

## Is the “Mild” (17-21) Label of the International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF-5) Still Valid? A Phallometric Study

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The International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) is the most widely used scale for assessing Erectile Dysfunction (ED) in men. The IIEF-5 (a brief version) has 5 different diagnostic categories: severe ( $5 \pm 7$ ), moderate ( $8 \pm 11$ ), mild to moderate ( $12 \pm 16$ ), mild ( $17 \pm 21$ ), and no ED ( $22 \pm 25$ ). These categories have been based in both, ROC curves, and on authors clinical understanding of the scores (Rosen et al., 2000). Nevertheless, different studies across different countries have questioned this classification; mostly the “mild” label (Tang et al., 2015; Ahn et al., 2001; Utomo et al., 2015; Pechorro et al., 2011; Lim et al., 2003). In the present study a total of 58 men were evaluated. Of these, 21 had no ED according to the IIEF-5, 23 men were labelled as mild ED, and 14 as mild to moderate ED (we will try to present 24, 24 and 24 in the congress). All of them were assessed with the IIEF-5, with a sociodemographic scale, and using Penile

Plethysmography (PPG). All of them, visualized six different visual stimuli. Three of them were neutral and the rest had explicit sexual content. Erection information was meanwhile recorded using Biopac mp150 with Indium-Galium strain gauge. Results showed no significant differences in terms of age between the three groups. In terms of % of penile circumference increase, no differences were observed between “No ED” and “Mild” group ( $M = 15.52$  [ $SD = 8.04$ ] vs  $M = 14.24$  [ $SD = 12.90$ ]). But significant differences were observed between these with the “mild to moderate” group ( $M = 7.83$ ;  $SD = 7.43$ ). Present data give new methodological support to the idea that “mild ED” label of the IIEF-5 is not really a dysfunction, and therefore IIEF diagnostic categories should be revised.

**Keywords:** IIEF, Erectile Dysfunction, Phallometry

**Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Statement:** None

## Acoustic Analysis of the Voice of Brazilian Transsexual Women in Relation to the Control Group

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**Introduction and objective:** Voice is important in gender transition for transgender women. The Multi-Dimensional Advanced Program (MDVPA) is a software used to perform voice acoustic analysis. To compare the results of the acoustic vocal analysis of a group of transsexual women in relation to that of cisgender women.

**Methods and sample:** Control group composed of 31 cisgender women between the ages of 18 and 49, inclusion criteria: women, heterosexual and using contraceptive methods. As exclusion criteria, we

adopted: smoking report; current use of illicit substances and alcohol in excess; hearing loss (assessed by means of auditory screening); diseases or alterations of the speech-articulatory structures that could interfere in the efficiency of vocal production; professional use of voice; speech and/or otorhinolaryngological treatment and reports of psychiatric comorbidities that could impede the understanding of the study tasks. Twenty-nine transsexual women between the ages of 19 and 52 participated in the study. A questionnaire was applied with the request of general data of the

patients, in order to know them better. In both groups, adolescents were discarded due to vocal changes and individuals over 55 years of age due to hormonal changes. They all had their vocal samples collected and analyzed by MDVPA.

**Results:** There was no significant difference between groups for: amplitude disturbance quotient; disturbance quotient of the smoothed amplitude; amplitude variation; noise-harmonic ratio; degree of vocal breaks; number of vocal breaks; number of segments not sonorized; degree of non-sonorized segments, with mean of f0 for the cases of 159,046 Hz and 192,435 Hz of the controls.

**Conclusion & recommendations:** The results suggest that the group of transsexual women present female voices even without speech therapy or surgical treatment. New research with bigger samples.

**Keywords:** Gender dysphoria, Voice, Acoustic analysis  
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## Collaborative Work Group and Research in Sexuality

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**Introduction & Justification:** The inclusion of humans' sexuality in patients' treatment has proved to be of great importance to provide holistic approach of care. However, there are still countries where sexology is not included in university studies. Therefore, it is necessary to develop programs that solve these difficulties when economic resources are limited.

**Project / Population and Environments:** Create a Work and Research Group on Sexuality focused on professionals, undergraduate and postgraduate students. A dynamic, collaborative and interdisciplinary methodology was established through supervision of clinical cases, learning to use instruments, continual training, clinical research and ongoing learning programmes.

**Results:** An interdisciplinary group was set up in which each participant contributed with their interests, knowledge and experiences. Through a participatory dynamic (monthly face-to-face meetings and online communication) the local action coordinated by a facilitator was promoted. Each participant was freely included in the actions they were interested in. As a

result of this inclusive dynamic, the interest of the professionals of the team in sexuality and sexual pathology grew and an open access informative blog was developed. Cases have been supervised, papers have been presented at national and international congresses, research results have been published and a sexuality comic designed for conversations between parents and children has been designed

Additionally, various sexual-affective learning programs have been taught in educational centres.

**Discussion & Recommendations:** The free access to the group and the collaborative dynamic, turned out to be a satisfactory and effective experiences for participants. The interest of young professionals in sexology has increased, training and research has been promoted and has resulted in citizen education actions. This model may be of interest to emerging groups with limited economic resources.

**Keywords:** Sexual Research, Work Group, Clinical Sexology

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