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A REAL WORLD EVALUATION TO ASSESS THE BURDEN OF CHRONIC COUGH IN WOMEN WITH URODYNAMIC STRESS INCONTINENCE (USI)

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Introduction

Pathological cough is one of the most common symptoms for medical consultations in primary and secondary care.[1]. Cough can be attributed to specific diseases and is defined as chronic when the duration is lasting 8 weeks or more.[2] A chronic cough (CC) severe enough to interfere with normal activities of daily living was reported by 7% of the UK population.[3] It is reported that 63.3% of women presenting for evaluation of CC reported the presence of Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI).[4] Few data exist that define the burden that CC has on women with SUI.

Objectives

To evaluate the burden that chronic cough (CC) places on women with SUI and to understand the prevalence of CC in USI.

Methods

A non-interventional, cross-sectional study incorporating both patient and physician reported data alongside 5 validated questionnaires addressing quality of life (QoL), work productivity, general health, urinary and cough symptoms.

Results

100 women with USI were recruited into the study. In total, 18% had ever experienced a chronic cough; 83% of these (15% of total sample) were currently experiencing a chronic cough.

Respondents who have ever experienced CC reported their general health status and QoL to be lower than those without a CC, that their USI had a greater impact on their QoL, were more likely to be on long term sick leave or disability or have a greater percentage of absenteeism from work. Those with CC also reported more severe and frequent symptoms of SUI, were more likely to be prescribed continence products and managed conservatively. Individually, they spent more money on specially adapted clothing to help manage SUI.

Conclusions

This study suggests that CC leads to additional burden in those women diagnosed with USI. Further research is required to estimate the magnitude of additional burden CC places on women with USI.

References

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