Anti-Tuberculous Drugs as a Reason for Ejaculatory Disorders

Introduction and Objective: The sexual life is an integral part of a full and happy life. A patient with pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) suffers from his disease itself as well as from different complications. It is known, that 42-67.3% of patients with diabetes and high blood pressure have sexual dysfunction. In Siberia there is an epidemic of tuberculosis, and the majority of TB patients are young men for whom sexual viability is very important. The aim was to estimate the frequency of ejaculatory disorders in men suffering from tuberculosis and to determine the effect of TB treatment on the ejaculation.
Material and Methods: There were 98 pulmonary TB patients enrolled in study. The intravaginal latency time before onset of TB was estimated retrospectively and in 3 months of anti-TB therapy.
Results: Before anti-TB therapy 14.3% of pulmonary TB patients had ejaculatory disorders: 10.2% had premature ejaculation, and 4.1% delayed ejaculation. The rest, 85.7% of patients, had normal ejaculation. After three months of the therapy with 4 anti-TB drugs (isonazid, rifampicin, pyrazinamid and streptomycin) the proportion was changed significantly. The share of patients with normal ejaculation decreased to 61.2%. On contrary, frequency of premature ejaculation increased twice (20.4%), and delayed ejaculation 4.5 times (18.4%).
Conclusion: Proportion of ejaculatory disorders in patients with pulmonary TB before a start of anti-TB therapy was the same as in population as whole. So, tuberculosis as a disease doesn't damage an ejaculatory function. Three months of standard anti-TB therapy with four drugs significantly worsened the ejaculatory function of patients. The high growth of delayed ejaculation may be explained by neurotoxicity of anti-TB drugs. So, tuberculosis as a disease doesn't damage an ejaculatory function, but the treatment of tuberculosis does. A special pathogenetic therapy is necessary to prevent this complication.

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