

SUMMARY

„Chronic vulvovaginal discomfort and quality of vaginal environment“

Vulvovaginal discomfort (VVD) is not a life-threatening disease, however, its impact on quality of life is enormous. The causes of the origins of the chronic form are not provably clarified.

OBJECTIVES OF THE THESIS: The first aim of this thesis has been to make an attempt to reveal the etiology of chronic vulvovaginal discomfort (CVD), to characterize a group of patients with CVD and refer it to the quality of vaginal environment. The second aim has been an evaluation of a questionnaire, which had been focused on probable causal factors of CVD. The third part is experimental, focused on the issue of quorum sensing molecule (QSM) and manosa-binding lectin (MBL) polymorfisms.

METHODS: The data for all three parts of the study were gained at the outpatient's department for CVD by examining and following CVD patients. A questionnaire was used when investigating the probable CVD factors.

RESULTS: The study has proved that we come across the idiopathic form of CVD in most cases. According to the results, the issue concerns mainly women at productive age, in most cases healthy, without an evident trigger moment. The study has also shown that the most noticeable finding in CVD patients is an absence of lactobacillus proved when performing a microscopic examination and that microscopy together with other clinical examinations have a crucial position in the examination algorithm of CVD patients. The evaluation of the questionnaire study has brought a range of statistically important conclusions, e.g. that there is a connection with antibiotics treatment, sexual activity, use of contraception and etc. In the experimental part, our pilot results have shown that CVD patients had a statistically significant higher level of farnesol in the vaginal secretion and, on the contrary, a lower concentration of tyrosol. A great margin of values in both QSM supports an assumption that CVD is of multifactorial nature. The results of MBL polymorfisms analysis have implied that there is no significant difference in distribution of single polymorfisms.

CONCLUSION: The results of the study confirm that a group of CVD patients is not a homogeneous group. The study has proved that yeast etiology is not as often as it is assumed. The long-term microscopic monitoring of patients has confirmed rather physiological findings that imply the absence of inflammatory changes. On the contrary, the prevailing findings are with very little or null number of lactobacillus. There is thus a predominant need of protection than continuing in devastating antimicrobial treatment.

Key words: vulvovaginal discomfort, vaginal environment, quality of life, microscopic examination, quorum sensing molecules, MBL