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'Comparison of endothelial function in primary Sjögren's syndrome compared to healthy controls using EndoPat® measurements'

EndoPat® measurements study protocol

Preparations

- 1. patient preparations in advance
 - Fast for 4 hours beforehand
 - No coffee, tobacco for 8 hours
 - Continue long-term medication as normal
 - Take off watches, rings + jewellery on the fingers

Prior to the procedure, patients were informed of the preparations involved by means of an email communication.

- 2. materials
 - Armrests
 - Leg roll
 - Cushion
 - Blood pressure monitor
 - Manual blood pressure cuff
 - 2 pneumatic end probes = tubes
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- 3. patient positioning
 - Patients must lie relaxed
 - Arms on the armrests + leg roll under the knees
 - Patients must not speak + move during measurement (risk of artefacts)
 - stop the examination in case of pain
- 4. querying patient information
 - age
 - height
 - weight
- 5. patient inspection
 - injuries to the fingers?

- 6. blood pressure measurement
 - measure RR on the control arm (no tourniquet is applied here later)
 - serves to select the appropriate tourniquet pressure
- 7. attach manual blood pressure cuff
 - to be attached to the right arm
 - is stowed here during the measurement
- 8. attach 'tubes' to the index fingers of both hands
 - if index finger is not possible, attach to the same side of another finger
 - note orientation between hand and cable
 - sample 1 = right hand
 - sample 2 = left hand

Measurement procedure

- 1. open the programme
- 2. patient control \rightarrow inflate
- 3. enter patient data \rightarrow inflate
- 4. start programme with 'Go'

4. Record 5 minutes baseline: no pressure on manuel blood pressure cuff

5. **5 minutes of occlusion**: approx. 20-30 mmHg (60mmHg) above measured systolic blood pressure, start low, increase until 0 line is visible

6. Record 5 minutes reactive hyperaemie period (post occlusion): without pressure

7. end programme + save in study folder + print

8. The software from Itamar Medical directly processes these measurements and independently calculates the RHI.

Baseline recording period

Occlusion recording period

Period of 5 minutes

Inflate the blood pressure cuff (60mmHg above patient's systolic pressure)

•Period of 5 minutes

Post occludion recording period

- •deflate cuff rapidly
- •Period of 5 minutes