

There is always some concern that patients who refuse participation in descriptive studies may have differing rates of disease from those who do participate, which may result in less precise prevalence estimates being made. Unfortunately it seems that other sources of clinical data regarding patients refusing participation are absent in this study, thus preventing any form of sensitivity analysis.

Nevertheless, this study does highlight the advantage of targeting specific populations of people at highest risk of disease from which to estimate disease frequency. Using community based samples with a defined population denominator allows accurate identification of

both incidence and prevalence figures. Clinic based series have inevitable biases in patient ascertainment, with ill defined population denominators and no means of quantifying missing cases. It is now important that other investigators delineate age specific community based figures for this condition in their populations.

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NEUROLOGICAL STAMP.....

Félix Guyon 1831–1920

Guyon was a native of the Island of Réunion. He emigrated to France, studied medicine in Paris, and became a surgeon at Hôpital Necker and professor of genitourinary surgery in Paris. Guyon was an outstanding urologist and a pioneer in prostatectomy and cystoscopy.

In 1861 Guyon presented a paper on the hand to the Anatomical Society in Paris. This was published in the bulletin of the society, entitled "A note of an anatomical arrangement specific to the anterior aspect of the wrist not previously described". Given the date of the publication and the initial of the author, one can only conclude that this was Félix Guyon of urological fame. In his paper Guyon describes "une petite loge intra-aponévrotique". The groove or tunnel formed between the pisiform and the hamate and ligaments is now eponymously known as Guyon's canal and the findings associated with ulnar nerve entrapment at this site Guyon's syndrome. In 1979 Guyon was honoured on a stamp issued by France on the occasion of the 18th Congress of International Society of Urologists, in Paris. He is portrayed with catheters (Stanley Gibbons no 2323, Scott no 1652.) Réunion also issued his stamp, but it was never sold.

Reference

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