

# Economic Aspects in the Treatment of Tendinosis Calcarea of the Shoulder

**Author:**

J. Eid

**Institution:**

Clinica Ortopedica Brasil Sao Paulo - Capital Brazil

The aim of this presentation is to compare the effective costs of ESWT versus the theoretical costs of arthroscopic surgery and the assessment of the cost benefits of this procedures in a retrospective study.

From 1998 until 2005 we have done 420 applications of ESWT in 140 patients with tendinosis calcarea. Each patient received 3 weekly sessions. No one received anesthesia. The device used was a eletromagnetic generator Dornier Epos ultra with 2000 pulses each session. The treatment was done in a private clinic. The parameters used for the theoretical costs of arthroscopy was the average price of 3 private hospitals in the city of Sao Paulo. We used the Medical Procedures Brazilian Classification (4th edition - 2005 ) for ESWT and surgical honoraries for the medical procedures.

Although 78% of good and excellent results considering improvement of function and pain and also considering that we had no systemic or local complications, for this retrospective study the costs assessment was only about the resorption of the calcification, which occurred in 69% of the patients , and in 31% the calcification did not disappear. The direct costs of arthroscopy for tendinosis calcarea is 6,4 times higher than for shockwave therapy .

The costs benefits of shockwave therapy, is significantly compared to surgical arthroscopy, even if including the unsuccessful results of shockwave therapy. From the medical and economical point of view , ESWT offers an effective, safe, and simple procedure considering the risks of potential complications and the risk of no disintegration of the calcification (10 -18%) after surgical procedure. The treatment of tendinosis calcarea of the shoulder with ESWT should be considered a routine procedure, on the other hand arthroscopy is an alternative only when no disintegration occurs after ESWT. Although the parameters of this study is the 4th Edition of CBHPM (Medical Procedure Brazilian Classification) , the approval of this classification depends of a law ´s project by the government.