P-80



Comparing bladder trabeculation and function between ultrasound and voiding cystourethrography in patients with spinal cord injury

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Introduction

- Neurogenic bladder
 - \checkmark Common and significant complication in patients with spinal cord injury(SCI)
 - ✓ To evaluate neurogenic bladder, we perform voiding cystourethrography (VCUG) to assess bladder trabeculation (BT) and urodynamic studies (UDS) to evaluate bladder function
- Voiding cytourethrography(VCUG)
 - ✓ Limitations : two-dimensional evaluation and invasiveness
- Purpose of this study

 \checkmark To compare the three-dimensional grading of BT using ultrasound with BT grading from VCUG in SCI patients.

 \checkmark To compare the functional evaluation data of UDS based on VCUG versus BT grading on ultrasound.

Methods

- **Participants** : 17 patients diagnosed with neurogenic bladder in patients with spinal cord injury
- **Position in ultrasound**
 - ✓ Holding the pubic symphysis as the center and moving the ultrasound probe upward
 - ✓ Selected largest diameter area and measured both BT grade and bladder wall thickness
- **BT grade system through VCUG**
 - ✓ Grade 0: no trabeculation in the bladder
 - ✓ Grade 1: trabeculation area < 1/2 of bladder
 - ✓ Grade 2: $\geq 1/2$ of bladder and depth ≥ 5 mm and < 10mm
 - ✓ Grade 3: $\geq 1/2$ of bladder and depth >10mm

UDS datas

- ✓ Detrusor-sphincter dyssynergia (DSD)/Peak detrusor pressure (Pdet)/Detrusor leak point pressure (DLPP)
- **Statistics Analysis**
 - ✓ Chi-square test was used to compare BT grades between VCUG and ultrasound
 - ✓ Kruskal-Wallis test of variance was used to compare UDS data according to BT grade between ultrasound and VCUG



Results

Table 1. Demographics of	Table 3. grade th		
Number	Male	11	BT grade
	Female	6	N Start
	Total	17	Measurements
Level of injury	Cervical	3	Pdet
	Thoracic	7	ות זכו
	Lumbar	0	DLPI
AIS impairment scale	A	3	DSD
	в	2	*n<0.05 signify
	С	5	voiding evetours
	D	7	sphincter dyssyr

Table 2. Comparison of BT grade between VCUG and US

	VCUG (n=17)	US (n=17)	P value
Grade 0	10	4	
Grade 1	5	10	0.008*
Grade 2	2	3	

*p<0.05, significance of the Chi-square test; BT: bladder trabeculation; VCUG: voiding cystourethrogram; US: ultrasound.

Figure 1. BT grade through VCUG

Comparison of UDS Measurements according to BT rough VCUG

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	BT grade by VCUG	Grade 0 (n=10)	Grade 1 (n=5)	Grade 2 (n=2)	P value
	Measurements				
	Pdet	34.50±13.88	26.40±20.37	3.00±0.00	0.120
	DLPP	24.70±8.36	27.80±24.91	25.00±9.89	0.964
	DSD	60%	80%	100%	

cance of the Kruskal-Wallis test; BT: bladder trabeculation; UDS: urodynamic study VCUG: ethrogram; Pdet; peak detrusor pressure DLPP: detrusor leak point pressure; DSD: detrusorsphincter dyssynergia.

Table 4. Comparison of UDS Measurements according to BT grade through US

BT grade by US	Grade 0 (n=4)	Grade 1 (n=10)	Grade 2 (n=3)	P value
Measurements				
Pdet	34.75±22.98	31.80±14.35	8.66±9.81	0.130
DLPP	26.00±10.89	26.20±17.49	23.33±7.57	0.839
DSD	25%	80%	100%	

*p<0.05, significance of the Kruskal-Wallis test; BT: bladder trabeculation; UDS: urodynamic study US: ultrasound; Pdet; peak detrusor pressure; DLPP: detrusor leak point pressure; DSD: detrusor-sphincter



Figure 2. BT grade through US



dyssynergia.

- **Comparison of BT grade between VCUG and US** ✓ there were significant differences in BT grade between
 - ultrasound and VCUG in 7 patients (Table 2, p=0.008)
- ✓ In all 7 patients, ultrasound indicated a higher grade of BT compared to VCUG.
- ✓ Specifically, six patients had BT grade 0 on VCUG but grade 1 on ultrasound, while one patient had grade 1 on VCUG and grade 2 on ultrasound
- **Comparison of UDS measurements according to BT** grade of US and VCUG

✓ US Pdet tended to decrease with increasing grades, while DLPP and DSD exhibited similar trends in both US and VCUG groups (Table3,4).

Conclusion

- Ultrasound can be a diagnostic method reflecting both structural and functional aspects, comparable to VCUG
- Further data is needed to enhance the diagnostic value of ultrasound.