Patients with Urinary Disorders, Evocative of BPH: What Are Their Expectations?

Introduction and Objectives: The individualised expectations of the patient will undoubtedly be one of the major preoccupations in the next few decades to guarantee optimal treatment through compliance.

Materials and Methods: A pragmatic, European cohort (France, Italy, and Portugal) of 420 patients presenting with urinary disorders, evocative of BPH, was followed-up over 6 months. A questionnaire regarding expectations was handed out at the first consultation.

Results: There were 317 patients evaluated. The symptom that 30.7% of patients wished to see improved with the highest priority were "getting up in the night to urinate", then for slightly less than 20%, "sensation of not emptying the bladder after urinating". Amongst the symptoms that patients were the least concerned about were "the effort or force needed to start urinating" for 23% of responders, then "the interruption of the flow of urine" for 16% and the "size and force of the stream of urine". "Getting up in the night" was the principal complaint in all 3 countries (39% in France, 26 and 25% in Italy and Portugal), similarly "the effort or force needed to start urinating" is the symptom that preoccupies the patients the least in France and Italy, the "size and force of the stream of urine" preoccupies the Portuguese the least. Nearly 90% of the Italians claimed that they would only be satisfied if they never had to get up in the night again, (35% for the French, 50% for the Portuguese). Overall, 60% of the subjects questioned said that they would be satisfied if they were "markedly" improved.

Conclusion: The expectation of patients in the treatment of BPH is very important, and undoubtedly difficult to satisfy entirely. These results are probably due to the fact that our population was composed of patients that had been diagnosed recently.