

Painful bladder or rectal spasms may occur in some conditions.

For painful bladder spasms, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs: discussed in a separate article) may be helpful due to the possible role that prostaglandins play in bladder muscle contraction. ( [\[i\]](#) [\[ii\]](#) [\[iii\]](#) )

Painful rectal spasms may respond to diltiazem, a calcium channel blocker that reduces smooth-muscle contraction, which has been effective in the management of proctalgia fugax (shooting pains in the rectum). ( [\[iv\]](#) )

Chlorpromazine (a neuroleptic) ( [\[v\]](#) ), and benzodiazepines ( [\[vi\]](#) ) have also been used and their efficacy noted anecdotally.

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[\[i\]](#) Abrams P H, Fenely R C, *British Journal of Urology* 1975 ;47:909-915 The actions of Prostaglandins on the smooth muscle of the human urinary tract in vitro.

[\[ii\]](#) Cardozo L D, Stanton S L. *Journal of Urology* 1980;123: 399-401 A comparison between bromocriptine and indomethecin in the treatment of detrusor instability. *Journal of Urology* 123: 399-401

[ [\[iii\]](#) ] Hanks G W, Portenoy R K, MacDonald N, O'Neil W M. 1993 Difficult pain problems, in Doyle D, Hanks G W, MacDonald N (eds): *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Medicine*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 257-274.

[\[iv\]](#) Castell DO. *American Journal of Cardiology*. 1985; 55: 210B-213B Calcium blocking agents for gastrointestinal disorders.

[v] Twycross R G, Lack S A. 1984 Symptom control in far-advanced cancer: Pain Relief. Pitman, London.

[vi] Hanks G W. 1984 Psychotropic drugs. Clinics in Oncology; 3:135-151.