



N/O FQ-NOP RECEPTOR: A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE FUNCTIONAL DISORDERS OF THE LOWER URINARY TRACT

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The lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS), especially those of overactive bladder (OAB) syndrome or painful bladder syndrome (PBS) represent a continuous challenge for urologists, gynaecologists and other health care givers. LUTS encompass different subjective (frequency, urgency, pain) and objective symptoms (urinary incontinence, detrusor overactivity, urinary retention) and often the therapeutic strategies are unsatisfactory.

We present our preliminary experience with intravesical instillation of N/O FQ for the acute and chronic treatment of overactive bladder in a selected group of patients with overactive bladder by different methodological studies: non-randomised pilot study, randomised controlled study, dose/effect study and chronic administration randomised controlled study. The outcome measures consisted of the clinical subjective analysis by voiding diary and objective urodynamic assessment. All these studies showed the capacity of intravesical N/O FQ to inhibit the pathological micturition reflex in paraplegic patients.

These findings support the proposal of NOP agonists as innovative drugs for the treatment of detrusor overactive incontinence. However, these conditions require chronic treatments and therefore future studies in this field are mandatory for establishing whether or not the inhibitory effects of N/O FQ undergo tolerance after chronic administration.