

Comparison of Anorectal Function Tests according to the Types of Colon Transit Time in Patients with Chronic Idiopathic Constipation

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Background/Aims: The pathophysiology of chronic idiopathic constipation is complex. This study was designed to assess the usefulness of colon transit time as screening test in chronic idiopathic constipation. **Methods:** Colon transit time was evaluated in patients with chronic idiopathic constipation (n=38) in order to determine the type of colon transit time. The change of anorectal angle, perineal descent, rectocele, rectal intussusception, resting and squeezing anal sphincter pressure, and rectoanal inhibitory reflex were evaluated. **Results:** The abnormal change of anorectal angle at defecation was noted in 10.5% of patients with normal transit and 28.6% of patients with pelvic outlet obstruction. The descending perineum syndrome was observed in 10.5% of patients with normal transit, 25.0% of patients with colonic inertia, 25.0% of patients with hindgut dysfunction and 14.3% of patients with pelvic outlet obstruction. Rectocele greater than 2 cm was observed in 42.1% of patients with normal transit, 37.5% of patients with colonic inertia, 50.0% of patients with hindgut dysfunction and 57.1% of patients with pelvic outlet obstruction. Rectal intussusception severer than grade 3 was observed in 26.3% of patients with normal transit, 25.0% of patients with colonic inertia and 42.9% of patients with pelvic outlet obstruction. The high resting and squeezing anal sphincter pressure were observed in some with normal transit. **Conclusions:** These results suggest that defecography and anorectal manometry in addition to colon transit time are also recommended as screening test for chronic idiopathic constipation. (**Kor J Gastroenterol 1999;33:348 - 357**)

Key Words: Chronic idiopathic constipation, Colon transit time, Defecography, Anorectal manometry

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가 1 2 , 가 35 g
, 25%
, 25%

가 25% 2가 3 5가

2.

1

3

1)

20 가 (Sitzmarks,
Konsyl Phamaceuticals, Inc., Texas, U.S.A.)

9 3 4
Metcalf 3

1.2

가 가 . Arhan 4 5

가
가

5 (anterior superior iliac
가 crest)

, 5

-S

5

36

(colonic inertia),

1.

(hindgut dysfunction),

-S

(pelvic outlet obstruction)

(Rome criteria)2

.167

2)

200 cc 140% 100

cc , 3.5 cm
(descending perineum syndrome)

250-300 cc .9-11

, 10 mm
(rectal intussuscep-
tion)

1:1 Shorvon 12

5 cc 가 (Fig. 1) 3 mm

.13

(anorectal angle) 3)

8 0.5 cm
(Zinectics Medi-
cal, Stockholm, Sweden)

가 가 (low compliance water perfusion system)

.8 0.5 mL

Fig. 1. Grading system for rectal prolapse and intussusception. Grades 1 and 2 represent infoldings in the wall of the rectum of less than 3 mm in width. Grade 3 is an infolding of 3 mm or greater but not circumferential. Grade 4 is a circumferential infolding of greater than 3 mm which remains intrarectal. Grade 5 is similar to Grade 4 but the leading edge of the infolding impinges on the internal anal orifice. In grade 6 the edge is intra anal, and in grade 7 it prolapses externally. For illustration sake only, the anal canal has been drawn as if open.¹²

Table 1. Patterns of Colonic Transit Time

	No. (%)	M:F	Age (yrs)	Duration (yrs)	CTT* (hrs)
Normal	19 (50.0)	7:12	43.1 ± 10.4	3.8 ± 2.1	7.6 ± 10.7
Inertia	8 (21.1)	2:6	47.8 ± 15.6	7.3 ± 3.8	51.3 ± 11.2
Hindgut	4 (10.5)	1:3	43.4 ± 8.5	4.8 ± 3.2	42.5 ± 10.9
Outlet	7 (18.4)	2:5	46.0 ± 18.8	4.1 ± 2.8	41.8 ± 9.9
Total	38	12:26	44.8 ± 12.9	4.5 ± 4.3	29.4 ± 22.9

*, Colon transit time.

Table 2. Characteristics of Symptoms according to the Patterns of Colonic Transit Time (%)

	Frequency (3</week)	Excessive straining	Hard stool	Incomplete evacuation
Normal	14 (73.7)	11 (57.9)	6 (31.8)	14 (73.7)
Inertia	8 (100)	6 (75.0)	4 (50.0)	4 (50.0)
Hindgut	4 (100)	3 (75.0)	2 (50.0)	3 (75.0)
Outlet	7 (100)	7 (100)	2 (28.6)	6 (85.7)
Total	33 (86.8)	27 (71.1)	14 (36.8)	27 (71.1)

(p<0.05)

30 가 , 7.6 ± 10.7 , 51.3 ± 11.2 , 42.5 ± 10.9 , 41.8 ± 9.9

86 mmHg , 137 mmHg (Table 1).

4) Student t-test, x2 test Kruskal-Wallis test 5% . 1 2 가 14 (73.7%), 8 (100%), 4 (100%), 7 (100%), 25% 11 (57.9%), 6 (75.0%), 3 (75.0%), 7 (100%), 25% 38 19 가 6 (31.8%), 4 (50.0%), 2 (50.0%), 2 (28.6%), 25% 가 14 (73.7%), 4 (50.0%), 3 (75.0%), 6 (85.7%) (Table 2).

3.8 ± 2.1 , 7.2 ± 3.8 , 4.8 ± 3.2 , 4.1 ± 2.8

3. 가
2 (10.5%),
2 (28.6%)가
(Table 3).

4. 2
(10.5%), 2 (25.0%),
1 (25.0%), 1 (14.3%)
가
(Table 4).

5. 2 cm
8 (42.1%), 3 (37.5%),
2 (50.0%), 4
(57.1%)가
(Table 5).

6. Shorvon 12 3
5 (26.3%),
2 (25.0%), 3 (42.9%)
가
(Table 6).

Table 3. Change of Anorectal Angle at Defecation (%)

	Normal	Abnormal
Normal	17 (89.5)	2 (10.5)
Inertia	8 (100)	0
Hindgut	4 (100)	0
Outlet	5 (71.4)	2 (28.6)
Total	34 (89.5)	4 (10.5)

7. 3 (15.8%),
(26.3%)가 , 가
1 (14.3%)가
(Table 7).

Table 4. Perineal Descent (%)

	Normal	Abnormal
Normal	17 (89.5)	2 (10.5)
Inertia	6 (75.0)	2 (25.0)
Hindgut	3 (75.0)	1 (25.0)
Outlet	6 (85.7)	1 (14.3)
Total	34 (84.2)	4 (15.8)

Table 5. Rectocele (%)

	1-2 cm	2-4 cm	>4 cm	Total
Normal	1 (5.3)	5 (26.3)	3 (15.8)	9 (47.4)
Inertia	2 (25.0)	1 (12.5)	2 (25.0)	5 (62.5)
Hindgut	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	1 (25.0)	3 (75.0)
Outlet	2 (28.6)	4 (57.1)	0	6 (85.7)
Total	6 (15.8)	10 (26.3)	6 (15.8)	22 (57.9)

22.2%, 15, 45.6%,
 29.4%, 11.7%,
 17.6%, 16가
 가
 15%,
 16-41%
 .1721
 가
 3
 -S
 .2021
 15%,
 36%
 15%,
 가 .21
 50.0%, 21.1%, 31%
 18.4%, 10.5%
 34.8%, 39.1%,
 가
 26.1%, 14
 가
 38.9%, 22.2%, 16.7%
 (spastic pelvic floor syndrome),
 가

Table 6. Rectal Prolapse and Intussusception (%)

Grade	3	4	5	6	7	Total
Normal	0	1	2	1	1	5 (26.3)
Inertia	1	0	1	0	0	2 (25.0)
Hindgut	0	0	0	0	0	0
Outlet	0	0	1	2	0	3 (42.9)
Total	1	1	4	3	1	10 (26.3)

Table 7. Anal Pressure and Rectoanal Inhibitory Reflex (RAIR)

	Resting		Squeezing		RAIR	
	Normal	High*	Normal	High*	+	-
Normal	16 (84.2)	3 (15.8)	14 (73.7)	5 (26.3)	19	0
Inertia	8	0	8	0	8	0
Hindgut	4	0	4	0	4	0
Outlet	7	0	7	0	6	1
Total	35 (92.1)	3 (7.9)	33 (86.8)	5 (13.2)	37 (97.4)	1 (2.6)

*, > Mean + 2 SD of normal controls.



가 2
 (10.5%), 2 (28.6%),
 2 (10.5%),
 2 (25.0%), 1 (25.0%),
 1 (14.3%)가
 2 cm 8
 (42.1%), 3 (37.5%),
 2 (50.0%), 4 (57.1%)
 가 , Shorvon 3
 5
 (26.3%), 2 (25.0%),
 3 (42.9%)가
 3 (15.8%),
 5 (26.3%)가
 가

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