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PATIENT OUTCOMES IN TREATMENT OF PEYRONIES'S DISEASE BY EXTRACORPOREAL SHOCK WAVE LITHOTRIPSY

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INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES: Peyronies's disease is a common condition of unclear aetiology. The aim of this study was to assess the outcome of Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy (ESWL) treatment on penile plaques, given at different times during the natural history of the disease, from a patient orientated perspective.

MATERIAL & METHODS: All patients referred for ESWL treatment for Peyronies's over a 2 year period were treated on a Storz Modulith®SL10/E Lithotripsy machine. All patients were questioned regarding duration of symptoms and location of plaque and after treatment assessed subjectively with both validated (Modified International Index of Erectile Function) and, where necessary, unvalidated instruments.

RESULTS: 92 patients received a mean of 2 .5 treatments, 36% having symptoms for less than 1 year. 92% had plaques at the mid shaft or base of their penis. 55% of men were satisfied after treatment, 40% having subsequently resumed intercourse after initially being forced to refrain by their disease. Pain on erection improved in 60% with around 50% claiming their plaques were smaller or softer. Most improvement in penile pain was seen in the group whose plaques were present for less than 1 year, but treatment after 1 year was associated with a higher rate on returning to sexual intercourse. No adverse side effects were reported.

CONCLUSIONS: A significant proportion of patients with Peyronies's disease derive good benefit from ESWL. It is a safe, well tolerated treatment which can be given at any time during the natural history of the disease. Whether it alters the natural time course of the disease is not clear.

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