

Diagnostic Criteria for Pudendal Neuralgia by Pudendal Nerve Entrapment

Nantes criteria

(Labat J-J et al., Neurorol Urodyn. 2008;27(4):306-10)

Essential criteria (must all be present)

- Pain in the territory of the pudendal nerve: from the anus to the penis or clitoris
 - Pain is predominantly experienced while sitting
 - The pain does not wake the patient at night
 - Pain with no objective sensory impairment
 - Pain relieved by diagnostic pudendal nerve block
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Complementary diagnostic criteria

- Burning, shooting, stabbing pain, numbness
 - Allodynia or hyperpathia
 - Rectal or vaginal foreign body sensation (sympathalgia)
 - Worsening of pain during the day
 - Predominantly unilateral pain
 - Pain triggered by defecation
 - Presence of exquisite tenderness on palpation of the ischial spine
 - Clinical neurophysiology findings in men or nulliparous women
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Exclusion criteria

- Exclusively coccygeal, gluteal, pubic or hypogastric pain
 - Pruritus
 - Exclusively paroxysmal pain
 - Imaging abnormalities able to account for the pain
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Associated signs not excluding the diagnosis

- Buttock pain on sitting
- Referred sciatic pain
- Pain referred to the medial aspect of the thigh
- Suprapubic pain
- Urinary frequency and/or pain on a full bladder
- Pain occurring after ejaculation
- Dyspareunia and/or pain after sexual intercourse
- Erectile dysfunction
- Normal clinical neurophysiology