

PREVALENCE OF URINARY SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN WITH CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN

Hypothesis / aims of study

To assess the prevalence of urinary symptoms in women with chronic pelvic pain

Study design, materials and methods

Was conducted a retrospective study of 600 medical records, revealing the form of a first assessment used during the first consultation of patients with chronic pelvic pain in the outpatient of pelvic pain and endometriosis, in the period 2005 to 2009. The variables analyzed were: age and possible urinary tract symptoms such as urinary incontinence, urgency incontinence, urgency and nocturia.

Results

600 records were analyzed, of which 9 were excluded in the question, age, since it contains this information. The average age of the 591 medical records was 39 years (4.33%). Most women, 49% did not have urinary symptoms, 12.67% had stress urinary incontinence, 11.17% had urgency incontinence, urgency 9.83% and 9.83% had nocturia.

Interpretation of results

In this study, stress urinary incontinence was the second most prevalent urinary symptoms in 12.67% of patients. In a study in 2003, approximately 15% of the women had stress urinary incontinence (1). This condition occurs because the musculoskeletal and visceral structures share the same nervous segmentation. Patterns of muscle imbalance in patients with pelvic pain can exert a force constant of stretching on the muscles of the pelvic floor, leading to laxity of the muscles and consequently resulting in symptoms such as urinary urgency, urgency incontinence, stress urinary incontinence and nocturia. In the present study, about 9.83% reported nocturia, but was unable to report how frequently it occurred. We conducted a similar study with 60 women, 18% of them had nocturia twice or more (1).

Voiding symptoms such as urgency, incontinence, incomplete voiding. All in the absence of evident organic disorders, occur frequently in chronic pelvic pain without obvious cause. These symptoms, suggest the existence of a painful bladder condition in chronic pelvic pain. A (functional) disturbance at the level of the central nervous system, with interaction between sensory messages, arriving from different structures within the pelvis, may be the cause of this condition (1).

Concluding message

Stress urinary incontinence was the most common complaint found in patients with chronic pelvic pain.

References

- Os-Bossagh P.V. et al. Voiding symptoms in chronic pelvic pain. Euro. J. Obste. Ginecol. Reprod. Bio. V.107, p. 185-190, 2003

Specify source of funding or grant	none
Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	Yes
Specify Name of Ethics Committee	Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of São Paulo
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	Yes
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	Yes