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Lee D[1], Kim J[2], Kim Y[3], Choi J B[4], Park W[5]

1. *Department of Urology, Incheon St. Mary's Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea,* ***2.*** *Department of Urology, Bucheon St. Mary's Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea,* ***3.*** *Department of Urology, Bucheon Soonchunhyang Hospital, Soonchunhyang University,* ***4.*** *Department of Urology, Ajou University Hospital,* ***5.*** *Department of Urology, Inha University Hospital*

IS MESH SHORTENING EFFECTIVE IN FAILED MIDURETHRAL SLING PROCEDURES FOR FEMALE STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE ?

Hypothesis / aims of study

Some proposed methods are being used in failed sling procedures for female stress urinary incontinence. However, reoperation requiring new sling materials and anesthesia could burden both patients and surgeons with stress. We evaluated the effectiveness of mesh shortening which is simple and easily performed.

Study design, materials and methods

From 2002 to 2008, 30 patients were treated by mesh shortening because of failed sling procedures. Mesh was exposed through the previous vaginal incision and both edges of mesh were approximated by 4-0 prolene sutures at the midline. Medical records were reviewed and postoperative follow-up was done by continence status, patient satisfaction with questionnaire(5:very satisfied, 1:very unsatisfied), maximal flow rate and postvoid residual urine volume at least 1 year after mesh shortening

Results

Mean age was 59.7±10.4 years old and mean time between initial midurethral sling surgery and shortening procedure was 3.7±1.4 months. Mean follow up periods were 27.8±13.1 months and 14 had ISD. Concomitant surgeries were hysterectomy in 3, perineorrhaphy in 4 and cystocele repair in 2 patients. 15 patients(50.0%) were objectively cured, 6(20.0%) were improved but 9(30.0%) were failed. De novo urgency was observed in 1 and voiding difficulty was observed in 2 patients.

Interpretation of results

Simple shortening of mesh can improve urine leakage in 70.0% of failed sling procedures without serious complications.

Concluding message

The results of mesh shortening were not promising because of low rate of complete dryness. Nevertheless, this method should be considered as a primary choice in failed midurethral sling procedure because it could be performed easily and does not require high expense.

Specify source of funding or grant	**No**
Is this a clinical trial?	**Yes**
Is this study registered in a public clinical trials registry?	**No**
Is this a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)?	**Yes**
What were the subjects in the study?	**HUMAN**
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	**No**
This study did not require ethics committee approval because	**retrospective study**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**Yes**