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CHLORPACTIN INSTILLATION RELEASES CALCITONIN GENE-RELATED PEPTIDE IN INTERSTITIAL CYSTITIS (IC) PATIENTS.

<u>Aims of Study</u> Chlorpactin has been used to treat IC, though little is known about its mechanism. We measured CGRP levels in urine, bladder wash, and lavage fluids in IC patients undergoing chlorpactin treatment.

<u>Methods</u> Eight women ages 34-78 were included in this trial. Following urine collection, hydrodistention of the bladder under 80-100cm H2O pressure was carried out. An aliquot of fluid drained following the hydrodistention was obtained. One L chlorpactin (0.4%) was instilled under 10ml H_2O pressure The bladder was then washed with 50cc sterile saline x2, and both were collected for analysis. CGRP was extracted and measured by RIA.

<u>Results</u> CGRP in the pre- and post-hydrodistention samples was very low, but was highly elevated after chlorpactin treatment. Even in this small sample, levels of CRGP (pg/ml) increased from prehydrodistention to the first chlorpactin wash (p=0.16) and decreased again between the first and second post-chlorpactin was (p=0.21).



<u>Conclusions</u> Chlorpactin may act by degranulating nociceptive nerve endings in the bladder, which is consistent with the neuro-inflammatory hypothesis for IC.

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