

Electronic Case Report Form for Multi-centre Standardized Data Collection during ESWT

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Device and producing company:

EVOTRON, REFLECTRON, OSSATRON OSA 140, HMT

Introduction:

During Shockwave Therapy, systematic collection of clinical and therapeutic data is essential for the positive and pro-active development of an evidence-based medicine.

Methods:

For this reason, an electronic Case Report Form (CRF) was introduced as a clinical practice support for multi-centre standardized data collection in order to facilitate scientific evaluation and convenient statistical processing of recorded information. The following issues were examined: 1) effective Information Technology support; 2) administrative, bureaucratic, and privacy issues; 3) reliable clinical evaluation; and 4) efficient data control and statistical analysis.

Results:

Here we report on technical solutions and preliminary data recorded in the first 6 months after we started to use the above-mentioned support in our clinical activities.

Discussion:

It is a useful instrument which is easy to learn. The data collection protocol (with the Constant and Murley Scale, the Visual Analog Scale, and the measurement of pain response with Fisher Algometer) has been quick and reliable. The electronic CRF allows us to use recorded data with Excel for every statistical process.

Conclusion:

The electronic CRF began 6 months ago and since then 6 other SWT centers have been recording data in the same way. We have proposed improvements in multi-centre data collection for research on the effects of SWT.