

# Effect of Variation of Volume of Injected Water in the Air Sacs of Urinary Catheters on Bladder Spasm After Transurethral Plasmakentic Vaporization of Prostate

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**Abstract:** Objective We aim to explore variation of the injected water volume in the air sacs of indwelling urinary catheters on bladder spasm and blood urine in patients after transurethral plasmakentic vaporization of prostate (TUPKVP). Methods We included 90 patients who had benign prostatic hyperplasia and received transurethral plasmakentic vaporization of prostate in the First Affiliated Hospital of Jinan University from July 2018 to July 2019. They were averagely randomized into three groups: control group, experimental group A and experimental group B. We injected 30 ml of water into the air sacs of urinary catheters of patients postoperatively. At the first day after operation, the water was reduced to 20 ml in experimental group A, 10 ml in experimental group B, and the water volume in control group remained unchanged. The bladder spasm, blood urine and comfort level in three groups were analyzed comparatively. Results Nursing intervention of reducing injected water volume resulted in a lower incidence of bladder spasm in experimental group B than those in other two groups with 10% on the day of surgery, 3.3% at the second day postoperatively and no bladder spasm at the third day after operation. There was a significant difference in the incidence of bladder spasm between the three groups ( $\chi^2=19.449$ ,  $P=0.000$ ;  $\chi^2=6.469$ ,  $P=0.040$ ;  $\chi^2=8.314$ ,  $P=0.013$ ). Blood urine was milder in experimental group B than that in other two groups at the third day postoperatively with significant difference ( $\chi^2=6.796$ ,  $P=0.037$ ). Patients in experimental group B felt more comfortable than those in other two groups with a rate of comfort up to 70%. There was a significant difference in it between three groups ( $\chi^2=9.600$ ,  $P=0.008$ ). Conclusions For patients who underwent transurethral plasmakentic vaporization of prostate, when continuous bladder irrigation and analgesia are withdrawn, reduction of water volume in the air sacs of indwelling urinary catheters to 10ml can relieve the constriction of the bladder outlet and rubbing bladder mucosa and prostatic fossa and thus reduce the incidence of bladder spasm and blood urine and increase comfort level.

**Keywords:** Transurethral Plasmakentic Vaporization of Prostate, Indwelling Urinary Catheter, Volume of Air Sac, Nursing Intervention

## 1. Introduction

Prostatic hyperplasia is one of the common male diseases clinically. As the population ages, the incidence of prostatic hyperplasia increases year by year. For the benign prostatic hyperplasia, surgical therapy is required. Currently, transurethral resection of prostate (TURP) is gold standard of treatment with advantages of short operation time, light

surgical trauma and quick recovery [1, 2]. However, transurethral resection of prostate is followed by high incidence of transurethral resection syndrome such as water intoxication. Renovation of medical equipment bring about bipolar plasmakentic electronic resection system and laser enucleation which reduce the incidence of transurethral resection syndrome. Clinically, transurethral plasmakentic vaporization has been widely adopted to the treatment for

benign prostatic hyperplasia [3, 4].

Oozing of blood from the wound on prostatic fossa may cause blood clot in bladder and that will lead to urinary blocking and further induce bladder spasm. In order to avoid bleeding from the wound on prostatic fossa after TUPKVP, three-chamber catheters are regularly indwelled and injected saline water to give continuous bladder irrigation. According to the color of drainage, whether to press prostatic fossa with air sac of large volume to stop bleeding is decided. However, there is not a unified standard for the volume of injected water in the air sacs of indwelling catheters. In our department, the regular volume of injected water is 30ml. Research shows that increase in volume of injected water raises constriction of neck of bladder and urethra. The increased constriction is very likely to irritate sensory nerves of bladder and thus stimulate parasympathetic nerves which causes bladder contraction, resulting in bladder spasm. Other research also demonstrates that too much injected water in the air sac causes severe bearing-down feeling and thus repeated micturition desire, causing urethral pain, which is more obvious when patients move [5, 6].

To reduce the incidence of bladder spasm induced by indwelling urinary catheters after TUPKVP, the volume of injected water into the air sacs of urinary catheters of 90 patients who received TUPKVP was changed from July 2018 to July 2019 to investigate how the change of injected water in the air sacs of indwelling urinary catheters affects bladder spasm and blood urine. The results are reported as follows.

## 2. Data and Methods

### 2.1. General Data

We enrolled 90 patients who were diagnosed with benign prostatic hyperplasia and admitted to our department from July 2018 to July 2019 as participants. The inclusion criteria are: having not been given muscarinic receptor blocking drugs perioperatively, having indications of surgical treatment for prostatic hyperplasia, being willing to participate in the current research, having provided their informed consents. The 90 patients were averagely randomized into three groups: control group, experimental group A and experimental group B. The patients in control group age from 58 to 87 with an average age of  $73.3 \pm 8.4$ ; patients in experimental group A age from 57 to 86 with an average age of  $72.0 \pm 8.2$  and experimental group B from 56 to 86 with an average age of  $73.0 \pm 8.0$ . In the control group, the volume of prostate ranges from 45.1ml to 105.8 ml ( $75.2 \pm 30.5$  ml averagely); there are 4 cases of combined diabetes, 6 cases of hypertension, 3 cases of coronary heart diseases; and the duration of indwelling urinary catheters postoperatively is  $5.0 \pm 1.2$  days. In the experimental group A, the volume of prostate is 46.3-108.2 ml (with an average of  $77.2 \pm 31.4$  ml); there are 5 cases of combined diabetes, 6 cases of hypertension and 2 cases of coronary heart diseases; and the duration of indwelling urinary catheters is  $5.1 \pm 1.1$  days. In the experimental group B, the volume of prostate is 45.5-106.9ml ( $76.9 \pm 31.1$  averagely); there are 6

cases of combined diabetes, 4 cases of hypertension and 4 cases of coronary heart diseases; and the duration of indwelling urinary catheters is  $4.8 \pm 0.9$  days. There is no significant difference in the age, comorbidity, volume of prostate and other aspects between the three groups ( $p > 0.05$ ). Thus, the comparison of the three groups is worth exploring. The postoperative pathology indicates prostatic hyperplasia.

### 2.2. Methods

Patients in three groups were given transurethral plasmakentic vaporization of prostate after receiving combined spinal-epidural anesthesia. Postoperatively, the same type of F18 three-chamber silica gel urinary catheters (Dalian Kuliante Medical Products Co. Ltd, China.) were indwelled and 30 ml of water was injected into the air sacs of the urinary catheters. The catheters were pulled outwards to give continuous bladder irrigation and pump for analgesia was used for continuous pain killing. At the first day postoperatively the continuous bladder irrigation was withdrawn and there was no active bleeding during two hours of observation. We reduced the volume of water injected into the air sacs of urinary catheters to 20 ml and 10 ml in experimental group A and experimental group B respectively while the volume of injected water in the control group remained 30 ml, and withdrew analgesia pump in three groups. We observed the incidence of bladder spasm and blood urine in the three groups on the day of intervention, and at the second and third day after nursing intervention.

### 2.3. Comparative Analysis of Bladder Spasm Score, Blood Urine and Comfort Level Between the Three Groups

#### 2.3.1. Bladder Spasm Score

Any one of precipitant urination, precipitant defecation, painful bladder and no obvious change of drainage color deserves one score; unbearable pain in bladder, urine spillover around urinary catheters and obvious red color of the drainage are two scores separately. When the total score reaches 4 or over 4, the condition is seen as bladder spasm. If all the above symptoms occur, the condition is 10 score (We referred to the visual analogue scales. The score ranges from 0 to 10 and is in proportion to spasm condition.) [7, 8].

#### 2.3.2. Evaluation of Blood Urine

Blood urine induced by diseases other than TUPKVP was excluded. The patients were instructed to avoid eating foods and drugs that could cause color change of the urine. We used urine colorimetric card to determine and compare the color of urine between three groups. Red urine including light red, bright red and dark red urine is seen as blood urine.

#### 2.3.3. Visual Analogue Scales for Evaluation of Comfort Level

The incidence and degree of pain was evaluated based on the feeling of patients. When urinary catheters are indwelled and there is no frequent, urgent and painful urination, the comfort level is 0. When there is frequent, urgent urination and urination desire, and the pain score ranges from 1-3, 4-7

and 8-10, the comfort level is I, II and III respectively [8]. Hence, the level of 0 represents comfortable. The higher the level, the less comfortable it indicates.

#### 2.4. Statistical Methods

We used SPSS 17.0 for statistical analysis and the data were shown in the form of (mean±standard deviation). Enumeration data were tested by  $\chi^2$  and  $p < 0.05$  indicates significant difference.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Comparison of Incidence of Bladder Spasm and Blood Urine Condition Between Three Groups

At the first day postoperatively, when changing the volume

**Table 1.** Incidence of Bladder Spasm and Blood Urine Condition in the Three Groups after Nursing Intervention (%).

Group	N	The day of operation		Second day		Third day	
		Bladder spasm	Blood urine	Bladder spasm	Blood urine	Bladder spasm	Blood urine
Control group	30	9 (30.0)	11 (36.7)	8 (26.7)	7 (23.3)	7 (23.3)	6 (20.0)
Experimental group A	30	5 (16.7)	6 (20.0)	4 (13.3)	5 (16.7)	4 (13.3)	3 (10.0)
Experimental group B	30	3 (10.0)	4 (13.3)	1 (3.3)	1 (3.3)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
$\chi^2$		19.449	4.845	6.469	5.284	8.314	6.796
P		0.000	0.115	0.040	0.072	0.013	0.037

#### 3.2. Comparison of Comfort Level on the Indwelling Catheters Between Three Groups

After the injected water volume in the air sacs of three-chamber catheters was changed, the comfort level of patients in experimental group B reached 70% which is

significantly higher than the 50% and 30% in experimental group A and control group respectively. There was a significant difference between three groups ( $\chi^2=9.600$ ,  $p=0.008$ ) as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Comparison of Comfort Level on the Indwelling Catheters between Three Groups (%).

Group	N	Comfort level			
		0	I	II	III
Control group	30	9 (30.0)*	10 (33.3)	9 (30)	2 (6.7)
Experimental group A	30	15 (50.0)	8 (26.7)	6 (20.0)	1 (3.3)
Experimental group B	30	21 (70.0)	6 (20.0)	3 (10)	0 (0.0)
$\chi^2$		9.600			
P		0.008			

Notice: \* indicated that compared with experimental group A and B, there was a significant difference ( $P < 0.05$ ).

### 4. Discussion

Complications of transurethral plasmakentic vaporization of prostate include bladder spasm, bleeding, urinary incontinence, urinary tract infection, etc. [2, 9-10]. Bladder spasm may aggravate prostate wound bleeding and the blood clot would block the ureter. Inadequate drainage of urine in return will induce bladder spasm, causing physical pain to patients and damaging their physical and mental health and postoperative recovery. The volume of injected water in the air sacs of indwelling catheters after TUPKVP should function to fix the urinary catheters and the adverse reaction the catheters cause should be reduced as much as possible. If too much water is injected into the air sacs, the neck of bladder will be constricted and patients will have bearing-down feeling in the lower abdomen, very likely to cause bladder spasm. Besides,

the larger the air sacs are, the more severe the friction between air sacs and mucosa of prostatic fossa is, which means the bleeding is very likely to occur. However, if the volume of injected water is too small, the comfort level may be higher but the urinary catheters are more likely to fall off.

Clinically, there is not a standard volume of injected water into the air sacs. That is mainly because it is hard to decide a standardized volume that is applicable to all populations [11-13]. The volume should be decided according to sex, age, diseases and other factors [14-16]. Some research [16] show there should be a difference in the volume of injected water between females and males and suggest that the best volume for males whose operation is not TUPKVP is 7-10 ml. Nevertheless, TUPKVP expands internal urethral orifice. If the volume of injected water is too small, the urinary catheters are likely to fall off. Some researchers explain that when the

injected water is not enough, the air sac is not expanded enough. Hence, when subject to external force or the patients' abdominal pressure raises, air sacs are easily deformed and the deformation causes falling off of urinary catheters. Therefore, the volume of injected water in the air sacs of urinary catheters is very important to the treatment and comfort level for patients [6, 11, 16].

In the current research, we changed the volume of injected water in the three-chamber urinary catheters in the experimental group B at the first day after operation. We found that the incidence of bladder spasm and blood urine in the experimental group B was lower and the comfort level was higher than that in the control group and experimental group A. Besides, we found that there was no external force and abdominal pressure increase-induced urinary catheter falling off. Instead, patients in experimental group B reported that they felt relieved in lower abdomen and there was no severe discomfort with urinary catheters. Patients in control group complained that they had bearing-down feeling in lower abdomen, precipitant urination, urine spillover, red urine or dark red urine most of time when they performed daily activities with the urinary catheters. Patients in experimental group B complained the same symptoms as patients in control group while their symptoms were much milder than those of patients in control group. The discomfort that patients in control group and experimental group A complain may be because the large air sacs of urinary catheters are stuck in the prostatic fossa which compresses the neck of bladder and rubs the wound of operation due to gravity when patients are standing. The bigger the air sacs are, the larger the rubbing surface between air sacs and mucosa of bladder is and the stimulation to nerves in the inner wall of the bladder increases. That means damage to mucosa of bladder increases, so patients feel more painful and uncomfortable and the incidence of blood urine is higher.

## 5. Conclusions

In conclusion, at the first day after TUPKVP when continuous bladder irrigation and analgesia are withdrawn, reduction of volume of injected water in the air sacs of indwelling urinary catheters to 10 ml reduces constriction to bladder outlet and rubbing to bladder mucosa and prostatic fossa. As a result, within three days postoperatively, the incidence of bladder spasm and blood urine decreases significantly. Therefore, the intervention of reducing the volume of injected water can relieve patients' discomfort and is beneficial to their recovery, and thus is well worth clinical application and promotion.

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