QUALITY OF LIFE AND LATE URINARY MORBIDITY IN PATIENTS SUBMITTED TO PROSTATIC BRACHYTHERAPY FOR LOCALIZED PROSTATE CANCER

Hypothesis / aims of study
Brachytherapy is a valid treatment option for localized prostate cancer, frequently associated with low morbidity and good health related quality of life (HR-QoL) levels. The HR-QoL should be a health concern for doctors and patients in clinical decisions. There are few randomized studies relating the late urinary morbidity and HR-QoL in patients submitted to prostatic brachytherapy. The aims of this study are: study the late urinary morbidity and HR-QoL in patients submitted to prostatic brachytherapy; assess the impact of pre-treatment IPSS score in the development of urinary morbidity; assess and characterize late urinary morbidity and HR-QoL in patients submitted to prostatic brachytherapy; assess the impact of urinary incontinence in HR-QoL and patient global satisfaction.

Study design, materials and methods
All patients submitted to prostatic brachytherapy in a single urology department, between October 2003 and October 2013 were asked to answer the EPIC, AUA-SS and ICIQ-SF questionnaires. The results were treated in function of pre-treatment IPSS score, patient’s age and time since the brachytherapy date.

Results
From 410 patients, 11 died and 133 (32.4%) validly answered to the questionnaires. The median follow-up was 4.32 years (SD=2.5 years). The development of specific low urinary tract symptoms was independent of pre-treatment IPSS score. Nocturia was the main developed symptom. 30.82% of patients suffer from some degree of urinary incontinence, but only 13 patients (9.77%) said it was a severe problem. The development of urinary incontinence has an important impact on global satisfaction. There was a possible relation between pre-treatment IPSS score and the development of LUTS, urinary incontinence and urinary bother.

Interpretation of results
The presence of pre-treatment LUTS do not significantly influence the development of specific LUTS but has an impact in global urinary morbidity development in patients submitted to prostatic brachytherapy; The most prevalent symptom was nocturia; Incontinence appears to be a sub estimated problem and has an important impact in patients satisfaction and HR-QoL; The development of late urinary morbidity is independent of patients age at time of brachytherapy.

Concluding message
Brachytherapy patients satisfaction and HR-QoL are high and it is a well-accepted treatment.

References

Disclosures
Funding: NONE Clinical Trial: No Subjects: HUMAN Ethics Committee: Comissão de Ética do Hospital de São José Helsinki not Req’d: It is not a clinical trial Informed Consent: Yes