

ABSTRACT

Aim: This study was designed to examine the influence of female urinary incontinence on development of sexual dysfunctions. By means of the questionnaire investigation we inquired how often and how the sexual behaviour and response were modified. Our goal was to determine the prevalence of coital incontinence, describe the most common sexual disorders and to find out how women deal with the urinary incontinence in a partner relationship and how such situations are resolved. Attention was given to the interests of health care professionals in this area, the quality of their communication with patients, effect and satisfaction with therapy.

Research sample: The study included 106 women with urinary incontinence (aged 30-44 years and 44-59 years). Characteristics of their sexual behaviour were compared between the two age groups and in relation to assessed diagnosis. Changes in sexual behaviour were evaluated both in relation to the population group who were a part of representative research study of Czech women in 2008 and control group of 112 healthy women of comparable age.

Material and methods: To describe and analyze sexual dysfunction in incontinent women, we used a modified version of sexological questionnaire from the research study of Weiss and Zverina and two international validated questionnaires PISQ-12 and GRISS were completed. Standard statistical methods were used for analysing the results.

Results: Urinary incontinence spoils sexual life in most cases. Frequency of sexual activity is lower, sexual foreplay is longer, average length of intercourse is shortened, frequency of reaching orgasm does not differ from common population but the length of a climax is substantially shorter. Approximately one-fourth of the patients experience a sexual disorder. Incontinent women most often complain of insufficient lubrication, dysfunctional orgasm and lack of sexual desire. Coital incontinence was reported at least sometimes by half of the respondents. Women with urgent incontinence have more frequent coital incontinence during orgasms, in case of stressed form the penetration incontinence type was more reported. Women most dislike urinary leakage during sex, nycturia, urine smell, bad mood, sadness, anxiety and fear feeling.

Conclusion: Urinary incontinence deteriorates sexual behaviour and function in women in almost all assessed areas. Women of younger age are more traumatised, older patients are better adapted to the urinary incontinence. Treatment impact may be seen on improvement of sexual functions in three-quarters of cases.

Key Words: Female Sexual Dysfunction; Urinary Incontinence; Female Sexuality