LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to Editor (ACTAS UROLOGICAS ESPAÑOLAS)∗

Carta al Director (ACTAS UROLOGICAS ESPAÑOLAS)

Dear Editor:

Through this communication we want to bring to your attention and to that of all Spanish urologists a new institutional and multidisciplinary project promoted, fomented, and sponsored by the Spanish Association of Urology (Manuel Esteban as the coordinator of the Functional Female and Urodynamic Urology Group, and José Manuel Cózar as board member of Scientific Activities) in collaboration with primary care (PC) physicians (Drs. Francisco Brenes, Antonio Fernández-Pro and José María Molero) representatives of the 3 PC companies, SEMG, SEMERGEN, and SEMFYC, to develop by consensus all the information we need to get to the doctor who initially sees and cares for the patient diagnosed with urinary incontinence.

This project has been named 'referral criteria for urinary incontinence in Primary Care' and it will have the logo as shown in Fig. 1; it will consist in a document resulting from the preparation by urologists and primary care physicians of an update of evidence and diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms, which aimed at the Primary Care physician cover all the possibilities of referring these patients to the urologist, as well as a systematic review of the treatment, from surveillance or a wait-and-see approach, dietary and rehabilitation advice, up to the indications and types of surgery, going through the therapies with the different available drugs in the pharmacopoeia of our country in its various forms.

We believe and hope that this document will result in better information-communication on the process of the disease suffered by the patient, improving the circuit between specialist physicians and the Primary Care physician treating them, that is, an implementation in the inter-level continuity of patient care (we will all speak the same 'language' with the same terminology), which will reasonably increase the quality of care received by our patients with urinary incontinence and their relatives.

This project falls within the lines of action of the AEU to promote multidisciplinary consensus in prevalent urological diseases, such as urinary incontinence, and facilitate the daily work of the doctors involved, who will have one more tool to improve the care and information of their actions on the patient and their environment. These algorithms for diagnosis and treatment, as well as the complete document, will be available for download on the website of the AEU.

We would like to thank Astellas Pharma for their selfless support and cooperation to carry out the operational logistics of this project, and to all the urologists and Primary Care physicians who have worked on it.

The 'Referral criteria in urinary incontinence for Primary Care' will be officially presented during 2013 at various meetings of our national level, to which we invite you to attend and participate.

Please receive a cordial greeting

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