

INTRODUCTION

The field of percutaneous renal and ureteral calculus removal has evolved rapidly. In many institutions, these procedures have become the primary mode of therapy for symptomatic calculi replacing standard surgical operations (Le Roy et al., 1985).

These procedures are generally performed as a collaborative effort between radiologists and urologists, with the former responsible for initial percutaneous nephrostomy and track dilatation and the pre- and post procedural radiologic evaluation of the patient, and the latter responsible for nephroscopic stone extraction or disintegration (Banner et al., 1985).

The aim of this study is to evaluate the different techniques used for percutaneous nephrostomy puncture as a primarily step before nephroscopic stone extraction or disintegration.