Pharmacopuncture in the restoration of sexual function in men with hypertensionM.V. Sadovsky1, L.G.

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Pharmacopuncture in restoring sexual function of male patients with hypertonic disease

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### **SUMMARY**

The aim of the work was a comparable analysis of the methods of correcting the sexual activity of men with essential hypertension. The formation of sexual disorders correlated with the escalation of hypertension and the expansion of the arsenal of antihypertensive drugs. All patients underwent a comprehensive examination, presented by clinical and instrumental methods. As a result of the study, the development of a fast and stable sexological effect in response to pharmacopuncture with a homeopathic preparation was confirmed, in contrast to the intramuscular administration of this agent or pharmacopuncture with saline.

Key words: sexual disorders in men, hypertensivedisease, pharmacopuncture, homeopathic medicine.

## **RESUME**

The purpose of the work was comparative analysis of methods for correction of sexual activity of men with hypertension. Formation of sexual disorders was associated with hypertension escalation and expansion of the arsenal of antihypertensive remedies. All patients passed a comprehensive survey by clinical and instrumental methods. The study confirmed the development of rapid and sustained sexological effect in response to pharmacopuncture by homeopathic preparation - in contrast to the intramuscular injection of preparation or pharmacopuncture by saline.

Keywords: sexual disorders in men, hypertension, pharmacopuncture, homeopathic preparation.

# Introduction

The urgency of the problem of sexual dysfunctions in men is determined by the biological and medico-social significance [1, 2, etc.]. Within the framework of the topic under discussion, it is necessary to indicate that arterial hypertension causes damage to the arterial bed along its entire length, including the vessels of the penis [3]. In addition to this, almost all antihypertensive drugs suppress the sexual functions of men. A similar intertwining of pathogenic

factors determines, in turn, the therapeutic resistance of dysfunctions.

This leads to interest in certain effective technologies, including pharmacopuncture - the introduction of medications at the points of reflexology [4]. The effectiveness of this method, with the use of the drug Testis compositum, has been established in restoring the sexual activity of men, but only against the background of the underlying neurological pathology [5]. These isolated data lead to the assumption about the effectiveness of pharmacopuncture in the case of sexual disorders associated with hypertension, which was the topic of this study.

# Material and methods of examination and treatment

The study included 90 men under the age of 50 with hypertension stage 1-2, presenting in parallel complaints of a sexual nature. In this group, selected from more than 200 patients, a causal relationship was established between the main process and sexual dysfunctions. In particular, the formation of the latter was traced against the background of the escalation of hypertension and the expansion of the arsenal of antihypertensive drugs.

## Research methods

Along with Withclinical, all patients carried out standard sexological examination [6]. At the same time, the level of male sexual activity was assessed in the range from 0 to 4 points. These characteristics were correlated with the indicators of the activity of the pituitary-gonadal system - by means of radio-immune determination of the content of its components in the blood.

In the course of the psychological analysis, we used the questionnaire methods of "multilateral personality research" (MIL) and "well-being - activity - mood" (SAN). The electrophysiological unit was represented by electroneuromyography (Sapphire apparatus, Medelec, UK) and Doppler assessment of hemodynamics in the hypogastric (SAL-50A, TOSHIBA) and penile arteries (Versaton, USA).

### Treatment methods

All patients received antihypertensive therapy based on known standards. When performing the main task - compensation of sexual function, men were divided into three groups: two main and one comparison, each of 30 people. In the main groups, the homeopathic preparation Testis compositum ("Heel", Germany) was used as the basis. In the 1st group, this agent was used intramuscularly, in the 2nd - by pharmacopuncture, injecting into points localized in the zone of the skin projection of the genitals (suprapubic, sacral regions and the inner surface of the lower extremities). In the comparison group, pharmacopuncture was performed with saline; this approach goes beyond placebo, being a variant of long-term irritation of points. Regardless of the methods chosen, the course of treatment consisted of 10 procedures, prescribed 3 times a week.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of treatment was carried out in dynamics, using

parametric and nonparametric methods of statistics. At the same time, "significant improvement" meant positive dynamics of both subjective and objective characteristics, and "improvement" meant only subjective ones.

## results

At the first stage, the characteristics of the genital area of 90 men with essential hypertension and concomitant sexual dysfunctions were clarified. The parameters assessed (sexual enterprise, penile tension, etc.) were reduced here by an average of 30-50% in relation to the optimum of 4 points [2]. The ratio of the indicators of this group and men with hypertension without concomitant dysfunctions is presented in table. 1.

Table 1

Average parameters of sexual activity of the surveyed men

	Уровень (в баллах)				
Параметры	Основная подгруппа (n = 90)	Сравнивае мая подгруппа (n = 120)			
Половая предприимчивость	$2,0 \pm 0,12*$	$3,3 \pm 0,21$			
Настроение перед сношением	$2.0 \pm 0.2*$	$3.1 \pm 0.2$			
Напряжение полового члена	$2.3 \pm 0.11$	$2.9 \pm 0.21$			
Длительность сношения	$2,2 \pm 0,21$	$3.0 \pm 0.17$			

Примечание: в скобках - число наблюдений;

In 46% of observations (42 out of 90 men), a weakening of the sexual constitution was revealed, which is a factor that facilitates the formation of sexual disorders. In these individuals, there was a significant (p <0.05) drop in testosterone levels in the blood (up to  $3.3 \pm 0.34$  with a "norm" of  $5.4 \pm 0.43$  mg / ml) against the background of the growth of follicle-stimulating hormone of the pituitary gland (3,  $0.3 \pm 0.15$  with control figures  $2.4 \pm 0.23$  mIU / ml), reflecting a violation of the gonad-pituitary feedback.

During the clinical and psychological examination, 72.2% of patients showed stable changes in the mental sphere, with the dominance of the asthenic component. The textbook increased fatigue and irritability of patients were reflected in the averaged profile of MIL: an increase in the "neurotic triad" scales (p <0.05) and, to a lesser extent, on scales VI-VIII. A decrease in all indicators of SAN was also characteristic, first of all - "activity". "

According to electromyography data, the preservation of the neuromuscular structures of the reproductive apparatus was confirmed in all the subjects. On the other hand, when analyzing the vascular background in the group, there was a moderate (p> 0.05) decrease in the linear velocity in the arteries of the penis - up to  $18.1 \pm 0.9$  with normal values of  $20.2 \pm 0.9$  cm / sec.

Thus, the combination of humoral, neuropsychic and vascular links is the cornerstone of the sexual dysfunctions revealed in the group. Identifying them

<sup>\*</sup> – достоверность различий по группам (р < 0,05).

provided, in turn, the solution of the main problem - the optimization of sexological treatment of patients.

It was found that as a result of the use of pharmacopuncture, regardless of the agent used, "significant improvement" and "improvement" of the state was found in total in 63–66% of cases versus 46.6% in response to intramuscular administration of a homeopathic preparation (Table 2). At the same time, the deterioration in the sexual sphere noted in one case was difficult to associate with the ongoing therapy.

Comparable Effectiveness of Exposure Techniques

table 2

Группы больных	Состояние								
	Значительное улучшение		Улучшение		Без эффекта		Ухудшение		
	Aoc.	%	Aőc.	%	Абс.	%	Абс.	%	
$1-\pi (n = 30)$	6	20	8	26,6	16	53,4	-	-	
2-я (n = $30$ )	10	33,3	10	33,3	9	30	1	3,4	
$3-\pi \ (n=30)$	8	26,6	11	36,7	10	33,3	1	3,4	

Примечание: n – количество наблюдений.

Clinical data were verified by the results of additional examination. Despite the clinical efficacy of pharmacopuncture (groups 2 and 3), an improvement in the hormonal profile was observed only in the case of using Testis compositum, i.e. in the main groups. This is confirmed by an increase in the concentration of testosterone - on average from 3.41  $\pm$  0.39 to 4.38  $\pm$  0.55 mg / ml (p <0.05) - and a tendency to restore the ratio of the level of this and follicle-stimulating hormone of the pituitary gland.

On the other hand, positive changes in mental status were more often observed with both types of pharmacopuncture, which is explained. restoration of the level of sexual activity. The final analysis of the averaged profile of the MIL in these patients reflected a significant (p <0.05) drop in the initial peak according to the 1st scale and a moderate decrease according to the 7th scale, while the SAN test showed an increase in all indicators.

A moderate increase in the linear velocity in the penile arteries (from 17.9  $\pm$  0.8 to 18.8  $\pm$  0.9 cm / s) was also characteristic for both groups of pharmacopuncture, confirming the importance of the reflex component in eliminating vascular changes.

Thus, upon completion of the treatment course, the priority of both pharmacopuncture options over the intramuscular application of Testis compositum was established. On the other hand, the idea of the cumulative effect of homeopathy, as well as favorable hormonal changes in response to intramuscular administration of the drug, indicated the advisability of subsequent follow-up analysis.

The study, carried out after half a year, reflected changes in the ratio of previously achieved results. In the main groups, therapeutic

the effect was stable, even with a certain increase in the 1st group (intramuscular injection of the drug). In the comparison group, positive results, on the contrary, turned out to be less persistent, having decreased from 63 to 39% (Table 3).

The clinical characteristics were confirmed by objective research. Individuals receiving homeopathic treatment maintained a favorable location of the psychological profile scales, which was not typical for the comparison group. Changes in hemodynamic parameters were also different: in the case of pharmacopuncture with Testis compositum, the vascular effect was generally stable, in contrast to the data of the comparison group.

## Discussion and conclusions

results studies show O systemic influence pharmacopuncture as a homeopathic remedy for the sexual sphere of men, surpassing the results of the compared groups - intramuscular administration of the drug or pharmacopuncture with saline. In this regard, one can also assume a certain protective effect of Testis compositum in relation to the unfavorable sexological effects of antihypertensive drugs.

Table 3 Follow-up assessment of the effectiveness of compared technologies

Группы	Суммарные показатели «значительного улучшения» и «улучшения»						
	По завершению лечения			Через 6 месяцев после лечения			
	n	абс.	%	n	абс.	%	
1-я	30	14	46,6	26	11	53,8	
2-я	30	20	66,6	25	16	64	
3-я	30	19	63,3	23	9	39	

Примечание: n — количество наблюдений на этапах исследования.

Here, the androgenic effect of the selected drug should be highlighted, supplemented by stimulation of acupuncture points. In turn, this fact confirms the feasibility of a wider application of the proposed technology in practical medicine.

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