Micronized Purified Flavonoid Fraction in the treatment of pelvic pain associated with pelvic varicose veins

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Abstract

Aim: To evaluate the benefit of micronized purified flavonoid fraction (MPFF) in women suffering from chronic pelvic pain associated with pelvic varicose veins (PVV) and possible gonadal varicose veins (GVV).

Methods: Consecutive women consulting for pelvic pain lasting more than 6 months, where a differential diagnosis of PVV had been made and possible concomitant diseases ruled out, were included in the study. Selected patients received MPFF treatment: 1000 mg a day for 8 weeks. Pelvic pain was self-assessed weekly using a visual analogue scale (VAS) during the 8 weeks of MPFF treatment and for 14 weeks after treatment was stopped. Imaging investigations using transvaginal ultrasound angioscan (USAS) and emission computer tomography (ECT) were repeated at 8 weeks, then at 6, 12, 36, and 60 months.

Results: A total of 85 women aged 28±4.6 years, of which 65 were in the PVV group and 20 in the PVV+GVV group, were enrolled in the study between 2000 and 2010. From weeks 2 to 4 of MPFF treatment, a reduction in pelvic pain was seen in either group. While a continuous pain decrease was reported by the PVV patients up to week 8 of treatment, there was no additional pain reduction in the PVV+GVV group. Over the 14 weeks following MPFF treatment, pelvic pain intensity was increased back to the pretreatment level in the PVV+GVV group, but was eliminated in the PVV group. In the latter group, the diameter of the PVVs did not significantly change over the long term (up to 60 months) as illustrated by USAS, and pelvic venous congestion declined as shown by ECT, reflecting a stabilization of the disease course.

Conclusion: In the present study, an 8-week MPFF treatment, 1000 mg up to 2000 mg per day, in women with isolated PV, relieved them from their chronic pelvic pain in the short and long term. In patients with combined PV and GVV, MPFF did not eliminate pain. However, MPFF may be used in women who wish a future pregnancy or in those reluctant to undergo surgery. ECT of the pelvic veins is a reliable method for monitoring the efficacy of treatment or progression of the disease thanks to quantitative assessment of the degree of pelvic vein congestion.