

EFFECT OF OBESITY ON THE PREVALENCE AND IMPACT OF PELVIC FLOOR DISORDERS IN WOMEN AWAITING BARIATRIC SURGERY

Hypothesis / aims of study

Obesity is one of the risk factors for pelvic floor dysfunction (PFD) in females. However studies showed association with some types of PFD such as urinary incontinence but not or all conditions of PFD. Our study aims to assess the prevalence, severity, and the quality of life (QOL) effect of PFD in obese women awaiting bariatric surgery at a university hospital in comparison to non-obese controls.

Study design, materials and methods

79 Obese women (BMI > 30kg/m²) awaiting bariatric surgery and matched group (by age, parity, and number of vaginal delivery) of 87 of non-obese women were recruited. All women were interviewee and completed 3 validated specific and quality of life (QoL) questionnaires about PFD (ICIQ-UI, short forms of PFDI, and short form of PFIQ-7). No physical examination was done for any of the two groups. However, any related data were either retrieved or taken from the participants

Results

The characteristics of obese women (BMI: 39+/- 7) and non-obese women (BMI: 23+/-4), were similar for most known risk factors for PFD (Table 1). The prevalence of stress urinary incontinence was significantly higher in women within obese group. The other conditions of PFD (including urgency, pelvic organ prolapse, and decal incontinence) were not different between the two groups. Regarding, the scores for the 3 QoL questionnaires, ICIQ-UI was significantly higher (15+/-3 vs. 6+/-3; P<0.05), but for PFDI or PFIQ short forms did not reach to a significant difference (43+/-4 vs. 39+/- 3; 37+/- 3 vs. 30+/-4; respectively).

Interpretation of results

The prevalence of SUI in women awaiting bariatric surgery is higher than non-obese women and cause significantly higher score of ICIQ-UI score.

Concluding message

Obesity is associated with pelvic floor disorders in females.

Characteristics of the study sample

Characteristics	Obese (n=79)	Non-obese (n=87)	P Value
Age	36 (+/- 11.3)	35.9 (+/- 11.1)	N.S
Parity	2.62	2.62	N.S
Vaginal Delivery	2.1	2.1	N.S
Chronic lung diseases	1 (1.3%)	0	N.S
Previous Hysterectomy	2 (2.5%)	1 (1.1%)	N.S
Postmenopausal	5 (6.3%)	9 (10.3%)	N.S

Prevalence of PFD in the study sample

Type of PFD	Obese (n=79)	Non-obese (n=87)	P value
Stress U. Incontinence	36 (45.6%)	24 (27.6%)	0.02
Urgency	28 (35.4%)	24 (27.6%)	0.28
Pelvic Organ Prolapse	20 (25.3%)	23 (26.4%)	0.7
Fecal Incontinence	16 (20.3%)	20 (23%)	0.6

References

1. I. Urogynecol J. 2009(20):289-294.
2. Surgery for Obesity and Related Diseases. 2009 (5):411-415
3. Diseases of the Colon and Rectum. 2007 (50): 2096-2103

Disclosures

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