

# Etiology of nocturia response in men with diminished bladder capacity

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Matthew Epstein, Department of Urology, SUNY Downstate College of Medicine, 158 E 38th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11203. Email: matthew.epstein@downstate.edu **Aims:** To test the hypothesis that patients with nocturia owing to diminished global or nocturnal bladder capacity improve via increased bladder capacity.

**Methods:** This is a retrospective analysis of voiding diaries completed at a VA urology clinic between 2008–2017. Inclusion required patients aged at least 18 years, male, undergoing treatment for nocturia, and having completed at least two 24-hour voiding diaries  $\geq$ 1 month apart. Patients were divided into two cohorts: responders (any decline in nocturia) and non-responders (no change or any increase in nocturia). Patients were further sub-stratified as having low global bladder capacity (maximum voided volume [MVV] <200 mL) versus low nocturnal bladder capacity (nocturnal maximum voided volume [NMVV] <200 mL and MVV  $\geq$ 200 mL). Wilcoxon rank-sum was applied with a Bonferroni correction to test significance.

**Results:** Forty pre- and post-treatment diaries from 27 patients, and 19 pre- and post-treatment diaries from 17 patients were identified as having low global and low nocturnal bladder capacity, respectively. Nocturia responders with low global bladder capacity demonstrated significant decline compared to non-responders in nocturnal urine volume (NUV) (-140 vs +75, P < 0.01) and nocturnal bladder capacity index (NBCi) (-0.59 vs +0.23, P < 0.01). Patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity similarly demonstrated decreased NUV (-30 vs +160, P = 0.04) and NBCi (-1.4 vs +0.33, P < 0.01). There was no significant change in MVV or NMVV for either group.

**Conclusions:** Treatment directed at lowering nocturnal urine production and enabling patients to consistently void at capacity is a rational strategy to treat nocturia in patients with low bladder capacity.

KEYWORDS nocturia, LUTS

## **1** | INTRODUCTION

Nocturia, defined as voiding that occurs during the hours of intended sleep, is among the most common urological conditions in the general population.<sup>1</sup> Older patients are

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particularly affected, with an estimated 56% of males aged 75 years or older reporting symptoms of nocturia in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).<sup>2</sup> Several studies have demonstrated nocturia to be associated with both increased mortality and a lower quality of life.<sup>3–5</sup>

The cause of nocturia is often complex, and management is predicated on identifying the specific mechanism

underlying a patient's symptoms. One cause of nocturia is diminished bladder capacity, which may be present throughout the day (global), or only during the hours of intended sleep (nocturnal).<sup>6</sup> In either case, nocturnal voiding is driven by nocturnal urine volume in excess of nocturnal urine storage capacity.<sup>6</sup> Diminished bladder capacity among older men has many urological causes, among the most common being prostatic obstruction, which results in a weaker urinary flow and thus poor bladder emptying.<sup>7</sup>

Management of nocturia owing to low capacity bladder may include behavioral techniques such as restricted fluid intake, bladder training, urge suppression, and pelvic floor exercises; pharmacotherapy with  $\alpha$ -adrenergic antagonists, antimuscarinics, or  $\beta$ 3-adrenergic agonists; or more invasive interventions, such as trans-urethral resection of the prostate (TURP), neuromodulation or botulinum toxin detrusor muscle injections.<sup>8–10</sup>

Although the urologist's toolkit continues to expand, clinical drug trials have shown statistically significant—but clinically equivocal—outcomes, and real-world observational studies have likewise demonstrated poor efficacy of treatment directed at nocturia owing to diminished bladder capacity.<sup>11–15</sup> As such, an effective standard management strategy for the treatment of nocturia due to low capacity bladder has yet to be identified.

The 24-hour voiding diary is a valuable resource in the clinical evaluation of nocturia.<sup>6</sup> Diary analysis can be used

behaviors that lead to improvement in nocturia severity. The overall aim of this responder analysis study is to identify mechanisms that underlie nocturia improvement in men with a small capacity bladder. Specifically, we seek to test the hypothesis that patients whose nocturia is primarily due to small capacity bladder improve as a result of increased bladder capacity.

#### **2 | MATERIALS AND METHODS**

#### 2.1 | Patients

A database of 749 voiding diaries completed by 425 patients from a Veterans Affairs-based urology clinic seeking treatment for lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) was retrospectively analyzed. Included were male patients aged 18 years or older who had a baseline voiding diary showing at least 1 nocturic episode and completed a follow-up diary 30 or more days after the baseline diary. Voiding diaries with incomplete data were not included. Of the initial set, 466 voiding diaries from 124 patients met the inclusion criteria. Table 1 provides an overview of patient demographics, including age, race, comorbidities, baseline  $\alpha$ -adrenergic blocker status, urological surgery history, and radiation

	Low global bladder ca	pacity	Low nocturnal bladder capacity		
	Responder $(n = 11)$	Non-responder $(n = 16)$	Responder $(n = 7)$	Non-responder $(n = 10)$	
Age	67 (52-82)	70 (60-80)	74 (68-81)	72 (53-91)	
Ethnicity					
Caucasian	4 (36.4)	5 (31.2)	2 (28.6)	6 (60)	
African-American	6 (54.5)	9 (56.2)	4 (57.1)	2 (20)	
Other/unknown	1 (9.1)	2 (12.5)	1 (14.3)	2 (20)	
Comorbidities					
Hypertension	7 (63.6)	11 (68.8)	4 (57.1)	7 (70)	
Diabetes	0 (0)	2 (12.5)	2 (28.6)	0 (0)	
Sleep apnea	2 (18.2)	1 (6.2)	1 (14.3)	0 (0)	
Medication					
$\alpha$ -blocker	9 (81.8)	10 (62.5)	4 (57.1)	8 (80)	
Surgery					
RRP	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
TURP	0 (0.0)	1 (6.2)	2 (28.6)	1 (10)	
Urethroplasty	1 (9.1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Radiation					
EBRT	1 (9.1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Brachytherapy	0 (0)	1 (6.2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	

TABLE 1 Baseline characteristics of patients with low capacity bladder

history. For demographic data, categorical variables are reported as frequency (proportion), and continuous variables are reported as median (interquartile range).

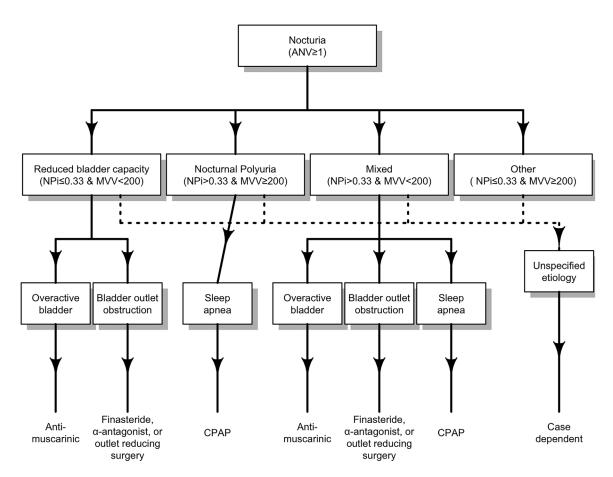
#### 2.2 | Study design and procedures

Data for this study were obtained from a real-world setting, whereby patients seeking treatment at a urology clinic were asked to complete paper voiding diaries as per best practice standards in the diagnosis and evaluation of LUTS.<sup>10</sup> Patients were managed according to the framework depicted in Figure 1. Initially, patients were managed with behavioral advice (drinking fluids only as needed for thirst and/or bladder training), and, if warranted, with pharmacological treatment utilizing anticholinergics or  $\beta$ 3 agonists for urgency/overactive bladder;  $\alpha$ -blockers and/or 5- $\alpha$ -reductase inhibitors for prostatic obstruction; and outlet reducing surgery for urinary retention refractory to pharmacologic

treatment. Only a single intervention (ie, start of new medication or change of dose) was implemented at each visit to effectively assess response to treatment. This study was not powered to determine a treatment effect for a specific treatment, but rather to investigate the physiological mechanisms relating to how patients saw improvement.

Patients were divided into two cohorts: responders (178 diaries [89 pre- and post-treatment] from 55 patients), defined as a decline of at least one nocturic episode between two subsequent diaries, and non-responders (288 diaries [144 pre- and post-treatment] from 69 patients), defined as having no change or an increase in nocturia between two subsequent diaries. Patients were further sub-stratified as having low global bladder capacity (maximum voided volume [MVV] <200 mL) versus low nocturnal bladder capacity, (nocturnal maximum voided volume [NMVV] <200 mL and MVV  $\geq$ 200 mL). There is no standard definition of low capacity bladder from voiding diaries, so a cut-off of 200 mL was chosen for MVV and NMVV

# Study design: nocturia etiology and management flowchart



**FIGURE 1** Flow chart of study design. Row 1 begins with a patient with nocturia defined by  $ANV \ge 1$ . Row 2 divided patients by diary information, where maximum voided volume (MVV) < 200 indicates reduced bladder capacity, and nocturnal polyuria index (NPi) > 0.33 indicates nocturnal polyuria. Row 3 further subdivides theetiology into treatable conditions. Row 4 demonstrates the treatment used for nocturia etiologies

because this approximates the lower standard deviation of MVV in populations studied with conditions predisposing them to low bladder capacity, and is below lower capacities observed in asymptomatic patients.<sup>16–17</sup>

Diary parameters that were calculated from the voiding diaries were: 24-hour urine volume, calculated as total volume of urine produced during a 24-hour period; nocturnal urine volume (NUV), calculated as total volume of urine passed during the night, including the first morning void; maximum voided volume (MVV), calculated as the largest single voided volume in a 24-hour period; nocturnal maximum voided volume (NMVV), calculated as the largest single voided volume during the night; actual number of nighty voids (ANV), defined as the number of voids recorded from the time the individual goes to bed with intention of sleeping, to the time the individual wakes with the intention of rising; nocturia index (Ni), calculated as Ni = NUV/MVV (when Ni > 1, NUV exceeds maximum storage capacity and nocturia or enuresis occurs); nocturnal polyuria index (NPi), calculated as NPi = NUV/(24-hour urine volume); nocturnal urine production (NUP), calculated as NUP = NUV/(# hours asleep); predicted number of nightly voids (PNV), calculated as PNV = Ni-1; nocturnal bladder capacity index (NBCi), calculated as ANV-PNV (NBCi > 0 indicates that nocturia will occur at voided volumes < MVV. NBCi > 2 associated with severe nocturia); first uninterrupted sleep period (FUSP), calculated as # hours between the time the individual goes to bed with the intention of sleeping to the time of first awakening.

#### 2.3 | Statistical analysis

Baseline and change from baseline values (difference between post- and pre-treatment voiding diaries) were calculated for all diary parameters. These values were reported for both responders and non-responders, in both the low global bladder capacity and low nocturnal bladder capacity cohort. Diary parameters are reported as median (95% confidence interval) using Wilcoxon confidence interval estimates. Continuous and categorical parameters were compared using unpaired Wilcoxon rank-sum tests and the chi-square tests, respectively; Bonferroni correction was applied for multiple comparisons. Univariate linear regression was performed on pre- to post-treatment change in nocturia severity (ANV) and the change in all aforementioned voiding diary parameters.

#### 3 | RESULTS

Of the original cohort, 59 baseline diaries from 44 patients met criteria for either low global or nocturnal capacity bladder, representing 25% of the original cohort of diaries (35% of patients). In the low global bladder capacity cohort, 40 diaries were completed at the pre-treatment (baseline) visit, and 40 were completed at the post-treatment visit. In the low nocturnal bladder capacity cohort, 19 diaries were completed at the pre-treatment (baseline) visit, and 19 were completed at the post-treatment visit. Baseline voiding parameters in responders were compared to non-responders; low global bladder capacity demonstrated a large difference in ANV (4 vs 2, respectively; P = 0.011). Slightly more than half of the cohort with low global bladder capacity also had nocturnal polyuria (NPi > 0.33) at baseline (22 diaries, 55%). Five patients (26%) with low nocturnal bladder capacity had nocturnal polyuria at baseline. No differences were seen in baseline voiding parameters in responders compared to nonresponders in patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity. An overview of these results is provided in Table 2.

TABLE 2 Baseline voiding diary parameters for responders versus non-responders with low global or low nocturnal bladder capacity

	Low global bladder capacity			Low nocturnal bladder capacity			
	Responder $(n = 13)$	Non-responder $(n = 27)$	P-val	Responder $(n = 7)$	Non-responder $(n = 12)$	P-val	
24 h volume	1100 (870-1500)	1100 (1000-1300)	1	1300 (1200-2000)	1400 (1300-1800)	1	
Voids in 24 h	12 (10-15)	12 (10-13)	1	10 (9-13)	10 (9-12)	1	
ANV	4 (3-5)	2 (2-3)	0.011	2 (1.5-4)	1.5 (1-2.5)	1	
MVV	150 (120-180)	180 (140-170)	1	240 (220-350)	230 (210-320)	1	
NBCi	1.3 (1-3)	0.64 (0.65-1.2)	0.19	1.7 (1.1-2.9)	1.1 (0.78-1.4)	0.69	
Ni	3.1 (2.4-4.3)	2.5 (2.2-2.8)	1	1.2 (0.75-2.7)	1.6 (1.2-2.2)	1	
NMVV	150 (92-160)	150 (120-160)	1	180 (150-180)	140 (120-170)	1	
NPi	0.38 (0.31-0.55)	0.33 (0.3-0.38)	1	0.22 (0.18-0.43)	0.27 (0.21-0.35)	1	
NUP	64 (47-78)	47 (42-56)	1	49 (27-69)	50 (43-70)	1	
NUV	540 (350-690)	380 (330-440)	1	420 (220-580)	410 (320-540)	1	

Low global bladder capacity = MVV < 200 mL; Low nocturnal bladder capacity = NMVV < 200 mL; and  $MVV \ge 200 \text{ mL}$ . ANV, actual nocturnal voids; MVV, maximum voided volume; NBCi, nocturnal bladder capacity index; Ni, nocturia index; NMVV, nocturnal maximum voided volume; NPi, nocturnal polyuria index; NUP, nocturnal urine production; NUV, nocturnal urine volume.

Patient characteristics were compared between patients in the low global bladder capacity group and those with the low nocturnal bladder capacity, which included age (68 vs 74 years, respectively), ethnicity (33 vs 47% white; 56 vs 35% African-American), comorbidities (67 vs 65% hypertension, 7 vs 12% diabetes mellitus, 11 vs 6% sleep apnea), baseline  $\alpha$ -blocker status (70 vs 71%), urologic surgery (0 vs 0 radical retropubic prostatectomy, 4 vs 18% transurethral resection of prostate, 4 vs 0% urethroplasty), and radiation (4 vs 0% external beam radiation therapy, 4 vs 0% brachytherapy). Further breakdown of demographics in cohorts between responders and non-responders is reported in Table 1.

The change in patients with low global bladder capacity from baseline in responders compared with non-responders, respectively, revealed significant differences in NBCi (-0.59 vs +0.23; P < 0.01), Ni (-1.1 vs +0.24; P < 0.01), NPi (-0.082 vs +0.048; P < 0.01), NUP (-8.4 vs +10 mL/h; P = 0.02) and NUV (-140 vs +75 mL; P < 0.01). Significant differences were seen in the change from baseline among patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity in NUV (-30 vs +160 mL; P = 0.04) and NBCi (-1.4 vs +0.33; P < 0.01) in responders compared to non-responders, respectively. These results are further detailed in Table 3.

To quantify the effects of these relationships, a univariate linear regression was performed on the different voiding diary parameters as a function of change in nocturia severity (Table 4). Notably, MVV, and NMVV had no significant relationship in patients with either low global or low nocturnal bladder capacity. Additionally, the regression between ANV and 24 h was found to be significant for patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity (slope coefficient = 1.6E3; P < 0.001), but not significant in patients with low global bladder capacity (slope coefficient = 2.8E5; P = 0.9).

#### 4 | DISCUSSION

To date, few investigations have utilized voiding diaries to examine the mechanism of treatment response. Therefore, this examination of the mechanisms by which patients with a low capacity bladder respond to nocturia treatment reflects a novel investigative utility of voiding diaries. Patients with low global bladder capacity achieved relief of their nocturia symptoms through four mechanisms:

- 1). Patients who responded tended to drink less. This is reflected in decreased 24-hour urine volume. Fluid restriction is already an accepted method of achieving improvement in nocturia severity; this study provides additional evidence to seek means to diminish nocturnal urine output in patients with low capacity bladders—whether or not nocturnal polyuria is present.<sup>11,18</sup> Notably, fluid restriction should be implemented safely in patients more susceptible to dehydration, and particular care must be taken when treating the elderly, who have a decreased thirst response to dehydration and can less reliably self-regulate hydration.<sup>19–21</sup> Lowering nocturnal urine production is a rational strategy to treat nocturia in patients with low bladder capacity despite the absence of nocturnal polyuria.
- 2). Patients who improved had diminished nocturnal urine production compared to their pre-treatment visit (reflected in decreased NUV and NUP). This indicates that

	Low global bladder capacity			Low nocturnal bladder capacity			
	Responder $(n = 13)$	Non-responder $(n = 27)$	P-val	Responder $(n = 7)$	Non-responder $(n = 12)$	P-val	
24 h volume	-130 (-460-45)	66 (-85-180)	0.72	-120 (-400-72)	75 (25-300)	0.11	
Voids in 24 h	-2 (-3.51)	0 (-1-1)	0.059	-1 (-3.5-7.8e-05)	1 (4.5e-05-2)	0.084	
ANV	-2 (-2.51.5)	0 (1-2)	< 0.01	-1 (-21)	1 (1-2.5)	< 0.01	
MVV	0 (-38-41)	-2.5 (-25-29)	1	0 (-60-65)	7.5 (-7.5-48)	1	
NBCi	-0.59 (-1.40.3)	0.23 (0.093-0.57)	< 0.01	-1.4 (-1.60.82)	0.33 (0.16-0.73)	< 0.01	
Ni	-1.1 (-1.40.69)	0.24 (0.11-0.63)	< 0.01	-0.24 (-0.95-0.12)	0.37 (0.15-0.83)	0.055	
NMVV	-7.5 (-70-45)	0 (-20-32)	1	0 (-140-73)	40 (5e-05-75)	1	
NPi	-0.082 (-0.140.043)	0.048 (0.0056-0.083)	< 0.01	-0.045 (-0.087-0.051)	0.039 (0.0063-0.1)	0.92	
NUP	-8.4 (-31-1.5)	10 (3-20)	0.02	-8.5 (-34-17)	17 (8.2-29)	0.25	
NUV	-140 (-290-75)	75 (35-160)	< 0.01	-30 (-230-65)	160 (75-250)	0.04	

TABLE 3 Change from baseline voiding diary parameters for responders versus non-responders with low global or low nocturnal bladder capacity

Low global bladder capacity = MVV < 200 mL; Low nocturnal bladder capacity = NMVV < 200 mL; and  $MVV \ge 200 \text{ mL}$ . ANV, actual nocturnal voids; MVV, maximum voided volume; NBCi, nocturnal bladder capacity index; Ni, nocturia index; NMVV, nocturnal maximum voided volume; NPi, nocturnal polyuria index; NUP, nocturnal urine production; NUV, nocturnal urine volume.

TABLE 4	Univariate linea	r regression	of change in	nocturia	severity and	d change in	voiding diar	y parameters
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	Low global capacity $(n = 40)$		Low nocturnal capacity $(n = 19)$	
	Slope coefficient	P-val	Slope coefficient	P-val
24 h volume	2.8E5 (-2.0E4-2.6E4)	0.9	1.6E3 (1.2E3-2.0E3)	< 0.001
Voids in 24 h	0.17 (0.098-0.24)	0.022	0.3 (0.24-0.36)	< 0.001
MVV	-1.5E3 (-3.5E3-5.0E4)	0.44	-2.6E3 (-5.2E3-0.0)	0.33
NBCi	0.95 (0.81-1.09)	< 0.001	1.1 (0.97-1.2)	< 0.001
Ni	0.96 (0.86-1.06)	< 0.001	1.1 (0.96-1.24)	< 0.001
NMVV	-3.2E4 (-2.6E3-2.0E3)	0.89	2.5E3 (8.0E4-4.2E3)	0.14
NPi	7.0 (5.8-8.2)	< 0.001	4.6 (3.2-6.0)	0.0018
NUP	0.026 (0.020-0.032)	< 0.001	0.026 (0.020-0.032)	< 0.001
NUV	3.6E3 (3.0E3-4.2E3)	<0.001	4.0E3 (3.3E3-4.5E3)	< 0.001

Low global bladder capacity = MVV < 200 mL; Low nocturnal bladder capacity = NMVV < 200 mL; and  $MVV \ge 200 \text{ mL}$ . ANV, actual nocturnal voids; MVV, maximum voided volume; NBCi, nocturnal bladder capacity index; Ni, nocturia index; NMVV, nocturnal maximum voided volume; NPi, nocturnal polyuria index; NUP, nocturnal urine production; NUV, nocturnal urine volume.

patients were producing less urine at night, which can be explained by a decrease in nocturnal fluid intake, or through reduced natriuresis or greater free water reabsorption (as might be mediated by arginine vasopressin).

- **3).** Responders experienced closer alignment of nocturnal *urine volume with bladder capacity* (reflected in decreased Ni). This is likely due mainly to decreased nocturnal urine volume, as maximum voided volume did not change.
- 4). Responders experienced no increase in bladder capacity compared to non-responders, but rather had an increased tendency for nocturia voids to occur at volumes close to their bladder capacity (reflected in decreased NBCi). This was perhaps the most striking finding of our analysis, as it refutes the notion that nocturia improvement in patients with underlying low bladder capacity comes about via increased voided volumes.

Taken together, positive response to nocturia treatment appears to be mediated by closer alignment of nocturnal voided volume and bladder capacity, as well as by minimization of fluid intake and diminished nocturnal urine volume.

The regression analysis between ANV and low global and nocturnal bladder capacity reveals that a decrease in 24 h volume was associated with lower ANV in patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity, but not in low global bladder capacity. Whether decreased intake (and hence output) in patients with low nocturnal (but normal global) capacity is more effective in reducing nocturia severity than in patients with low global capacity is an interesting observation which warrants further investigation.

Despite the observation that global or nocturnal bladder capacities were not significantly changed in patients whose nocturia improved, treatment designed to promote voiding at capacity results in improved nocturia in men with low bladder capacity. Behavioral techniques such as bladder training, pelvic floor exercises, and urge suppression were devised to allow patients to void closer to capacity, and thus are likely options for the management of patients with low capacity bladders.<sup>22,23</sup> In order to realize the greatest benefit in control of nocturia, even in patients requiring treatment for urgency and/or prostatic obstruction should be encouraged to try to void at capacity and diminish nocturnal urine output through an individualized treatment plan.

Unfortunately, current pharmacologic treatment options for nocturia due to small capacity bladder are less than encouraging. Burgio et al<sup>22</sup> demonstrated that patients already prescribed  $\alpha$ -blockers who were given behavioral advice and trained on behavioral techniques had a greater drop in nocturia severity compared to patients prescribed oxybutynin in the MOTIVE trial. Similar results were also seen with behavioral modifications compared with  $\alpha$ -blockers,<sup>23</sup> demonstrating again that behavioral techniques were superior to pharmacological therapy. As there are currently no pharmacologic therapies available for increasing bladder capacity, there exists an urgent need to identify new strategies for increasing capacity.

There were no differences in baseline voiding parameters between responders and non-responders with low global bladder capacity, except for initial nocturia severity. This mirrors previous findings of greater nocturia severity at baseline in nocturia responders of all etiologies.<sup>11</sup> This finding conveys some potential implications in counseling patients bothered by nocturia. Patients with 3-4 voids per night are likely to see a greater improvement in symptoms and can thus be counseled more enthusiastically about potential improvement, whereas patients with one or two voids per night at their initial visit should have tempered expectations of symptomatic resolution. On the other hand, patients with low nocturnal bladder capacity did not have worse nocturia severity at their initial visit and saw a lesser response when nocturia improved compared to patients with low global bladder capacity (-2 vs -1). Consequently, it appears improvement in this population cannot be predicted from their baseline voiding diaries.

Patient demographics incorporated in this study were: age, ethnicity, comorbidities, baseline  $\alpha$ -blocker status, surgical history, and radiation history. The incidence of nocturia has been demonstrated to be different between certain races; specifically, blacks have been shown to have a higher incidence of nocturia than whites.<sup>2</sup> However, it has been determined that race is not a determining factor of nocturia severity, which is more related to the results from this study.<sup>15</sup> In contrast, existing studies have demonstrated that hypertension, diabetes mellitus, dyslipidemia, and obesity are associated with lower urinary tract symptoms in general, and more specifically, nocturia and benign prostatic hyperplasia.<sup>24–26</sup> Overactive bladder is weakly linked with obesity and diabetes mellitus.<sup>27,28</sup> Demographic results reported herein are not powered to draw definitive conclusions.

Limitations of this study include small sample size and possible errors in self-reported bladder volumes.<sup>29</sup> Single-day voiding diaries would appear to be less reliable than diaries spanning 3-5 days.<sup>30</sup> The participants of this study are all from a single VA institution treated by a single team, and the diaries are obtained, retrospectively. Different treatments were given according to the framework depicted in Figure 1, and as such, different treatments would likely determine the manner in which a patient improved (or did not improve). Patients were managed by a single treatment per visit in order to evaluate response to individual treatments; however, a multi-treatment approach at the initial visit may be a beneficial approach which was not addressed by this study. Some diary responses are taken from the same patient receiving a different treatment, and thus may add bias to the results.

### **5** | **CONCLUSIONS**

Patients with nocturia caused by low global bladder capacity had worse nocturia severity at baseline, and improved outcomes by decreasing nocturnal urine volume likely through both reduced fluid intake and voiding at volumes closer to capacity, even if increases in overall bladder capacity is not feasible. Whether methods of modifying nocturnal urine production through use of desmopressin, timed diuretics, continuous positive airway pressure (in sleep apnea patients), or antihypertensive medication for nondipping nocturnal blood pressure remains to be seen and justify future investigative efforts.<sup>31–37</sup>

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Dr Weiss reports personal fees from Ferring, personal fees from Pfizer, personal fees from Allergan, personal fees from Elsevier, personal fees from Astellas, outside the submitted work; Dr Epstein and Dr Monaghan have nothing to disclose.

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