An Innovative Approach by Using Acupuncture for Improving the Urinary Symptoms of Patients with Ketamine Dependence



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Programme design



11 ketamine abusers received electro-acupuncture and hot pack therapy (Five times per week for 4 weeks)



Day 1: electro-acupuncture to 關元 (RN4), 中極 (RN3) (electro-acupuncture frequency of 1 - 6Hz with hot pack at lower back region, for 20 minutes)



Day 2: electro-acupuncture to 膀肛俞 (BL28) (electro-acupuncture frequency of 1 - 6Hz with hot pack at abdominal region, for 20 minutes)



Outcome measures were taken before and after a total of 20 treatment sessions (Maximal urinary bladder capacity, Pelvic pain & Urgency/Frequency Score, Numeric Pain Rating Scale, Nocturia Frequency, Minimum and maximum duration between voids)

Results

Eleven clients (5 female and 6 male) completed the 4-week electro-acupuncture programme.

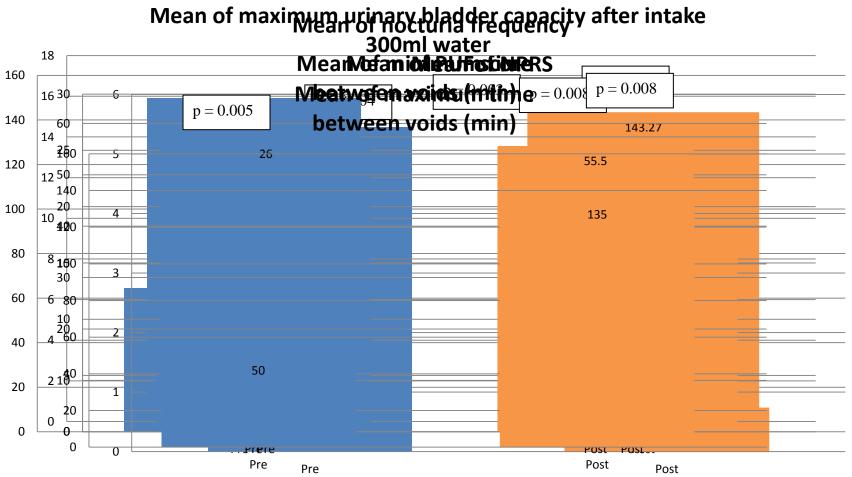
Mean age was 26.3 ± 3.39 years old.

Mean duration of ketamine abuse was 9.1 ± 2.0 years.





Results





Conclusion

Improvement was shown in the bladder capacity, pain, voiding pattern and disability associated with urinary tract complication of ketamine abuse.

Foundation for future study:

Electro-acupuncture might alleviate lower urinary tract symptoms in ketamine abusers.

