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Author(s):

R Sakakibara, T Uchiyama, T Hattori and *T Yamanishi

Double Spacing

Institution
City
CountryDepartment of Neurology and *Urology
Chiba University, Japan

Double Spacing

Title (type in
CAPITAL
LETTERS)URINARY DYSFUNCTION
IN PURE AUTONOMIC FAILURE

Objectives – Urinary dysfunction is known to occur in pure autonomic failure (PAF), but no report is available of urodynamic investigation. We performed micturitional histories and urodynamic studies on 6 patients with PAF.

Methods – Detailed questionnaire of urinary symptoms were obtained from 6 patients with PAF [5 male, 1 female, mean age of onset is 59 (46-66) years and the duration 8 (3-18) years]. Urodynamic studies consisted of measurement of post-micturition residuals, urethral pressure profilometry, EMG cystometry and bethanechol test.

Results – All patients had urinary symptoms including nocturnal urinary frequency in 6, sensation of urgency in 5, voiding difficulty in 5 and urinary incontinence in 2 (urge type in 1, stress type in 1). Urodynamic studies showed post-micturition residuals in 2 patients (320 ml, 126 ml), small bladder capacities in 2, detrusor hyperreflexia in 4, low compliance bladder in 2, detrusor-external sphincter dyssynergia in 1 and neurogenic sphincter EMG in 3. No patients had low urethral closure pressure. Bethanechol test showed denervation supersensitivity of the bladder in 2.

Conclusion – The results indicate that urinary dysfunction is a common feature in patients with PAF. Not only peripheral but also central types of abnormalities could be responsible for the urinary dysfunction in PAF.