

PUDENDAL NEURALGIA

Pudendal Neuralgia is a **pelvi-perineal neuropathic pain**, sometimes associated with urinary, rectal or sexual dysfunction.

One of the main issues for Pudendal Neuralgia is **Pudendal Nerve Entrapment**, also called **“Alcock’s Canal Syndrome”**. Its identification is crucial since this may lead to **surgical decompression**.

However, the **great variability of the symptoms** leads to a difficult diagnosis and there is **no current diagnostic gold standard** to confirm the Pudendal Nerve Entrapment.

Diagnostic Score, validated by several studies, has been providing more relevant evidence of Pudendal Neuralgia presence.

As for the **Electroneuromyography**, it can show Pudendal Neuralgia and evaluate the degree of severity, but in cases of Pudendal Nerve Entrapment, it cannot ascertain the localization of the site of compression and so, it does not allow to provide therapeutic ways.

In Pudendal Neuralgia, the **Colour Duplex Scanning** is very interesting in helping to diagnose Pudendal Neuralgia by Nerve Entrapment.

Indeed, our studies (1, 2, 3) demonstrated, for the first time, a high diagnostic value of the Colour Duplex Scanning in Pudendal Nerve Entrapment, thanks to the new Dr Mollo’s criteria, called « PAR » (« pudendal artery ratio »).

When the aetiology of Pudendal Neuralgia is accurately confirmed, then treatment has better chances of success.

A **Surgical treatment** can be proposed in the **Alcock’s Canal Syndrome**, and several procedures are acknowledged: **the technique « TIR » (« Trans-ischio-rectal ») was validated and demonstrated excellent results (4, 5, 6).**

⁽¹⁾ M Mollo, E Baurtant, A-K Rossi-Seignert, S Collet, R Boyer, D Thiers-Baurtant. Evaluation of Diagnostic Accuracy of Colour Duplex Scanning, compared to Electromyography, Diagnostic Score and Surgical outcomes, in Pudendal Neuralgia by Entrapment : A prospective study on 96 patients. Pain 2009 ; 142 : 159-163

⁽²⁾ M Mollo. Place de l'écho-doppler couleur dans le diagnostic de la compression canalaire pudendale (oral communication in plenary session – ALS 2009 Congress, Aix-en-Provence)

⁽³⁾ M Mollo, E Baurtant. Evaluation of Color Duplex Scanning in the Diagnosis of Pudendal Neuralgia by Pudendal Nerve Entrapment, Compared to Electromyography, Diagnostic Score and Surgical Outcomes. A prospective Study of 96 Patients. Congress of International College of Angiology, 2008; 38 (oral communication – ICA 2008, Tokyo)

⁽⁴⁾ Baurtant E, De Bisschop E, Vaini-Elies V et al. La prise en charge moderne des névralgies pudendales. À partir d'une série de 212 patientes et 104 interventions de décompression. J Gynecol Obstet Biol Reprod (Masson, Paris) 2003; 32: 705-712.

⁽⁵⁾ Baurtant E, Gardou G, Mollo M, Thiers-Baurtant D, Vaini V, Lamarche J. How to indicate a surgical decompression for pudendal pain. 5th Annual Meeting of Mediterranean Society of Pelvic Floor Disorders, Cairo 2007; 27-29.

⁽⁶⁾ Baurtant E. Pudendal nerve decompression: The trans-ischio-rectal approach. 31st Annual Meeting of the International Urogynecological Association, Athens 2006 September; 31.

(Complete list of Dr Murielle Mollo's publications on this web site : page « Accueil », item « Mon cursus »)

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