annual Meeting

Denver, Colorado USA

Category No.

Video Demonstration

Ref. No 385

## **Abstract Reproduction Form B-1**

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le (type in APITAL TTERS)	THE ROLE OF CYSTOURETHROSCOPY IN THE EVALUATION OF REFRACTORY IDIOPATHIC DETRUSOR INSTABILITY

Aims of Study: To assess the role of diagnostic cystourethroscopy in the evaluation of 290 consecutive women with persistent symptoms of idiopathic detrusor instability (DI), refractory to the conventional pharmacologic management.

Methods: Patients who were unresponsive to any of the conventional medications (alone or in combination) were defined as having "refractory DI". These patients underwent diagnostic cystourethroscopy and sonographic imaging of the urinary tract to exclude intravesical pathology.

Results: Refractory DI was diagnosed in 50 patients (17% of cases with idiopathic DI). Diagnostic cystourethroscopy revealed bladder diverticula in five patients (only one of whom was also diagnosed by sonographic examination) and hypertrophic bladder trabeculations in nine patients. Two others were found to have white lesions of metaplastic squamous epithelium. In all patients urinalysis was normal and cytology negative. There were no complications following the procedure.

**Conclusions:** In the absence of other alarming signs, the value of cystourethroscopy in the evaluation of refractory DI is questionable. Although a considerable number of incidental findings may be found, their impact on further management is negligible.