



PSIWORLD 2013

Smoking as a risk factor for the development of Erectile Dysfunction and Infertility in Men; evaluation depending on the anxiety levels of these patients

Ioan Scarneciu^{a,b,*}, Sorin Lupu^{a,c}, Camelia C. Scarneciu^{b,d}

^a Clinic of Urology, Oltet Street, no. 2, Brasov, 500152, Romania

^b Transilvania University of Brasov, Faculty of Medicine, Nicolae Balcescu Street, no. 56, Brasov, 500019, Romania

^c Spiru Haret University from Brasov, Faculty of Psychology and Pedagogy, Turnului Street, no.7, Brasov, 500152, Romania

^d Clinic of Medical Semiology, Oltet Street, no. 2, Brasov, 500152, Romania

Abstract

Sexuality is a fundamental component of human behavior. Frequency of erectile dysfunction (ED) and infertility is increasing around the world. Both may have profound psychological effects. One of the risk factors is smoking. The purpose of this study was to verify the hypothesis that smoking favors the appearance of ED and altered sperm parameters in young men. We tried to see if the efficiency of a strong message emotionally charged is lower for anxious subjects compared to less anxious, because anxiety is an additional risk factor for the occurrence of ED and one of the emotional complications of ED.

© 2014 The Authors. Published by Elsevier Ltd. Open access under [CC BY-NC-ND license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

Selection and peer-review under responsibility of Romanian Society of Applied Experimental Psychology.

Keywords: Erectile Dysfunction, Infertility in Men, Anxiety

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +40-72-2332622;
E-mail address: urologie_scarneciu@yahoo.com

1. Introduction

Sexuality is a fundamental component of human behavior and has three facets: reproduction, erotic and the relational function that is exercised in accordance with the rules of the social context in which the individual develops. Erectile dysfunction (ED) is the inability to achieve or maintain an erection strong enough for reaching a satisfactory sexual intercourse. The causes of sexual dysfunction are: physical, psychological, mixed or iatrogenic. Triggers and maintaining factors of a disorder usually overlap, making it difficult to delimit a pure cause (Scarneciu & Lupu 2006; Scarneciu & Lupu, 201; Lue 2007; Wespes et al., 2013; Corona & Maggi, 2012; Porst 2012). One of the risk factors in the development of ED is smoking. Smoking is a major public health problem worldwide. Only two population-based prospective studies have been published on the association between smoking and ED so far (Johannes et al., 2000; Moreira et al., 2003). The Massachusetts Male Aging Study found that the incidence of ED doubled in a sub-group of men free from vascular diseases (Feldman et al 2000). Meta-analysis has shown that 40% of impotent men are current smokers compared with 28% of men in the general population (Tengs & Osgood, 2001). However, there have been controversial reports on association between smoking and ED. Some previous studies have shown that smoking is associated with ED (Martin-Morales, 2001; Gades et al., 2005), but not all (Akkus et al., 2002). Effect of smoking on the incidence of ED is still controversial. Only few longitudinal studies have published so far (Feldman et al., 2000; Elhanbly, 2004). The literature provides ample evidence regarding the association between smoking and male infertility. Reduction was noted in semen quantity, sperm count, motility, and possible morphological changes of spermatozoa (Said et al 2005, American Society for Reproductive Medicine 2012). Infertility is the inability of a couple to achieve a pregnancy in a period of 6-12 months after frequent and unprotected sex. It is estimated that approximately 35-40% of cases of couple infertility is caused by male, in 35-40% of women and 20-30% of cases in other combinations of factors (Jungwirth et al., 2013; American Society for Reproductive Medicine, 2012). Anxiety can cause a reduction in terms of intimacy between partners, avoidance of sexual behavior and intimate nature, the patient seeking to avoid any encounter that might cause a nuisance, a real attempt on his own ego. There are multiple life stressors that can lead to anxiety and in turn induce secondary ED. These stressful events can be job related, couple related, age related, health related or even be side effects from other drug therapies (Wespes, 2013; Porst, 2012). Although not clearly proven involvement of anxiety in male infertility, the occurrence of such problems in man's life will produce anxiety. Men undergo various battles when facing personal infertility, include anxiety concerning potency, masculinity, and sexual adequacy (Zorn, 2007).

2. The present research

The present study is based on the observation of many authors, and ours, under which smoking is an important risk factor in the development of sexual dysfunction in men, but also in terms of alterations in semen quality. This study aims to assess whether smoking affects male sexual function, and quality of spermatic fluid. In this research were used questionnaires and semen analysis .

2.1. *The motivation of the research*

The motivation for this study was determined by highlighting profound lack of information for young people about the risk of smoking, regarding the sexual function and infertility. For many infertile man is to blame, although in many cases the man tends not easily accept this problem.

2.2. *The research purpose*

The research purpose of this study was to verify the hypothesis that smoking favors the appearance of sexual dysfunction and altered sperm parameters in young men. A second purpose of this study was to see if the efficiency of a strong message emotionally charged is lower for anxious subjects compared to less anxious, knowing that anxiety is an additional risk factor for the occurrence of ED and is, at the same time, one of the powerful emotional complications of ED.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1116071>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1116071>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)