

**Abstract Reproduction Form B-1**

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City
Country**Department of Urology, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan
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CAPITAL
LETTERS)**PREVALENCE OF STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE AND BLADDER
IRRITATIVE SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN : A COMMUNITY BASED STUDY****AIMS OF STUDY**

The interest has been growing in the investigation and management of lower urinary tract symptoms, their prevalence in the general population has so far been based on the estimates made in the selected groups in Korea. This study was to determine the prevalence of stress urinary incontinence (SUI) and bladder irritative symptoms of women in rural region through a community based survey. Also we investigated the influence of age, parity, oral contraception, smoking, menopause and obesity on the prevalence of SUI.

METHODS

A questionnaire survey was performed in a sample of randomly selected 1162 women aged 30 years and over, in 31 villages in the town of Jeong-Eup, Korea. The trained field workers visited every home and interviewed every eligible individual with questionnaires, which included data on SUI, bladder irritative symptoms, quality of life, reproductive and menstrual history, and use of oral contraceptives. Among 1162 women, 857 responded, and 827 questionnaires were available for analysis. The response rate was 73.5%. The prevalence of SUI was defined as the proportion of the women in the population surveyed who experienced SUI at least twice a week. We defined diurnal frequency as the episodes of voiding again within 2 hours after initial voiding in the series of 5 consecutive voidings during one month period. The urgency was defined as if she found it difficult to hold urination, once or more in the series of 5 consecutive voidings and nocturia 2 times or more per night.

RESULTS

The prevalence rate of SUI was 20.4%. Only 7(4.1%) women carried a sanitary towel or diaper as protection against leakage. The prevalence of SUI among age groups revealed no significant difference. Statistically significant correlation was noted between obesity and the prevalence of SUI. Diurnal frequency was recorded by 204 women (45.4%); 171 (20.6%) experienced this symptom more than 3 times. Urgency was reported by 268 women (32.4%) and 63 (7.6%) were always troubled by this symptom. Nocturia 3 times or more every night was recorded by 341 women (42.2%) and 83 (10.0%) had nocturia 5 times or more. The severity of this symptom increased significantly with age.

CONCLUSIONS

The prevalence of SUI and irritative symptoms in this rural area in Korea is similar to the previous studies performed in other countries (1,2) but the rate of nocturia is much higher in this study. Although SUI and bladder irritative symptoms are relatively common in this community, people who are seeking for care of these symptoms are few. Therefore it is very important to educate the public and promote awareness of this medical problem in this community.



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