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Title (type in CAPITAL LETTERS, leave one blank line before the text)

ULTRASONIC BLADDER WEIGHT DOES NOT CORRELATE TO THE GRADE OF URINARY TRACT OBSTRUCTION IN BPH PATIENTS.

Aims of Study: It is known that hypertrophy of the bladder is one of the consequences of urinary obstruction due to prostate increase ¹. The bladder weight detected by ultrasound pretend to estimate obstruction, correlating these two factors in a non-invasive way ^{2,3}. The aim of this study is to evaluate bladder weight comparing the findings to urodynamic parameters of obstruction and patient characteristics. The results pretend to evaluate the possible use of bladder weight estimation as a non-invasive way to identify obstruction in male patients.

Methods: Fifty male patients, 45 to 85 years old, with L.U.T.S. and without neurogenic diseases were enrolled in this study. No drug therapy for Benigh Prostatic Hypertrophy was used in the last 4 months. The patients answered the I.P.S.S. and Quality of Life (Q.O.L.) questionnaires, and were all submitted to cistometry and pressure-flow studies. The grade of urinary obstruction was classified according to Schafer's nomogram. Transabdominal ultasonography with estimation of the prostate weight (Pw) and bladder weight (Bw) was done according to Watanabe formula 2 . Four groups were defined. Group 1: 9 patients with Bw < 30g.; Group 2: 14 patients, 30g. Bw < 50g.; Group 3: 13 patients, 50g. Bw < 70g.; Group 4: 14 patients, Bw 70g. A comparison of the ages, urodynamic parameters, I.P.S.S and Q.O.L. index to the groups were submitted to statistical analysis, $\alpha \approx 5\%$.

Results.

All the results are enclosed in table 1.

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