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Blaivas J<sup>1</sup>, Policastro L<sup>2</sup>, O'Boyle A L<sup>3</sup>, Chaikin D<sup>4</sup>, Hirsch Z M<sup>5</sup>

1. Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University, 2. SUNY Downstate Medical College, 3. Walter Reed National Military Center, 4. Morristown Memorial Hospital, 5. Institute for Bladder and Prostate Research

# UTILITY OF BLADDER DIARIES CONTAINING FREQUENCY VOLUME CHARTS FOR WOMEN

# Hypothesis / aims of study

For research purposes, most authorities agree that it is necessary to measure the time and amount of each void for at least a 24h period using a frequency volume chart (FVC). However in clinical practice, the FVC is often omitted. Certain diagnoses - polyuria (P), oliguria (O), nocturnal polyuria (NP), and small/large bladder capacity (SBC, LBC) - can only be diagnosed by a FVC. The purpose of this study is to estimate the prevalence of these conditions based on the FVC.

### Study design, materials and methods

This is a retrospective multicenter observational study of consecutive women evaluated for lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) who completed a 24h bladder diary. When multiple diaries were completed, the earliest was used. There were no other exclusions. The following data was recorded for each patient: maximum voided volume (MVV), 24 hour voided volume (24HV), and nocturnal polyuria index (NPi). Corresponding diagnoses were derived as follows: O (24HV < 1L); normal (24HV=1-3 L); P (24HV > 3 L); NP (NPi > .33); SBC (MVV <150 mL); LBC (MVV > 600 mL).

# **Results**

There were 643 patients, 407 male and 236 female. Prevalence of FVC-derived conditions in women is seen in table 1.

# Table

Prevalence of conditions derived from the FVC

	Prevalence ( <i>n</i> =643)	<b>in females</b> ( <i>n</i> =236)
Polyuria	9%	7%
Oliguria	21%	27%
Small capacity bladder	7%	7%
Large capacity bladder	5%	4%
Nocturnal polyuria	20%	18%

### Interpretation of results

P, O, NP, LBC and SBC are not uncommon in patients with LUTS; over a third of women had either O or P and 18% had NP. Although this data may not be directly transferable to the general population, the concept is sound, i.e. that without measurement of voided volumes during a FVC it is difficult or impossible to diagnose these conditions.

### Concluding message

Frequency voiding charts provide necessary information for the proper diagnosis and treatment of patients with LUTS.

### **Disclosures**

Funding: Institute for Bladder and Prostate Research Clinical Trial: No Subjects: HUMAN Ethics Committee: Western IRB approved Helsinki: Yes Informed Consent: No

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