Value of sonohysterography in the diagnosis and assessment of abnormal uterine bleeding

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Abstract

Given that abnormal uterine bleeding presents a problem, not only to women but also to doctors who are asked to accurately diagnose its cause and to properly plan its management, it was of utmost importance to study the role of the newly developed sonohysterography, in this aspect, compared to that of transvaginal sonography. In the present study, hundred patients with a history of abnormal uterine bleeding had both transvaginal sonography and sonohysterography done for them. The accuracy of the two techniques used was compared taking the pathological results obtained after hysteroscopy, D&C and operative data as a reference. Sonohysterography was able to detect the presence of endometrial abnormalities causing abnormal uterine bleeding, as well as to specify their exact number, site and nature. In most cases, sonohysteroscopy was more sensitive and specific than transvaginal sonography. The agreement of the diagnoses obtained on sonohysterography and transvaginal sonography to the final ones, obtained pathologically, was 87% and 69.8%, respectively, with the difference between the two figures being statistically significant in favour of the former. In addition, both techniques were able to detect the presence of submucous fibroids with the difference in their sensitivity and specificity being statistically insignificant. Sonohysterography exactly showed the degree of encroachment of the fibroid on the endometrial cavity that was important for future management. Finally, an algorithm was suggested for the management of cases of abnormal uterine bleeding, depending on the findings of this study.

Keywords
Transvaginal ultrasound (TVS), Sonohysterography (SHG), Abnormal uterine bleeding, Uterine abnormalities, Uterus, endometrium, Ultrasound (US), technology,