

IS THERE A SEASONAL VARIATION TO PATIENTS FAILING TO ATTEND FOR URODYNAMIC STUDY APPOINTMENT?

Hypothesis / aims of study

To investigate if there is a relationship between the seasons and the number of patients who were unable to attend or did not attend for their urodynamic studies appointment.

Study design, materials and methods

Analysis was carried out from the retrospective data from the years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. The four seasons were defined as spring (March to May), summer (June to August), autumn (September to November) and winter (December to February).

Results

In spring, 384 were booked for urodynamics and 330 (86%) attended the appointment. In summer 397 were booked and 312 (78.6%) attended, in autumn 355 were booked and 292 (82.3%) attended and in winter, out of 337 booked, 258(76.6%) attended.

Interpretation of results

The percentage of the patients that failed to attend the appointments was 14 in spring, 21.4 in summer, 17.7 in autumn and 23.4 in winter respectively.

Concluding message

The number of patients failing to attend for urodynamic studies was highest in winter and least in spring season in our experience. However, the numbers are small and results need to be interpreted with caution.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	None
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	No
<i>This study did not require ethics committee approval because</i>	retrospective data looking into attendance to appointment, No personal or clinical data accessed.
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	No
<i>This study did not follow the Declaration of Helsinki in the sense that</i>	retrospective data looking into attendance to appointment, No personal or clinical data accessed.
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	No