

To assess the advantages and disadvantages of using ultrasound to guide ESWL in patients with radiopaque renal stone. This study included 80 patients with radiopaque renal stone who visited the ESWL unit in urology department at Hillah teaching hospital. Thirty-eight of those patients underwent US guided ESWL while in the other 42 patients the procedure done under fluoroscopy control. The results, complications and operative time were compared between both groups.

Both groups were comparable regarding stone size, site and body mass index. Operative time was significantly longer in group 2, there was no significant difference regarding passage of gravels, stone free rate, postoperative hematuria and loin pain between both groups. Therefore, we conclude that even in patients with radiopaque stones, ultrasound can be used to guide ESWL as effectively as fluoroscopy, without any risk of radiation.