DISCUSSION & SUMMARY

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DISCUSSION:

350 patients were treated having second and third degree piles by cryosurgery technique at VS General Hospital over a period of 4 years from 1989 to 1992.

The common age group involved was between 30 - 50 years of age (50% of total cases). Females were involved less compared to male 1:6.

Pregnancy was found to be the single most important pre-disposing factors for haemorrhoids for our female patients.

The two most common symptoms for which patient presented were bleeding and prolapse. Constipation was found to be the most important pre-disposing factor in adult males. Duration of the symptoms were of 6 months and more. Delay in attending to surgical clinics was probably due to uncomplicated haemorrhoids having no initial pain.

5 patients having prolapse thrombosed piles where in reduction was possible after Lord’s dilatation.

Family history was positive in 60% patients and 40% patients have non-veg. diet (Low residue diet). This only reflects the trend in general population rather than a pre-disposing association.
Post-operative pain was practically absent in all cases. Only 15 patients out of 350 had mild or moderate pain.

Lewis (1973), Llyod William (1973), O,"Connor (1976) have reported encouraging results for all degree of haemorrhoids.

One patient who had post-operative retention was the patient who was operated under anaesthesia for Lord's procedure along with cryosurgery having moderate senile enlargement of prostate (age 65 yrs.).

SUMMARY:

The early and long term results of treatment of 350 patients with advanced haemorrhoids by cryo-therapy have been studied. The only significant early post operative problem was a profuse serous discharge. The principal long term disadvantage was residual perianal skin tags.

Cryo-surgery of piles is one of the accepted recent, modalities of treatment for second and third degree piles because
(1) Technique is simple.

(2) Cost effective,

(3) Only local anaesthesia is required in most cases.

(4) Treatment is mainly on out patient basis.

(5) Post-operative pain and bleeding is significantly absent or very much reduced.

(6) Loss of time from work is much less (1-3 days).

(7) Procedure is the procedure of choice in medically unfit patient - in old age patients. (12 case above age of 100)

Unfit for General Anaesthesia.