

#### Introduction:

Chronic intractable pelvic pain despite multidisciplinary approach is challenging to treat. It may present following surgery in the pelvic region. Some of the pelvic pain syndromes have features of neurogenic inflammation and neuropathic pain in common. As opposed to being separate disease entities, they may present as spectrum of clinical manifestation of Complex Regional Pelvic Syndrome 1 of pelvis.

Electrical peripheral nerve stimulation has been successful as a treatment for numerous neuropathic conditions particularly with mononeuropathies 1,2.

Interventional management in the form of Iliogingual(II) / Iliohypogastric(IH)nerve blocks have been performed at our centre with temporary benefit, while Sacral neuromodulating permanent implants shown to have beneficial effects 3 have also been performed at our centre but is expensive, complicated procedure restricted to neuromodulating centres.

#### Methods;

Short target oriented stimulation has been investigated in our centre with very successful results in non-specific pain distribution producing reproducible pain relief of varying duration 4. Following this experience, we applied a short, five minute stimulation at slow frequency of 2 Hz and amplitude varying between 0.2 and 5 mA to the II/IH nerve of painful side using the simple principle of nerve location with short bevel, 22G insulated 50 mm needles (Stimuplex D, B Braun) as practiced in regional anaesthesia.

#### Results:

Total number of patients studied was 8. All patients had 100% pain relief at the end of 5 minute procedure. In 2 patients it lasted for 24 hours, in 2 patients it lasted 1 week, 3 patients at 3 months continue to have complete pain relief and 2 patients were lost to follow up.

#### Conclusions:

Peripheral percutaneous neurostimulation is a simple and effective procedure in management of chronic intractable pelvic pain. It acts as an indicator prior to longer medium term or permanent stimulating electrode implant<sup>4</sup> and also as a therapeutic intervention affording excellent pain relief though of varying duration. Further studies are justified to establish its role in the interventional management of pelvic pain syndromes.

#### References:

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