

**068** Rajakanthan, K; Weerasooriya, P; Hanwella, R; Nanayakkara, S; Jayasinghe, S; **Sheriff, MHR**

Sexual dysfunction in diabetic males; Abstract; Sri Lanka Medical Association -104th Anniversary Academic Sessions; 1991\_.23pp

Abstract : Sexual dysfunction occurs in diabetics due to autonomic neuropathy vasculopathy or psychogenic reasons. This study was done on a selected group of diabetics to assess the prevalence and awareness of sexual dysfunction in diabetics. The patients were assessed using an interview based questionnaire. Physical psychological assessment was performed. Autonomic functions were assessed by standard methods. Importance was noted in 22 patients (44%) and marked reduction in the volume of semen in 2 patients (4%) indicating partial retrograde ejaculation. (55%) of patients with importance had other systems suggestive of autonomic neuropathy and (80%) with importance alone showed abnormal cardiovascular reflexes. 17 patients (34%) had peripheral neuropathy, of these 11 (65%) had importance and 12 (70%) showed abnormal autonomic function tests. There was no clinical evidence of peripheral vascular disease. 7 (14%) patients were aware that sexual dysfunction could be caused by diabetes. None of the patients had been asked about sexual dysfunction or told about the association of sexual dysfunction and diabetes by a doctor. None of the patients volunteered to complain their sexual dysfunction due to embarrassment. This ongoing study indicates a high prevalence of sexual dysfunction in diabetic males who have had the disease for more than 5 years. Despite the importance of these symptoms there is lack of awareness and recognition by the patients as well as doctors.