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## **BOTULINUM TOXIN A (BOTOX®) FOR “UNSOLVABLE” CATHETER RELATED PROBLEMS**

### Hypothesis / aims of study

In patients with long term catheters, problems with bypassing, blocking and urethral incontinence are common and result in considerable distress to patients and cost to the health service. We have used intra-detrusor Botox® to manage catheter related problems secondary to detrusor overactivity when anticholinergics and conservative measures have failed.

### Study design, materials and methods

Between 2006 – 2010, 14 patients with intractable catheter related problems received intra-detrusor Botox®. All patients had 300 units Botox® injected by flexible cystoscopy in a routine manner. Many of the patients that had a good symptomatic response elected to have repeat Botox injections.

### Results

Patients (4 male, 10 female) had a mean age of 57 years (range 27 – 78). The indications for long term catheterisation were; chronic retention (4), MS (5), Parkinson's disease (2) pelvic radiotherapy (1) and other neurogenic dysfunction (2). Nine patients had suprapubic catheters and 5 urethral catheters.

There were no serious post-operative complications. 10 patients reported their catheter problems had significantly improved and requested repeat injections. To date, 8 patients have had repeat injections; 1 has had 8 repeat injections, 3 have had 4, 1 has had 3, 3 have had 2. The mean interval between repeat injections was 7 months

### Interpretation of results

Intra-detrusor Botox® injections are a safe and effective management option for patients with intractable catheter bypassing / blocking. The benefit is sustained and without serious complications.

### Concluding message

In addition to improving quality of life, there are potential cost savings from the use of intradetrusor botox in patients with 'unsolvable' catheter related problems.

<b><i>Specify source of funding or grant</i></b>	<b>nil</b>
<b><i>Is this a clinical trial?</i></b>	<b>No</b>
<b><i>What were the subjects in the study?</i></b>	<b>HUMAN</b>
<b><i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i></b>	<b>No</b>
<b><i>This study did not require ethics committee approval because</i></b>	<b>Retrospective review</b>
<b><i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i></b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b><i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i></b>	<b>Yes</b>