

PREVALENCE OF OVERACTIVE BLADDER IN A COHORT OF SPANISH PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM FIBROMYALGIA

Hypothesis / aims of study

It is not known the prevalence of Overactive Bladder Syndrome (OAB) in Fibromyalgia's patients in Spain. Also, it is not well characterized the possible relation within OAB and anthropometric, clinical and pharmacological data of Fibromyalgia patients.

Study design, materials and methods

This study was a prospective, concurrent one in which 64 consecutive women patients visited in a Specialized Care Unit of Fibromyalgia at an University Hospital of Spain were enrolled. To all patients the Spanish Version of the Bladder Control Self-Assessment Questionnaire

(B-SAQ): "Cuestionario de Autoevaluación del Control de la Vejiga (CACV)" (1) was applied and epidemiological, anthropometric, clinical and pharmacological data were recorded through a clinical interview and physical exam and a review of medical charts. All patients gave a signed informed consent to participate in the study. The patient fulfilled the American College of Rheumatology Classification Criteria for Fibromyalgia (2). Co-morbidities were assessed. And, the Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire (FIQ) (3) an instrument to assess clinical severity of the disease was applied. The data were statistically analyzed through the SPSS tool.

Results

64 women participated in the survey. Age: 52,2+/-10,8 years (Mean +/- SD); Body Mass Index: 29,2+/-4,2; Patients menopausal: 38 (59%); Patients nulliparous: 21 (33%); Presence of a psychiatric disease: 28 (44%); History of neurological disease: 1 (1,5%); Presence of cardiopathy: 1 (1,5%); Diabetes Mellitus: 3 (4,6%); Arterial Hypertension: 8 (12%); Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire scores, (range 0-100) were: 71,8+/- 15,4. (A score equal or more than 70 is considered a severe case). B-SAQ Questionnaire, scores (equal or more than 6 were considered positive for the syndrome): 33 patients (50,7%) had scores equal or over 6. All the patients were treated with psicotropic drugs: Antidepressants and/or ansiolitics or analgesics. No correlations were found within: scores of B-SAQ and FIQ scores (r 0,046); B-SAQ scores and age (r 0,008); B-SAQ and nulliparity (0,03). When possible associations within high scores on FIQ (>70) and scores of B-SAQ were investigated no statistically significant association were found.

Interpretation of results

This is a survey carried out at an hospital setting with patients referred to an Specialized Unit of Fibromyalgia which "a priori" implies that the patients had an in overall a worse clinical condition that "normal" fibromyalgia's patients. The prevalence of the OAB was of 50,7% more than twice the general prevalence among Spaniard population and a similar figure found in other studies carried out in other countries in Fibromyalgia patients (1). No associations were found within anthropometric and clinical variables and the presence or absence of OAB measured through the Spanish version of the B-SAQ (CACV-Q). At our knowledge, this one is the first study that reveals the importance of the OAB in Spaniards' Fibromyalgia women. Surprisingly, we did not find association between presence or absence of OAB and scores of a questionnaire of impact of the Fibromyalgia such as FIQ. These data suggests that the presence of OAB is independent of the severity of the FM. The use of drugs that could modulate OAB as psicotropics was found in all the patients.

Concluding message

The prevalence of Overactive Bladder Syndrome measured through the Spanish version of Bladder control Self-Assessment Questionnaire was of 50,7%, in a cohort of Spaniard women suffering from Fibromyalgia, which were attended at a Specialized Unit of Fibromyalgia. No associations were found among anthropometric, clinical, gynecological variables, B-SAQ - Questionnaire scores and impact of the Fibromyalgia assessed through Fibromyalgia. Further studies are necessary to asses the precise possible association between Overactive Bladder Syndrome and Fibromyalgia

References

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2. Wolfe T, Smythe HA, Yunus MB, Bennett RM, Bombardier C, Goldenberg DL et al. .The American College of Rheumatology criteria for the classification of Fibromyalgia. Arthritis Rheum 1990; 33: 160-172 .
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Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	Yes

<i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i>	Ethic Committee of Hospital del Mar. barcelona. Spain
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes