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INTRODUCTION

The use of double J ureteral stents is widely extended in the field of urolithiasis. A potentially severe associated complication is calcification, which is related to urinary pH.

OBJECTIVE

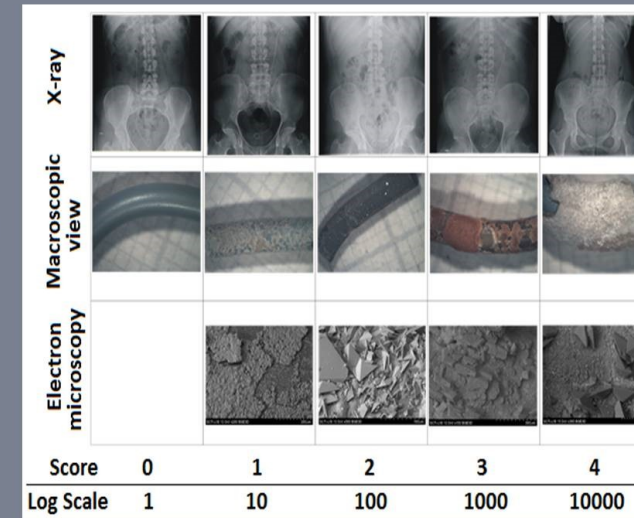
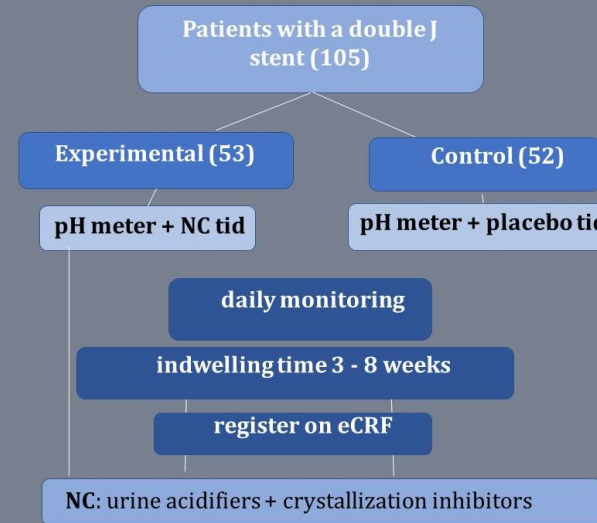
To evaluate the efficacy of a medical device and a nutraceutical (NC) in the control of urinary pH and prevention of calcification of ureteral stents.

METHODS

Multicentre, controlled, double blind and randomized clinical trial conducted in 9 hospitals throughout Spain.

Inclusion criterion: Double J stent implanted <1 week ago with an expected duration of 3 to 8 weeks.

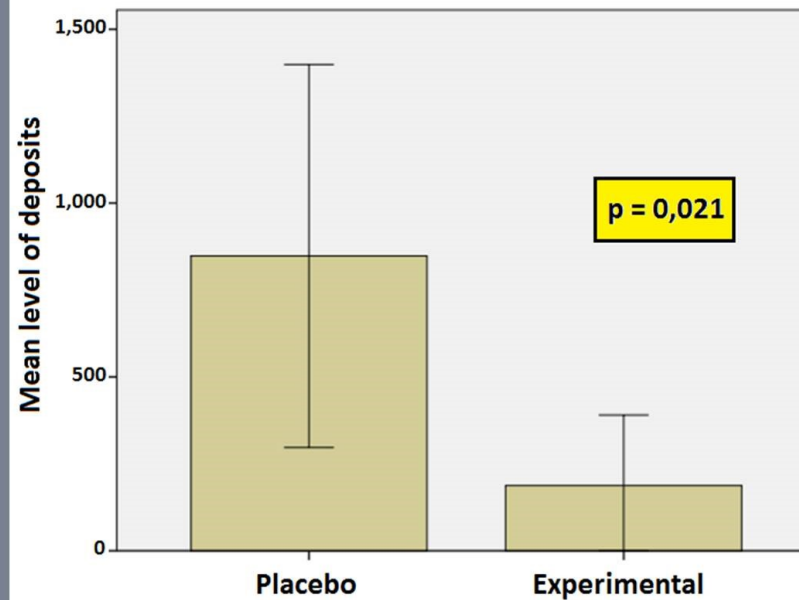
Exclusion criterion: Radiolucent stones or known acidic stone formers.



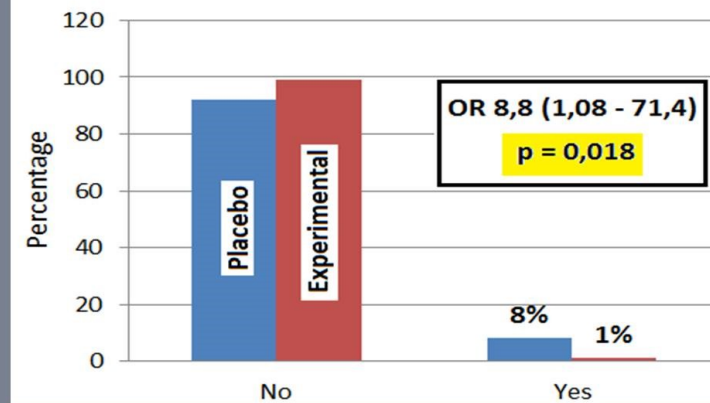
RESULTS

	p	Factor
Experimental group	0,005	PROTECTIVE
First catheterization	0,053	-
Silicone or polyurethane	0,376	-
Stent permanence (>39d)	0,011	RISK
Female gender	0,202	-
Age > 49y	0,023	PROTECTIVE

Comparison of the level of calcification between both groups for the total number of stent ends (n = 198)



Grade 4 calcifications



CONCLUSIONS

Urine acidification plus crystallization inhibitors in patients indwelling a double J stent significantly decreases calcification rate, reducing the need for additional surgical manoeuvres as well as risk for the patient.

