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PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF PATIENTS' PERCEPTION OF URODYNAMICS STUDY IN RELATIONSHIP TO THEIR URINARY SYMPTOMS

Aims of Study

Urodynamic study is used to investigate the cause of urinary symptoms. It is an invasive test but to the patient it can be an embarrassing test. During the procedure, we try to correlate their urinary symptoms with the urodynamics. We however do not have much information about how patients perceive this test and whether how accurately the investigation does mirror their urinary symptoms. The aim of the study was to assess patients' experience of urodynamics studies in relationship to their symptoms and their satisfaction following this test

Methods

Ethical committee approval was obtained before starting the study. The study was a prospective study. All patients undergoing conventional urodynamics and video urodynamics were recruited prospectively for the study. All patients were provided information about the study and written consent taken. Patients were provided with written and verbal information about the actual urodynamics procedure. After the investigation, all patients were given questionnaires along with a stamp address envelope to send the questionnaires back in. The study sample was one hundred patients. The procedure was carried out in a dedicated room and the tests were carried out by female personnel.

Results

Our response rate was 90%. We present our questionnaire and discuss in detail our results. 98% of patients found the investigation embarrassing but were overall very highly satisfied with the study. All patients would have the test repeated if indicated and stated that they would be able to reassure a friend having urodynamic studies. 92% did state that the urodynamics studies mimicked their symptoms correctly whilst 8% felt that urodynamic study did not reflect their symptoms. The written information and verbal information given prior to urodynamics studies were also rated highly satisfactory. Just fewer than 50% of patients felt that they would have been less anxious if the written information had not been enclosed with their appointments. This written information made them more anxious.

Conclusions

Despite our initial suspicion, our study shows that urodynamic studies are well tolerated by patients. Majority of them felt that the urodynamics study did reflect accurately their urinary symptoms. They were happy to have the test repeated if indicated and would be able to reassure a friend having the procedure.