

ABSTRACT

The measurement of female sexual arousal within the primary research as well as in clinical practice suffers from several difficulties. In particular, the discrepancy between subjectively perceived sexual excitement and physiological arousal (e.g. change in vaginal pulse amplitude or in vaginal temperature) was found. Moreover, the enormous variability in subjective preferences of women for male stimuli appearance together with their low sexual reactivity to static visual erotic stimuli contribute to the fact that standardized set of erotic stimuli for women is recently not available. In our study, subjective and physiological arousal of women when exposed to 2 sets of sexual-erotic stimuli of different nature (directed erotic imagination and reading erotic texts) were measured (using plethysmography GETA). Sample of 20 women (in reproductive age without sexual issues) were used for purpose of standardization of developed stimuli set, including the evaluation of their suitability for sexual arousal assessment. The results show directed erotic imagination and erotic texts are suitable for measurement of sexual response. The effectiveness is demonstrated especially in detection of attitudes to sexuality and sexual activities.