

6th Annual National Pelvic Floor Meeting

Friday 12th October 2012

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

BEST PAPER SESSION

*Name:	Rina George
*Email address:	r.george@sheffield.ac.uk
*Affiliation:	Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, UK
*Job title/academic position:	Specialist Registrar

***Title:**

Does sacral nerve stimulation improve global pelvic floor function?

***Authors & Affiliations:**

(Please list all authors, presenting author to be indicated in **BOLD**)

¹A M Jadav, ¹L W Wheldon, ¹H Wadhawan, ¹**R R George**, ²S C Radley, ¹S R Brown.

¹Northern General Hospital, UK

²Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, UK

***Abstract (max. 350 words):**

Introduction

Sacral neuromodulation (SNS) has shown to be effective in faecal incontinence (FI). Many such patients have other pelvic floor compartment dysfunction. We assessed the effect of SNS on global pelvic floor function.

Methods

The ePAQ-PF (electronic pelvic floor assessment questionnaire) is a validated tool that allows a global assessment of all compartments of the pelvic floor. ePAQ-PF has four main dimensions concerning urinary, bowel, vaginal and sexual symptoms. All patients with FI attending our pelvic floor clinic undergo ePAQ assessment. Pre and post stimulation data was analysed on females with FI from 2007-2011.

Results

40 patients were included (median age 54 years, range 32-76), with post treatment questionnaires completed after a median time of 7.3 months (range 1.5-29). 100% of patients had urinary symptoms, 80% vaginal symptoms and 77.5% sexual dysfunction. Within the urinary dimension, there was a significant effect on the overactive bladder (p=0.02) following stimulation. There was also significant improvement in faecal incontinence (p<0.005), bowel related quality of life (p<0.005), IBS symptoms (p=0.01), and bowel related sexual health (p<0.005). Within the vaginal dimension, capacity (p=0.03) and prolapse symptoms (p=0.02) improved. 62.5% reported a global health improvement after stimulation. This cohort also experienced significant improvements in bowel evacuation (p=0.006) as well as vaginal pain and sensation (p=0.04). Of those who were sexually active, 53.3% reported an improvement in their general sex life following stimulation.

Conclusion

The use of a pelvic floor assessment tool (ePAQ) has confirmed improvements in global pelvic floor function following SNS.