

Psychiatric Relevance for “Urethral Sounding” in Males - Not Just a Urologic Problem

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Urethral Sounding

insertion of a foreign body into urethra

Comparison of the Literature by Patient Age

Pediatrics

- More likely to undergo psychiatric evaluation
- Most inserted object: sewing needle
- Age range 11-12, possible connection with ↑ internet access

Young Adult

- Stated motivated: sexual
- Most inserted object: some form of a wire/cable
- Substance use may also be a cause of behavior

Adult

- In patients with Schizophrenia, it appears this behavior exhibits most commonly in this age range
- Most inserted object: traditional urethral sounding instruments

Elderly

- Likely due to a cognitive impairment
- Most inserted object: common household items (pens, straws, etc)

Future Research

- Further differentiating and exploring the motivation for sounding in psychiatric vs non-psychiatric sounding
- Establishing guidelines on when to consult Psychiatry
- Educating Psychiatrists and other providers on how to teach safe sounding practices to patients

Commonly Associated Diagnoses

- Psychosis – Schizophrenia, Delusional Disorder, and other etiologies
- Depression w/ or w/o suicidal ideation and/or attempts
- Non-Suicidal Self Injurious Behavior
- Substance Use Disorder
- Cognitive Impairment including Intellectual Disability, Dementia, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and other etiologies
- Antisocial Personality Disorder
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

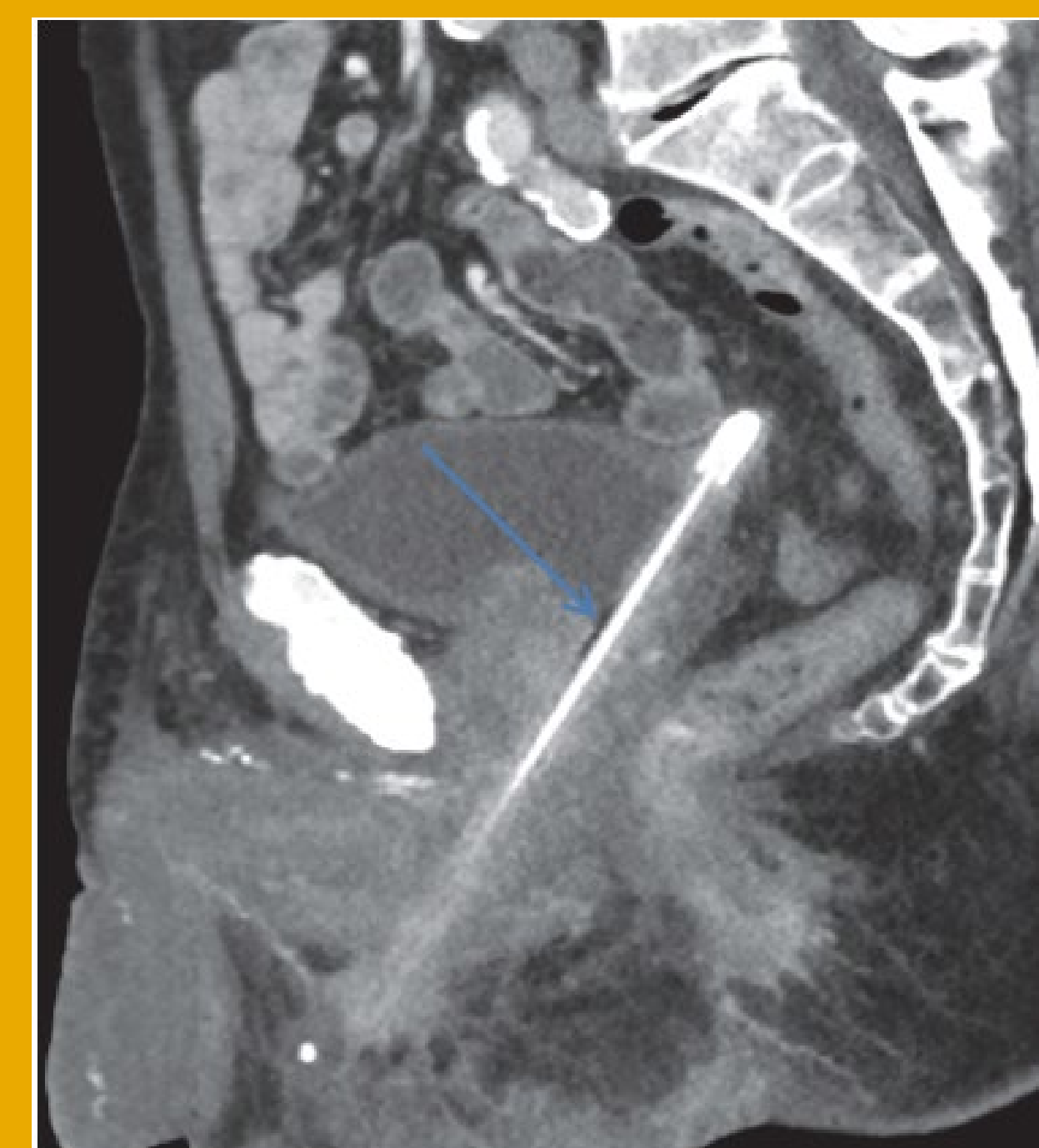


Figure 1. CT pelvis showing pencil in urethra.
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Poster

References



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 you have any questions