

Leech Therapy for Treating Priapism: Case Report.

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Abstract

Priapism is well-defined by persistent, painful penile erection which happens without sexual stimulation. Currently, the hirudotherapy is practiced to treat venous congestion and subsequent compartment syndrome. Here we will report a case of a male with priapism treated by leeches. The case was a **26 yr old young single male** referred to the Razi Hospital Emergency Department, Guilan University of Medical Sciences, Rasht, Iran due to long-time spontaneous erections. The patient had no history of mental disorders, trauma or sickle cell anemia. We insert **two leeches** in each side of penile shaft for two hours, **after a one hour break we insert do in same manner for another cycle**. At follow-up two days later he had **significantly decreased pain**, though still had cavernosal swelling and tenderness to palpation. The patient was subsequently discharged after three days of admission. **The pain and perineal swelling completely resolved over the course of one month**. In this case, chronology indicates that leech therapy was possibly treatment option for priapism. This procedure seems to be non-invasive treatment strategy worth to discussing in such patients.

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