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2 YEAR-STONE CENTER EXPERIENCE WITH THE MEDISPEC ECONOLITH.

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Objectives

To evaluate the effectiveness of the Medispec Econolith in the fragmentation of renal and ureteral calculi.

Methods

From August 1997 to July 1999, 141 patients who presented to our Stone Center for extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy were treated by one surgeon (JP) with the Medispec Econolith. The majority of patients received general anesthesia with high frequency jet ventilation. An average of 2300 shocks were delivered per treatment. There were 92 males and 49 females whose ages ranged from 6-86 years with a mean age of 42 years. 56 of the treated patients had a single stone and 85 patients had multiple stones. 213 targeted stones were treated and data analysis is presented. Patients were evaluated according to stone size, location, composition, and anatomic considerations.

Results

Treatment was considered successful if patients were completely stone free or had residual fragments 4mm or smaller at the end of treatment. Of the initial 141 patients treated, 97 remained in the evaluable cohort. 49% of all patients had their primary targeted stone in the lower pole. Overall, 85 of 97 patients (88%) had successful treatments and 53% of the successful cases were stone free. For the patients that had single stones, 11% required a repeat ESWL treatment and 28% of the patients with multiple stones. No significant adverse effects were recorded in the study group.

Conclusion

The treatment results of the Medispec Econolith suggest it is a highly effective and safe extracorporeal shock wave lithotripter.