Semi-rigid ureteroscopic holmium laser lithotripsy for the treatment of ureteral calculi

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View from specialist: It is creative, and of certain scientific and educational value.

[ABSTRACT] Objective: To explore the clinical effects of semi-rigid ureteroscopic holmium laser lithotripsy for the treatment of ureteral calculi. Methods: A total of 673 cases of ureteral calculi were treated with semi-rigid ureteroscopic holmium laser lithotripsy (Circon, USA) during May 2005 to May 2011 (Observation group). Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL) was applied in 192 cases of the control group 1, and ureterolithotomy line treatment in 162 cases of control group 2. Results: The observation group showed significantly higher success rate of gravel than the two control groups (P < 0.05), but 27 cases underwent open surgery because of ureteral stricture in 13 cases, distortion in 11 cases and ureteral perforation in 3 cases. Conclusions: Semi-rigid ureteroscopic holmium laser lithotripsy for the treatment of ureteral calculi shows high clearance rate, minimal injury, and is worthy of clinical application.

[KEY WORDS] Ureteral calculi; Holmium laser lithotripsy; Ureteroscopy