

COMPARISON OF ANXIETY BETWEEN PATIENTS WITH MIXED INCONTINENCE AND WITH STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE

Hypothesis / aims of study

It could be expected that patients with mixed incontinence (MI) suffer from more anxiety than patients with pure stress urinary incontinence (SUI), due to emotional stress from symptoms of overactive bladder. We evaluated and compared the degree of anxiety objectively between two groups, using Beck Anxiety Inventory(BAI) questionnaire.

Study design, materials and methods

Among 172 patients who presented with urinary incontinence, 54 (31.4%) showed MI and 118 (68.6%) exhibited SUI. Using BAI questionnaire, the patients were surveyed with 12 questions accounting somatic symptoms and 9 items questioning subjective anxiety and panic symptoms. Each question was scored from 0 to 3 according to symptom and the mean value between two groups was compared. Anxiety degree of each group was classified into mild (less than 10), moderate (11~19) and severe (greater than 20).

Results

Mean age of MI group was 47.3 (30~67) and that of SUI group was 46.1 (30~68). Mean score of BAI of MI group was 12.0±8.8 and that of SUI group was 7.8±5.2.

Interpretation of results

Significant difference in mean score of BAI existed between two groups ($p<0.05$).

MI group was represented in 72 (61%) with mild, 28 (23.7%) with moderate and 18 patients (15.3%) with severe degree compared to SUI group consisting of 38 (70.4%), 14 (25.9%) and 2 (3.7%), respectively. MI group was revealed statistically higher number of patients with severe degree of anxiety ($p<0.05$). Sweating (mean value of 0.74 and 0.24) and facial flushing (0.69 vs 0.35) are two symptoms with statistically meaningful differences between two groups ($p<0.05$).

Concluding message

This study shows objectively that the patients with MI have higher degree of anxiety than patients with pure SUI. Therefore, we suggest that doctors should pay more attention to anxiety symptom when treating patients with MI.