

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

A study on prevalence of urinary symptoms in urogenital prolapse In A Tertiary Care Hospital

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ABSTRACT

Voiding dysfunction in women is most commonly associated with detrusor contractility. Detrusor under activity is defined as a detrusor contraction of inadequate magnitude, duration, or both to effect bladder emptying within normal time span. Patients attending with genitourinary prolapse were explained about the nature of the study and written and informed consent was obtained. Detailed history, general physical examination was done as per predesigned and pretested proforma. Hesitancy was present in 18 patients and it was not significantly associated with the degree of prolapse. Straining to void was reported by 42 patients, out of which 3 patients had second degree and 33 patients had third degree prolapse. All the six patients with prostatic hypertrophy had complaints of straining to void. P value was 0.006 which shows a significant relation with degree of prolapse.

Key words: Urinary symptoms, urogenital prolapse, voiding dysfunction

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INTRODUCTION

The lower urinary tract can be divided into the bladder and urethra. At the junction of these two, vesicle neck is present. It is a hybrid structure, represents that part of the lower urinary tract where the urethral lumen transverses the bladder wall before becoming surrounded by the urethral wall.¹

The vesicle neck is considered separately because of its functional differentiation from bladder and the urethra.

There is visible triangular area within the bladder known as vesicle trigone.

The two ureteral orifices and the internal urinary meatus form its apices. The base of the trigone triangle i.e. inter ureteric ridge forms useful landmark in cystoscopic identification.

This triangular elevation has a specialized group of smooth muscle fibers that lie within the detrusor and arise from a separate embryological primordium.²

Urethral support is dynamic rather than static and urethral position is determined by both, attachments to bone and to the levator ani muscle.

The Resting position of urethra is high within pelvis, Some 3 cm above the inferior surface of pubic bone. It is above the insertion of pubourethral ligament which attaches near the lower margin of the pubic bones.

Maintenance of this position would be best explained by the constant muscular activity and levator ani. The upper 2/3 urethra is mobile and under voluntary control.

At the onset of micturition, relaxation of the levator ani muscle allows the urethra to descend and obliterates the posterior urethrovesical angle. Resumption of the normal tonic contraction of the levator ani muscle allows the urethra to its normal position.³

The anterior vaginal wall and urethra arise from the urogenital sinus and intimately connected. The support of the urethra depends upon the vaginal wall attachments and attachment of perineal Tissue to the muscles and fascia of the pelvic wall.

Voiding phase disorders have been classified by the International Continence Society as those

involving abnormal detrusor or urethral function during micturition.

Voiding dysfunction in women is most commonly associated with detrusor contractility. Detrusor under activity is defined as a detrusor contraction of inadequate magnitude, duration, or both to effect bladder emptying within normal time span.⁴

Inadequate voiding associated with normal detrusor activity results from a functional and mechanical obstruction, functional in cases of detrusor sphincter dyssynergia and mechanical in cases of urethral stricture or advanced pelvic organ prolapse.⁵ Hesitancy refers to trouble in starting the stream of urine. Straining to void, poor and intermittent flow can all reflect either urethral or detrusor dysfunction. Post micturition dribbling can be due to urethral diverticulum.⁶

METHODOLOGY

TYPE OF STUDY

The present three year study was observational descriptive cross sectional study.

STUDY PERIOD

This study was conducted over a period of three years in a Tertiary Care Hospital in Karnataka, South India.

SAMPLE SIZE

Present study was conducted on 65 patients with urogenital prolapse.

SAMPLING PROCEDURE

The sample size was calculated based on 80% of the

RESULT

Table 1: Distribution of patient's storage symptoms and its significance to degree of prolapse

Storage symptom	Frequency	Percentage	P value
Stress incontinence	17	26%	0.212
Urge incontinence	28	43%	0.449
Increased frequency	44	68%	0.153
Nocturia	42	65%	0.250

Storage symptoms were present in a large percentage of patients but they were not significantly associated with the degree of prolapse. Urge incontinence was complained by 43% of patients and stress incontinence was complained in 26% patients. 17 patients had

average number patients attending a Tertiary Care Hospital, Belgaum over three years with urogenital prolapse.

SELECTION CRITERIA

INCLUSION CRITERIA

- All the patients with urogenital prolapse.

Exclusion criteria

- Patients not willing to give informed consent.
- Patients not available for follow up after operation.

PROCEDURE

Patients attending with genitourinary prolapse were explained about the nature of the study and written and informed consent was obtained. Detailed history, general physical examination was done as per predesigned and pretested proforma and they were subjected to;

- History taking and filling of the preformed questionnaire for urinary complaints.
- Menstrual and Obstetric history.
- Physical examination which included POP-Q.
- Determination of PVR preoperative and postoperative.
- Urine routine and microscopy.

complaints of stress urinary incontinence, but it was observed in only 9 patients.

Increased frequency of micturition and nocturia found in 68% and 65% patients, but they were not significantly associated with the degree of prolapse

Table 2: Percentage of emptying dysfunction symptoms in study population

Emptying dysfunction symptoms	Number of Patients	Percentage
Hesitancy	18	27.69%
Straining to void	42	64.62%
Incomplete emptying	46	71.77%
Poor stream	23	35.38%
Intermittent stream	10	15.38%
Post micturition	13	20.00%
Has to reduce to void	47	72.31%

Hesitancy was present in 18 patients and it was not significantly associated with the degree of prolapse. Straining to void was reported by 42 patients, out of which 3 patients had second degree

and 33 patients had third degree prolapse. All the six patients with procedentia had complaints of straining to void. P value was 0.006 which shows a significant relation with degree of prolapse.

Table 3: Distribution and significance of emptying dysfunction symptoms to degree of prolapse

Emptying dysfunction symptoms	Frequency	Degree of prolapse		Precedential	'p' value
		2 nd	3 rd		
Hesitancy	18	2	13	3	0.368
Straining to void	42	3	33	6	0.006 (s)
Incomplete emptying	46	4	37	5	0.022 (s)
Poor stream	23	1	20	2	0.125
Intermittent stream	10	2	8	0	0.544
Post-micturition	13	1	10	2	0.471
Has to reduce to void	47	2	39	6	<0.0001 (s)

Incomplete emptying was complained by 46 patients. Out of them, 4 patients had 2nd degree, 37 patients had 3rd degree prolapse and 5 patients had procedentia. It was also significantly related with the degree of prolapse. P value was 0.022.

Poor stream was present in 23 patients. Intermittent stream was present in 10 patients and 13 patients had complaints about postmicturition dribbling without significant relation with the degree of prolapse.

DISCUSSION

The diagnosis of uterovaginal prolapse has a significant positive relationship with high PVR. The proposed mechanism of genital prolapse is the distortional or kinking effect on the urethra to create bladder outflow obstruction.

In the present study, mean age of the patients admitted with prolapse was 50 years. In the studies done by Bradley and Haylen, the mean age of prolapse patients was 68 and 58 years respectively.⁷

Compared to these studies, the present study had a young study population.

This study shows that increasing parity is not associated with urinary retention and elevated PVR. Similar results were found in study done by Lukacz and Lowenstein.⁸

In this study, stress urinary incontinence and overactive bladder symptoms like urge incontinence, frequency, nocturia were not associated with the increasing grades of prolapse.

Various obstructive urinary symptoms like straining to void ($p=0.006$), incomplete emptying ($p=0.022$) and has to reduce prolapse to void ($p=0.0001$) were associated with the increasing grades of prolapse or vaginal descent.

G Alessandro Digesu *et al.*, also found a poor correlation between prolapse and storage urinary symptoms. But symptoms like 'feeling of incomplete bladder emptying' and the 'need of straining during micturition' were associated with prolapse. In contrast to these findings other study has shown that occult stress incontinence, detrusor

instability and urethral hypermobility were associated with prolapse. These conditions are storage disorders.^{9,10}

CONCLUSION

Urinary storage symptoms like stress urinary incontinence, urge incontinence, frequency and nocturia were commonly present in study population. But there was no association of these symptoms with increasing degree of prolapse and raised PVR.

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