

DOES URINARY INCONTINENCE PLAY A ROLE ON SEXUAL SATISFACTION OF MIDDLE AGE BRAZILIAN WOMEN?

Hypothesis / aims of study

A recent study, in Brazilian population, demonstrates that 8.2% of women complains about sexual desire; 26.6% does not have sexual orgasm; 26.6% have difficulties in excitation and 17.8% present dyspareunia. The present study presents a preliminary report of the role of urinary incontinence (UI) in the sexual satisfaction of middle age Brazilian women, using a validated questionnaire (2).

Study design, materials and methods

This is a preliminary report of a prospective study initiated in June 2010. We evaluated urinary incontinent patients in the Female Urology and Voiding Dysfunction section at Federal University of Sao Paulo and continent women who voluntarily wanted to take part of the study. All women filled out an informed consent. All patients answered 2 questionnaires: ICIQ short form to evaluate urinary symptoms and FSQ (Female Sexual Quotient) to evaluate sexual function. The FSQ is self-answered questionnaire validated in the Brazilian population, which evaluate all phases of sexual cycles, including: sexual desire, preliminary moments, personal excitation, sexual comfort and sexual satisfaction. It can be interpreted using the total score, which shows the general sexual satisfaction/performance of women. Concomitant, as it includes all phases of sexual response cycles it is a good instrument to evaluate which aspects of sexual response are in difficult.

Results

Table 1. Comparison between age, BMI, FSQ and ICIQ in incontinent and continent group

	Incontinent group (n=28)	Control group (n=10)	Test t
Age	57,5±13,72	53,9±7,24	p=0,218
BMI	28,45±5,13	25,44±4,22	p=0.214
FSQ	42,07±36,37*	71,8±17,97**	p=0.035
ICIQ	14,85±3,8	0	p> 0.001

* Classified as unfavorable ** good classified

Table 3. Median scores in the different domains of the FSQ in continent and incontinent group

FSQ Domains	Incontinent group (n=28)	Control group (n=10)
1. Sexual Interest	1.89±1.79	3.1±1.19
2. Sexual Interest	1.92±2.03	4.1±0.99
3. Preliminary	2.21±2.23	4.2±1.31
4. Line with partner	2.14±2.04	3.8±0.14
5. Line with partner	1.92±2.20	3.9±0.14
6. Comfort	2.21±2.25	3.4±1.78
7. Comfort	2.57±1.83	3.6±1.70
8. Sexual Interest	1.85±1.84	3.6±1.69
9. Orgasm and satisfaction	2.03±1.84	3.2±1.64
10. Orgasm and satisfaction	1.75±1.83	3.4±1.66

Interpretation of results

Women with urinary incontinence may present sexual dysfunction. In general, they do not report it spontaneously (3). The present study is being conducted to evaluate different aspects of sexual dysfunction in women suffering from UI. We have notice a great impact of UI on all domain of sexual evaluation, including sexual interest, Comfort during sexual act and orgasm.

Concluding message

The general sexual satisfaction is worse in Brazilian Incontinent women than in their counterparts. All phases of sexual response have unfavorable scores in incontinent women, mainly in the domain that represents the capacity of having orgasm and satisfaction. As these women get older the sexual satisfaction get worst, particularly in those suffering from stress and mixed incontinence.

References

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3. Aslan G, Köseoglu H, Sadik Ö, Gimen S, Cihan A, Esen A. Sexual function in woman with urinary incontinence. International Journal of Impotence research. 2005; 17(1): 248-251.

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<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	Yes
<i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i>	ethics committee of the Federal University of São Paulo
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes