

Functional Bladder Dysfunction in children: About a Tunisian Population

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Introduction

Prevalence of bladder dysfunction is estimated at 12% in children aged between 5 and 10 years, and more than half of them (55%) exhibit symptoms attributable to idiopathic overactive bladder (OAB). The sequelae and symptoms of OAB are often uncontrolled, including daytime urinary incontinence or enuresis, and can affect children socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. If not properly managed, one-third of childhood symptoms persist into adulthood.

Aims : Describe the epidemiological and clinical characteristics of children suffering from OAB, and factors associated with the development of OAB.

Materials and methods

This is a cross-sectional observational study including children aged between 5 and 17 years suffering from OAB and free from any neurological or malformative conditions.

Results

- ✓ We included 50 children with idiopathic overactive bladder syndrome.
- ✓ Bladder-sphincter disorders developed at school age in the majority of children.

- ✓ The number of daytime voiding episodes was greater than 10 in 15% of cases and greater than 8 in 45% of cases. Enuresis was present in 50% of cases. A vesico-sphincteric dyssynergia with a dysuric syndrome was identified in 26% of cases.
- ✓ A history of recurrent urinary tract infections was noted in 62% of cases.
- ✓ The consumption of drinking water was less than 500ml per day in all children, along with poor dietary habits.
- ✓ The multivariate analysis revealed that nocturnal enuresis, constipation, fecal incontinence, history of urinary tract infection, delayed bladder control, and poor toilet facilities might be factors associated with the development of OAB.

Conclusion :

- The link between nocturnal enuresis and OAB symptoms, urinary tract infections and constipation deserves more attention.