



Control/Tracking Number: 07-A-919-ACR
Activity: ACR Abstract Submission
Current Date/Time: 5/4/2007 5:26:41 PM

Hysterectomy and Abdominal Surgery Are More Frequently Performed In Fibromyalgia Patients than Controls

Author Block: Robert S. Katz¹, Sharon Ferbert², Frank Leavitt³. ¹Rheumatology Associates, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL; ²Rheumatology Associates, Chicago, IL; ³Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL

Abstract:

PURPOSE: Fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS) patients frequently experience abdominal and pelvic pain, and often have many tender points within the perineum. We used a questionnaire to investigate whether FMS patients have increased abdominal surgery rates.

METHODS: An Internet survey, conducted by a FMS community organization, AFFTER (Advocates for Fibromyalgia Funding, Treatment, Education and Research), asked respondents about prior surgeries. 486 people with FMS and 101 people without FMS completed the questionnaire. The chi-square test of association and Fisher's exact test were used to compare the FMS and non-FMS groups with respect to the percentage reporting each type of surgery. A 0.05 significance level was used. All tests were two-sided.

RESULTS: Women with FMS were significantly more likely than women without FMS to have had abdominal surgery. Men with FMS were significantly more likely than men without FMS to have had sinus or exploratory surgery

Type of Surgery	FMS n (%)	Non-FMS n (%)	P-value
Women:			
Cholecystectomy	119 (26%)	9 (12%)	0.01
Hysterectomy or other female surgery	224 (48%)	24 (32%)	0.008
Other	170 (37%)	14 (19%)	0.002
None	55 (12%)	18 (24%)	0.004
Men:			
Sinus	4 (17%)	0 (0%)	0.042
Exploratory	4 (17%)	0 (0%)	0.042

.CONCLUSION: Women with FMS may undergo hysterectomies and other abdominal surgery more often than non-FMS women. FMS patients with pelvic pain and abdominal pain need a cautious, conservative evaluation to determine whether the FMS is contributing to symptoms before undergoing such procedures.

:

Author Disclosure Block: **R.S. Katz**, None; **S. Ferbert**, None; **F. Leavitt**, None.

Category (Complete): 9. Fibromyalgia and soft tissue disorder

Keywords (Complete): fibromyalgia ; surgery