

## A PILOT STUDY ON TAMSULOSINE IN THE TREATMENT OF DRY OVERACTIVE BLADDER SYMPTOMS

### Hypothesis / aims of study

Tamsulosine is suggested in the therapy of the overactive bladder. Empirically tamsulosine was found efficient in the therapy of dysfunctional voiding.

### Study design, materials and methods

From January 2002 till December 2003 we treated 26 women with symptoms of overactive bladder with tamsulosine. Urodynamically patients were classified as sensory (age 43, (20-66)) or motor urge (age, 65 (42-76)). Only patients awaiting trial medication for large multicentre pharmaceutical company studies were included in the study and the assessment of the baseline and placebo run in phase of the clinical trial were compared to the subjective and objective assessment during the tamsulosine treatment. Tamsulosine 0.4 mg daily was supplied during at least 2 weeks and a micturition diary was performed during 3 days at baseline, at 2 weeks and during the placebo phase. Subjective appreciation of bladder symptoms was assessed on a visual analogue scale (VAS, scored from 0-10). All data were presented as median (range). Statistical analysis was done with a Wilcoxon test.

### Results

In not 1 of the women with detrusor instabilities a significant objective or subjective improvement was observed. Among the 13 patients with sensory urge a 50% subjective improvement was seen in 8 patients. No significant differences were found between the placebo and the baseline. Patients with sensory urge respond significantly better to tamsulosine compared to those with motor urge (Tabel 1). The placebo treatment in patients with sensory urge increased the functional capacity and decreased the micturition frequency not significantly and only the functional capacity was significantly higher in the tamsulosine treatment compared to placebo (188 (123-240)).

Tabel 1

	Motor urge		Sensory urge	
	baseline	tamsulosin	baseline	tamsulosin
Micturitions (n)	11 (9-16)	11 (10-15)	12 (10-22)	10 (7-16)*
Functional capacity (ml)	178 (103-302)	182 (103-280)	156 (116-258)	228 (100-419)*
VAS	2 (0-5)	3 (0-5)	3 (0-5)	8 (0-10)*

\* Wilcoxon test,  $p < 0.05$

### Interpretation of results

In patients with dry overactive bladder symptoms tamsulosine is promising in patients with sensory urge and no effect was seen in patients with proven detrusor instabilities. Confirmation in larger prospective placebo controlled studies is needed to prove placebo controlled proof of effect in patients with sensory urge.

### Concluding message

Tamsulosine might be helpful in patients with overactive bladder symptoms without detrusor instabilities.