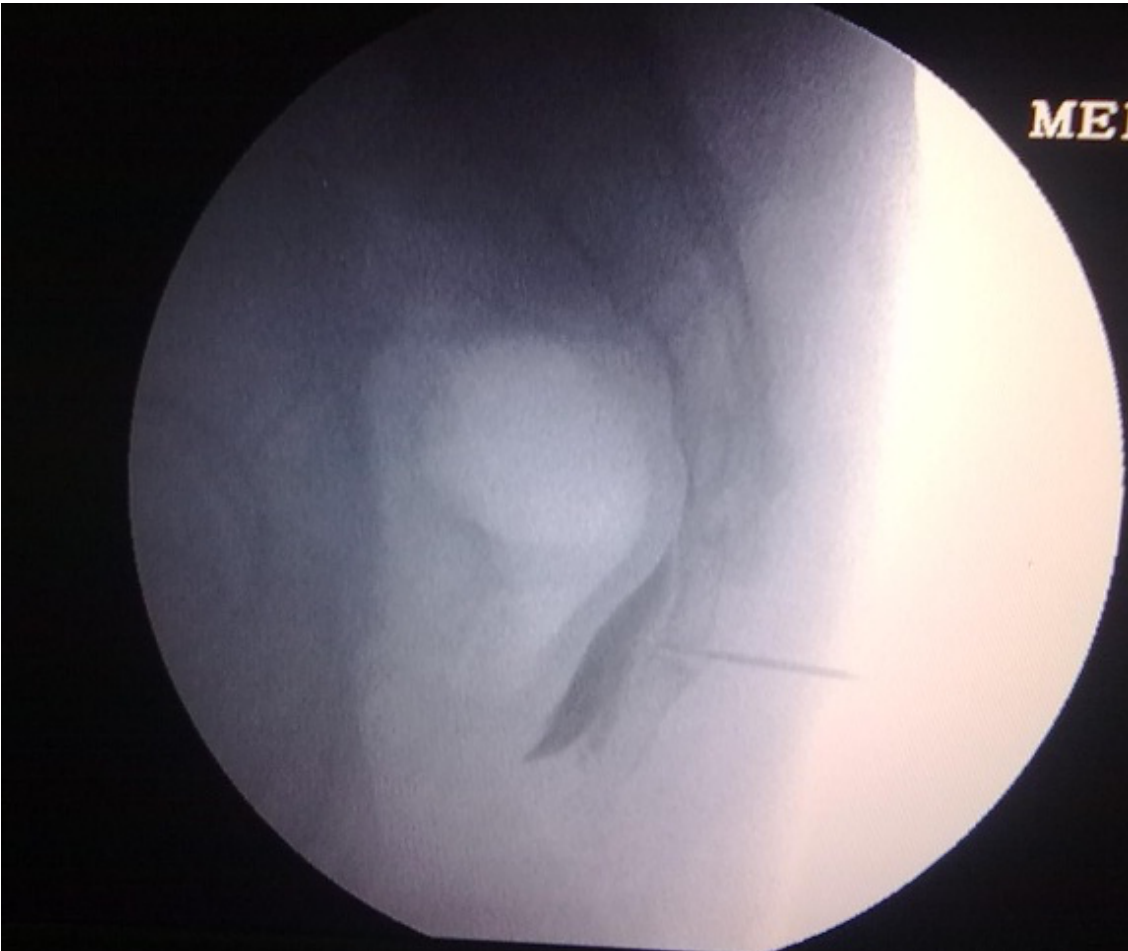


A CASE SERIES OF SUCCESSFUL GANGLION IMPAR BLOCKS FOR CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN
 Dr R Mottaleb, Dr P Thomas, Dr R Cregg, Miss C Deans, Mrs J Cambitzi, Dr A Shetty
 National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queens Square, London, UK

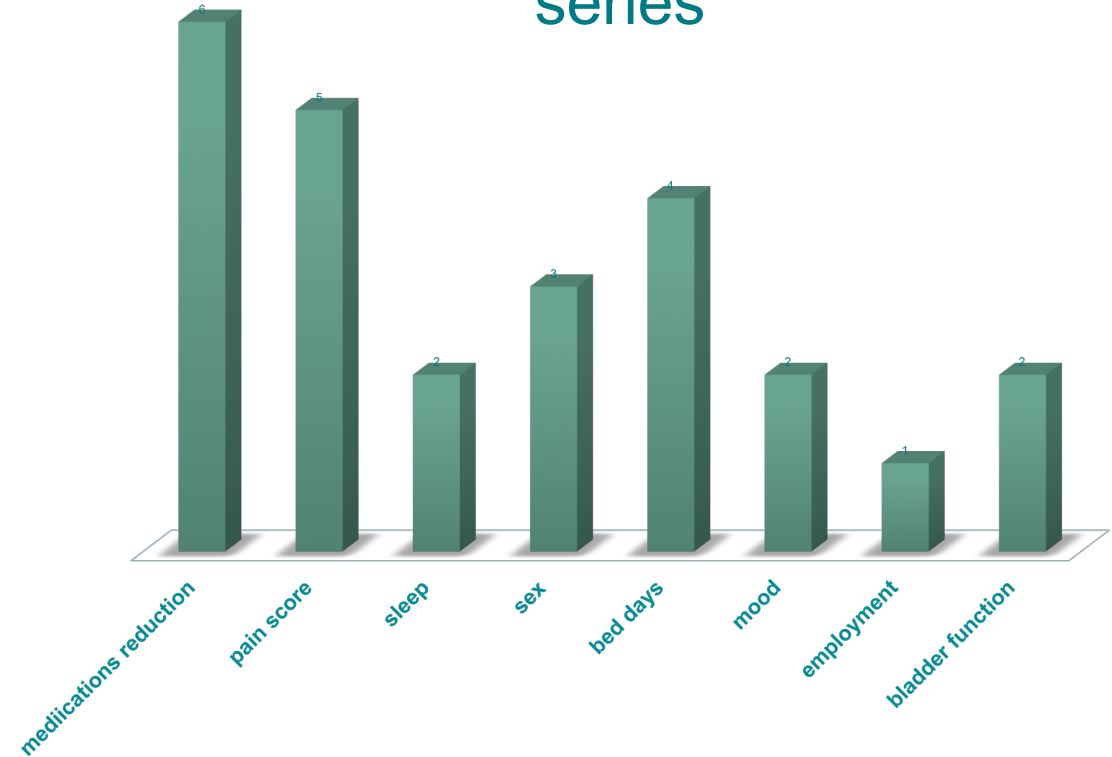
Introduction
 6.3% of males and up to 14.7% of women of a reproductive age suffer from pelvic pain. It results in negative psychological, sexual and social consequences. There is evidence supporting the use of ganglion impar blocks in pelvic pain. These studies have small numbers of patients and are few in number. They focus on VAS improvement and not function. We present a case series of successful ganglion impar blocks at our institution, exploring the overall pain experience and how this procedure affected patients' function.

Methods
 Patients who were listed for a ganglion impar block as part of their management plan conducted the short BPI. At follow up they repeated the short BPI and completed a pre-set questionnaire which included functional and pain score improvements. A block was deemed successful if the patient was satisfied and would have the procedure again.

Results
 Our series consisted of 7 patients. They all had chronic pelvic pain but had different indications for a ganglion impar block. The duration of improvement varied between 2 weeks and 8 months. 6 patients had a reduction in medication, all reported reduced pain scores. The short form BPI demonstrated improvement in 6 cases. Many reported other functional improvements, including bladder and bowel function. No complications are reported in this series.



Symptomatic improvement across the series



Conclusion
 The results demonstrate that the ganglion impar block improved function and pain scores in this subgroup of patients with chronic pelvic pain. In light of these findings a prospective study is underway and the outcome will be reported

References

- Pelvic pain: a pathway for care developed for both men and women by the British Pain Society (BJA 112 (3):452-9 (2014)
- E Reig, D Abejón, C del Pozo, J Insausti, Rafael Contreras, Thermocoagulation of the Ganglion Impar or Ganglion of Walther: Description of a Modified Approach. Preliminary Results in Chronic, Nononcological Pain Pain Practice, Volume 5, Issue 2, 2005 103-110
- JT Scott-Warren, V Hill, A Rajasekaran. Ganglion Impar Blockade: A Review. Curr Pain Headache Rep (2013) 17:306