

#423 Assessing the Influence of Recurrent Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs) on Sexual Function: A Case-control Study

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Hypothesis & Aims of study

- Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are an important reason for medical attention.
- UTIs have a significant impact on the quality of life of patients and can also lead to alterations in sexual life.
- However, the characteristics and satisfaction of sexual intercourse in women with UTIs also need to be assessed.
- This study aims to evaluate the symptoms associated with urinary tract infections and their influence on quality of life and sexual activity.

Study Design

- We conducted a study of patients with recurrent UTIs and controls without UTIs, assessing the symptoms associated with acute cystitis, its effect on quality of life and its effect on sexual function.
- Patients was be assessed using the Acute Cystitis Symptoms Score (ACSS) questionnaire and sexual function will be assessed using the Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI) questionnaire.
- The questionnaires are completed online using a survey designed in Google Forms.
- The study has been evaluated and approved by the ethical committee

Results and interpretation

383 patients with recurrent UTIs and 160 controls completed the survey

20.4% of patients with recurrent UTIs and 11.4% of controls did not attempt intercourse

	rUTIs	Controls	P value		Recurrent UTIs	Controls	P value
Age [mean (SD)]	41.6 (13.79)	38.4 (12.47)	p=0.012	Sexual desire or interest (at least half the times)	40.3%	55.6%	P<0.001
Education			p=0.293	Level of sexual desire (Moderate to Very High)	47.0%	66.9%	P<0.001
-Primary	1.6%	3.8%		Feeling sexually aroused (at least half the times)	56.2%	78.0%	P<0.001
-Secondary	10.4%	5.8%		Level of sexual arousal (Moderate to Very High)	56.9%	81.9%	P<0.001
-University	70.2%	73.7%		Confident about sexual arousal (at least moderate)	51.2%	84.4%	P<0.001
-PhD	9.1%	7.1%		Satisfied with sexual excitement (at least half the times)	53.9%	81.1%	P<0.001
-Others	8.6%	9.6%		Difficulty in becoming lubricated	59.3%	54.3%	P<0.001
Sexual Partners			p=0.979	Difficulty to maintain lubrication during sexual activity	57.1%	54.4%	P<0.001
-NO	7.8%	6.4%		Reach orgasm (at least half the times)	58.7%	83.8%	P<0.001
-1	82.5%	83.3%		Difficulty to reach orgasm	59.3%	61.2%	P<0.001
-2	5.0%	5.1%		Satisfied with your sexual life with your partner	42.9%	75.3%	P<0.001
-3 or more	3.9%	4.5%		Pain during vaginal penetration (at least half the times)	45.8%	50.6%	P=0.015
Hormonal Status			p=0.026	Moderate Pain during or following vaginal penetration	45.3%	17.7%	P<0.001
-Fertile Age	67.9%	79.5%		Satisfied with Sexual Life	35.5%	70.9%	P<0.001
-Menopause	32.2%	20.5%					
Intestinal Habit			p=0.358				
-Normal	48.8%	55.1%					
-Diarrhea	13.6%	13.5%					
-Constipation	37.4%	31.4%					
Interference with Working			p<0.001				
-No	17.3%	87.5%					
-Mild	27.2%	7.5%					
-Moderate	29.8%	3.8%					
-Severe	25.7%	1.2%					
Interference with Social Activities			p<0.001				
-No	18.8%	90.7%					
-Mild	25.1%	3.7%					
-Moderate	26.7%	4.3%					
-Severe	29.3%	1.2%					

Conclusions

- NOT only sexual intercourse that should be considered as a risk factor for recurrent UTIs.
- Patients with recurrent UTIs reported worse sexual satisfaction, low desire, and difficulties in achieving adequate lubrication and reaching orgasm. Moreover, pain and discomfort are frequently reported.
- It is necessary to evaluate the sexual life of our patients and the management of UTIs must also take into account how to improve the sexual life.

References

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