

## C型肝炎使用干擾素治療與性功能障礙之研究

鄒頡龍<sup>1</sup> 蕭博任<sup>1</sup> 賴學州<sup>2</sup> 蘇冠寶<sup>3</sup> 吳錫金<sup>1</sup> 張兆祥<sup>1</sup>

中國醫藥大學附設醫院 泌尿部<sup>1</sup> 內科部<sup>2</sup> 精神醫學部<sup>3</sup>

### Antiviral Therapy for Chronic Hepatitis C and sexual dysfunction

Eric Chieh-Lung Chou<sup>1</sup>, Po-Jen Hsiao<sup>1</sup>, Hsueh-Chou Lai<sup>2</sup>, Kuan-Pin Su<sup>3</sup>, Hsi-Chin Wu<sup>1</sup>,  
Chao-Hsiang Chang<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Urology, <sup>2</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, <sup>3</sup>Department of Psychiatry,  
Department of, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan

#### **Purpose:**

The recommended therapy for chronic hepatitis C is interferon. The adverse side effects are reported as fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and depression. Sexual health impairment is also reported in some studies. The aim of our study was to evaluate the impact of antiviral therapy on male sexual health.

#### **METHODS:**

This was a 24-week prospective cohort study. From 2011 to 2013, 252 men treated with interferon for antiviral therapy of chronic hepatitis C. Patients had to fully understand and then sign the informed consent before enrollment. Patients were evaluated at baseline (week 0) and after 2, 4, 8, 12, and 24 weeks of IFN treatment. At each study visit, patients were assessed with the structured Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview to ascertain the diagnosis of a major depressive episode and with the 21-item Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and Neurotoxicity rating scale (NTRS) to monitor depressive symptoms. The 21th question of the BDI and the 35th item of the NTRS are quantified the loss of the sexual desire.

#### **RESULTS:**

Before therapy, 31% of men reported at least some degree of impairment in sexual desire. During therapy, significant declines were observed in all components of sexual health compared with pretreatment. At the end of therapy (12 to 20 weeks), an estimated 50% of men reported that sexual desire was worse than before treatment. 32% of participants developed INF-induced depression. The sexual desire may be worse in these patients who develop depression after antiviral therapy.

#### **CONCLUSIONS:**

Sexual impairment is common among men with chronic hepatitis C undergoing therapy with interferon. It should be considered as a potential side effect of antiviral therapy.