



male symptom (AMS) scale and international prostate symptom score (IPSS); BMI, waist circumference, body composition; and physical fitness. Body composition was assessed by bioelectrical impedance analysis. Seven types of basic exercise tests were used to measure physical fitness.

RESULTS: No significant difference was observed in baseline measurements between the two groups before treatment. After 6 months, group I showed no significant change in all measurements. Group II showed significant improvement in IPSS and AMS scales. Hematocrit, and prostate specific antigen slightly increased, while total cholesterol significantly decreased after treatment. As to body composition parameters, TRT significantly decreased body fat mass, visceral fat mass and waist circumference. Skeletal muscle mass was significantly increased by TRT although upper body muscle appeared to be more responsive. Most parameters of physical fitness resulted in improvement except for flexibility and endurance. The decrease of waist circumference was significantly correlated with serum testosterone level changes. AMS scale improvement was correlated with the changes of IPSS, cardiorespiratory fitness and agility.

CONCLUSIONS: TRT improved hypogonadal and lower urinary tract symptoms. TRT also resulted in overall improvement in metabolic syndrome components, body composition and physical fitness. Testosterone increment and hypogonadal symptom improvement are correlated with waist circumference, cardiorespiratory fitness, and agility, respectively. Combined adjunctive exercise program that improve those parameters, might maximize the effect of TRT.

Table 1. Changes of parameters in group II after 6 month of testosterone treatment and comparison between before and after treatment

	Baseline	After TRT	P-value
IPSS (total)	12.15±6.00	9.78±6.18	0.000
IPSS (QoL)	2.85±1.33	2.33±1.403	0.004
AMS (somato)	15.43±4.65	11.90±4.28	0.000
AMS (psycho)	8.55±3.08	7.18±2.85	0.000
AMS (sexual)	13.15±3.99	10.35±4.46	0.000
AMS (total)	37.13±9.51	29.43±9.89	0.000
Hb	14.86±1.19	16.14±1.47	0.000
Hct	42.45±5.59	47.03±4.00	0.000
Glucose	133.31±55.81	121.29±33.61	0.206
Total cholesterol	178.93±40.03	166.74±36.30	0.035
PSA	0.75±0.40	0.89±0.50	0.038
Testosterone	242.16±51.23	511.8±226.44	0.000
Weight (Kg)	73.88±9.60	71.39±12.71	0.135
Waist (cm)	93.74±7.98	92.23±7.15	0.031
BMI (Kg/m ²)	26.00±2.92	25.81±3.08	0.225
Skeletal muscle mass (Kg)	30.36±3.45	30.98±3.12	0.012
Upper ext., right (%)	93.31±7.85	97.13±7.07	0.000
Upper ext., left (%)	92.73±7.80	96.36±7.00	0.000
Trunk (%)	89.67±6.24	91.80±6.04	0.000
Lower ext., right (%)	84.43±7.63	85.64±7.76	0.036
Lower ext., left (%)	84.13±7.06	85.57±7.47	0.017
Δ upper-lower body (%)	7.62±6.72	9.49±7.23	0.005
Body fat mass (Kg)	19.09±6.34	17.71±6.05	0.002
Body fat percentage	25.26±6.07	23.72±5.75	0.001
Abdominal fat percentage	0.94±0.03	0.94±0.03	0.479
Visceral fat mass (cm ²)	127.99±32.71	119.71±33.40	0.000
Cardio-respiratory	27.83±7.09	33.95±9.55	0.000
Flexibility	1.55±9.47	1.71±9.49	0.889
Endurance	16.36±13.43	18.69±11.73	0.068
Strength (right)	33.08±6.66	35.46±6.02	0.000
Strength (left)	31.38±6.14	34.02±5.70	0.000
Agility	0.51±0.16	0.48±0.13	0.042
Power	18.31±7.03	21.33±8.01	0.008
Balance (right)	8.21±15.63	10.31±16.86	0.047
Balance (left)	7.67±12.52	9.79±16.40	0.025

Source of Funding: No conflict of interests

MP79-17

VARIATIONS IN THE RETAIL PRICE OF HUMAN CHORIONIC GONADOTROPIN IN THE UNITED STATES

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE: Urine-derived human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG) remains a popular treatment for hypogonadotropic hypogonadism and induction of spermatogenesis or puberty in select patients. Shortages in both brand name and generic HCG, and the resulting increases in prices, have raised barriers in the treatment of patients. We aim to determine the variations in the price of HCG therapy within the U.S. and the potential for the undue financial burden on patients receiving HCG therapy.

METHODS: Using the GoodRx website, prices of generic HCG, Pregnyl, and Novarel (10,000-unit vial) with and without coupons were recorded. Prices were collected from the most popular retail pharmacies

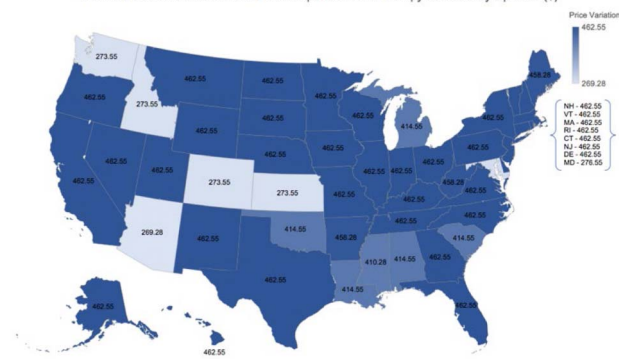
each state's most populous zip code. The lowest and highest retail prices were noted for each brand by state and pharmacy.

RESULTS: The mean highest retail prices for generic HCG, Pregnyl, and Novarel were \$546.42±\$64.95, \$170.28 ± \$76.82, and \$387, respectively. The mean lowest retail prices of generic HCG, Pregnyl, and Novarel were \$289.68, \$113.88±\$1.29, and \$307.31±\$2.00, respectively. The mean difference between the highest and lowest prices available within the same zip code for generic HCG, Pregnyl, and Novarel were \$256.74±\$64.95, \$54.40±\$76.65, and \$79.69±\$2.00, respectively (Figure 1).

CONCLUSIONS: Differences between the highest and lowest prices available for HCG therapy within a set zip code reached \$462 per vial, demonstrating the potential for the undue financial burden on patients receiving HCG therapy. Significant changes in the cost of HCG therapy were seen within zip codes as a result of pricing differences between brands and pharmacies. Despite this, there was no significant variation in the lowest price available for generic HCG therapy between states. Given these price variations, providers must be aware of pricing patterns and be able to assist patients as they navigate the financials of these treatments.

Figure 1.

Difference between the most and least expensive HCG therapy available by zip code (\$)



Source of Funding: None

MP79-18

QUALITY OF ONLINE MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT PENILE AUGMENTATION TREATMENT

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE: It is estimated that more than half of adult men in the United States express concerns about their penis size. With lack in available scientific data, the American Urological Association (AUA) and International Society for Sexual Medicine (ISSM) currently do not recommend any treatment options for penile augmentation. Nonetheless, many online resources speak on this topic and may be providing patients with inaccurate information. Therefore, we aimed to assess the quality of online educational information regarding treatment options for penile augmentation.

METHODS: A Google search was performed using the terms "penile augmentation", "penile enlargement", and "penile enhancement". The first 100 webpages were assessed. Duplicate websites, scientific publications, sub-pages of identical websites, or websites with pay walls were excluded from analysis. The quality of the website was assessed by presence of Health on the net (HON) code certification and by the DISCERN instrument. Two independent reviewers scored each webpage and inter-rater reliability calculated. Websites were categorized by the type of resource.

RESULTS: After applying the exclusion criteria, a total of 69 websites were included in the data analysis. There were 9 (12.7%) websites with HON code certification. The mean DISCERN score was 38.2 out of 80, which is considered "poor" quality. Inter-rater reliability of