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THE DISTRIBUTION OF PELVIC ORGAN SUPPORT IN KOREA POPULATION WOMEN

Hypothesis / aims of study
To our knowledge, there are several published data on the prevalence of prolapse in a broader age range of women in the general population. However these studies only apply to white women and there was no published data on Asia race. The aim of our study was to apply the Pelvic Organ Prolapse staging system to women seen for gynecologic care to generate normative data for Korea population women.

Study design, materials and methods
This was an observational study. The study population considered of 110 women aged 23 to 62 years old who were seen for annual Papanicolau test and pelvic examination. Pregnant patients or patients within 6 weeks postpartum were not recruited. All pelvic examinations were performed by a single examiner with the subject placed in the dorsal lithotomy position by means of pelvic examination chair. Measurements were made during maximum Valsalva maneuver by means of a wooden cotton swab marked in 1-cm increments.

Results
The subjects had a mean parity of 2.1(range 0-4) and a mean body mass index of $22.5 kg/m^2$(16-30). The overall distribution of pelvic organ prolpase quantification system stages was as follows: stage 0, 38.1%; stage 1, 45.5%; stage 2, 15.5%; and stage 3, 0.9%. No subjects examined had pelvic organ prolapse quantification system stage 4 prolpase. Mean scores that described the position of the cervix, the position of the posterior fornix, and the total vaginal length were as follows: C: -5.1, D: -6.8, and tvl: 7.1cm.

Table 1 Site-specific points of Pelvic Organ Prolapse staging system

Site	Enrollment	20-29 y	30-39 y	40-49 y	> 50 y
Aa	-2.4±0.9	-2.7	-2.6	-2.4	-2.0
Ba	-2.4±0.8	-2.7	-2.7	-2.4	-2.1
C	-5.1±0.7	-5.3	-5.4	-4.8	-5.2
Gh	2.4±0.7	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.4
Pb	2.9±0.5	3.0	2.7	3.0	2.9
Tvl	7.1±0.8	7.0	7.3	7.1	7.1
Ap	-2.5±0.8	-2.8	-2.7	-2.4	-2.3
Bp	-2.5±0.8	-2.8	-2.7	-2.4	-2.4
D	-6.8±0.7	-6.7	-7	-6.7	-6.8

Table 2 Distribution of subjects in each site according to POP-Q system

Site	Stage 0	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Anterior vagina	64(58.2%)	31(28.2%)	14(12.7%)	1(0.9%)	110(100%)
Vaginal apex	69(62.7%)	41((37.3%)	0	0	110(100%)
Posterior vagina	65(59.1%)	34(30.9%)	11(10.0%)	0	110(100%)
Total	42(38.1%)	50(45.5%)	17(15.5%)	1(0.9%)	110(100%)

Interpretation of results
 Vaginal size of Korea population women is differs from that of white population women.

Concluding message
We are hopeful that the normative data presented in this study may provide a useful reference for physicians as they evaluate prolapse and attempt to restore "normal" pelvic anatomy.