

Abstract

Study Objective:

Evaluate whether patients with endometriosis-associated pelvic pain who achieve pain relief with leuprolide acetate (Lupron) are more likely to achieve pain relief after hysterectomy and bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (BSO).

Design:

Retrospective chart review.

Setting:

Academic teaching hospital.

Patients or Participants:

Patients who underwent trial of leuprolide acetate prior to hysterectomy and BSO for endometriosis.

Interventions:

We performed a retrospective chart review of patients from 2015-2021 who had a diagnosis of endometriosis and underwent a trial of leuprolide acetate prior to hysterectomy with BSO for pelvic pain (n=31). We reviewed pre-operative records, operative notes, and postoperative records to assess whether patients achieved pain relief following ovarian suppression with leuprolide acetate or definitive surgical management with hysterectomy and BSO.

Measurements and Main Results:

31 patients underwent a trial of leuprolide acetate prior to hysterectomy and BSO for endometriosis. Fifteen patients reported complete pain relief with leuprolide acetate therapy (“Lupron responders”) and 16 reported incomplete or no pain relief (“Lupron non-responders”). The groups were similar in age, ethnicity, race, BMI, parity, number of past treatments for pelvic pain, mode of hysterectomy, blood loss during surgery, presence of adhesions, and surgical complications. There was a significant difference between the two groups as to whether they achieved complete pain relief after hysterectomy with BSO. Among Lupron responders, 73.7% reported complete pain relief after surgery. For Lupron non-responders only 37.5% reported complete pain relief after surgery ($p=.045$).

Conclusion:

Lupron responders were more likely to achieve pain relief with hysterectomy and BSO. A trial of leuprolide acetate prior to surgery may be helpful to predict which patients will benefit from hysterectomy and BSO for endometriosis-related pelvic pain.

Conflict of Interest: No conflicts of interest noted by author