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Serag H¹

1. Addenbrooke's Hospital

IS THE JOINT STATEMENT ON MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR URODYNAMIC PRACTICE IN THE UK REASONABLE?

Hypothesis / aims of study

In light of the recently published Joint statement on minimum standards for urodynamic practice in the UK, we undertook an audit to examine our urodynamics service; in particular, we examined the number of procedures and referral pattern within the department.

Study design, materials and methods

All patients in the urology department who were referred for urodynamics from 1st January 2008 upto 1st October 2009 were audited. We grouped patients on indication, findings, management plan and made an attempt to determine if the urodynamics were useful and if referral information was sufficient.

Results

129 tests were performed during that period. In almost 75%, the indication correlated with findings. The management was changed after performing the test in 60% while in 31% there was no change. In 9% we were unable to comment. 84% of referrals were considered appropriate while 16% were deemed inappropriate.

Interpretation of results

The results showed that most of the referrals were appropriate however a number was not, a considerable percentage of tests performed were followed by a change in management, and the results were correlated with indication in ¾ of tests performed.

Concluding message

The Joint statement on minimum standards for urodynamic practice in UK were recently published. Our audit showed that our urodynamic tests were deemed a useful test in the majority of patients despite occasionally receiving inappropriate referrals or referrals with insufficient information. Despite providing an essential service, our department fell short in the total numbers required for practice according to the minimum standards document. Curiously however, individual practitioners performed sufficient numbers to maintain expertise according to these standards.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	NONE
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	NONE