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RADIAL SHOCK WAVE THERAPY: A NEW OPTION FOR PEYRONIE'S DISEASE

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Introduction: Extracorporeal shock wave therapy derived from ESWL and is also used for the treatment of Peyroniens disease. We developed a new, small, cost efficient device (Dolorclast, EMS Medical) replacing large shock wave units for orthopedic indications as shown in last years meeting. We now present first experiences with this device in the treatment of Peyroniens disease.

Material and Methods: In a prospective study 16 patients were treated with this new device. Pain was assessed on a visual analogue scale. Treatments were repeated up to 5 times. Follow-up is performed after 1, 4 and 12 weeks after the last treatment.

Results: Mean number of shock waves given per treatment was 2000. An average of 2.4 treatments per patient were performed. Shock wave frequency was 15 Hz, therefore treatment time is only approximately 5 minutes. All treatments were performed without anesthesia. Side effects were temporary irritation of the skin, swelling and petechial bleeding, which are all gone within 1 week.

2 of 16 patients experienced no change in pain. No patient got worse. 14 patients (87.5 %) improved. 12 patients improved more than 50 % on the pain scale with 9 patients getting completely pain free. No effects (neither positive nor negative) regarding change of the curvature were observed.

Conclusion: Radial shock wave therapy is a new option for the treatment of Peyroniens disease. There seems to be no effect on the curvature. However, pain release is observed in most patients. A prospective, multicentric, randomized double blind study is launched based on this findings.