RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PATIENT-REPORTED SYMPTOM GRADERS AND URODYNAMIC PARAMETERS IN ASSESSING INCONTINENCE SEVERITY OF FEMALE STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE

Hypothesis / aims of study
This study was designed to clarify whether patients-reported symptom grades coincide with urodynamic parameters in assessing incontinence severity of female stress urinary incontinence.

Study design, materials and methods
55 female patients who have complained of stress urinary incontinence were enrolled for the study. Stamey grades were used to classify their symptom grades, and physical and urodynamic tests were performed to confirm the diagnosis. We analysed the correlation between Stamey grades and stress test, Q-tip test, valsalva leak point pressure(VLPP) and maximal urethral closure pressure(MUCP). Stress tests were classified by 1+(one or two drops of leaking urine from urethral meatus with full bladder) and 2+(much more than 1+) according to the amount of leaking urine when coughing on sitting position.

Results
The median age of patients was 51 years old(range:42-59), and 31(58.2%) were menopausal women. Stamey grades by patient-reported symptoms were grade I in 14(25.5%), grade II in 35(63.6%) and grade III in 6(10.9%) patients. Q-tip tests were positive in 35(63.6%) patients. There were no correlation between Stamey grades and all parameters, however, stress tests were correlated with VLPP(r= -0.633, p<0.01) and MUCP(r= -0.321, p<0.05).

Interpretation of results
Stamey grades were not correlated with several parameters obtained from physical urodynamic tests. However, VLPP and MUCP were correlated with stress test.

Concluding message
It does not seem that Stamey grade system is useful in classifying the symptom grades of female stress urinary incontinence.