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**Prevalence of *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma hominis* in Women With Chronic Urinary Symptoms.**

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**OBJECTIVES:** To assess the prevalence of *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma hominis* in women experiencing chronic urinary symptoms.

**METHODS:** Urine, vaginal, and urethral samples obtained from 153 women presenting with chronic voiding symptoms were tested for the presence of pathogens including *U. urealyticum* and *M. hominis*. Patients with positive cultures for *Mycoplasma* were treated with a single dose of 1 g azithromycin and followed up 1 month after therapy. Patients with persistent infection received 100 mg doxycycline orally, twice daily for 7 days, according to the results of the susceptibility test. The patients were asked to rate the severity of their symptoms at their initial visit and after treatment.

**RESULTS:** *U. urealyticum* was detected from  $\geq 1$  site in 81 women (52.9%), and *M. hominis* was detected in 5 patients (3.3%), always in association with *U. urealyticum*. At follow-up, 77 patients (95.1%) initially positive for *Mycoplasma* had negative cultures; the cultures of 4 (4.9%) remained positive for *U. urealyticum* and became negative after the second therapeutic regimen. A significant improvement in all symptoms was observed in women with positive cultures for *Mycoplasma* after therapy.

**CONCLUSIONS:** A high prevalence of *U. urealyticum* was observed in women with unexplained chronic voiding symptoms. Testing for the presence of *U. urealyticum* and *M. hominis* in the urogenital tract could prove valuable for the management of a significant percentage of chronic urinary symptoms in women through appropriate treatment. A major limitation is that the possibility that isolation of these two microbes may be colonizers was considered by the author but not ruled out.

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