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ONE-YEAR OUTCOME AFTER MID-URETHRAL SLING PROCEDURE FOR STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE IN OLDER VERSUS YOUNGER WOMEN

Hypothesis / aims of study

To compare the one-year outcome of patients ≤ 65 years and older than 65 years, after a mid-urethral sling procedure for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) or urodynamic stress incontinence (USI).

Study design, materials and methods

Retrospective data collection and analysis, between October 2001 to December 2006, was obtained for patients with SUI and/or USI, who had undergone a tension-free vaginal tape (TVT) or obturator (TVT-O) procedure.

Results

217 patients were included - 189 were \leq 65 years old, and 28 were > 65 years old. One-year continence rates were 100.0% for the older group, compared to 92.0% in the younger group (p=0.055). One-year voiding dysfunction rates were three times higher in the younger group compared to the older cohort (3.0% versus 0.0%, p=0.17). *De novo* urge incontinence was significantly higher in the older group (21.0% versus 4.0%, p=0.00), as was hospitalization stay (2.9 days versus 2.4 days, p=0.02), and post-operative fever (11.0% versus 2.0%, p=0.008); as compared to the younger cohort. Otherwise, bladder perforation rates were comparable (7.0% versus 5.0%, p=0.296); and there were no mortalities.

Interpretation of results

Mid-urethral slings appear to be an excellent continence procedure, regardless of age. Larger powered studies will help clarify which mid-urethral sling is best suited for patients with different aetio-pathology causing SUI.

Concluding message

The continence rate in our centre's older population appears impressive, contrary to reported medical literature^(1, 2). This is likely due to the small sample size; but such contrary findings require larger powered prospective trials to discern why this could occur. All other findings appear logical and intuitive. References

- 1. Ku JH, Oh JG, Shin JW, Kim SJ, Paick JS. (2006). Age is not a limiting factor for midurethral sling procedures in the elderly with urinary incontinence. Gynecol Obstet Invest. 61(4): 194-9
- 2. Richter HE, Goode PS, Brubaker L, Zyczynski H, Stoddard AM, Dandreo KJ, Norton PA. (2008). Two-year outcomes after surgery for stress urinary incontinence in older compared with younger women. Obstet Gynecol. 112(3): 621-9

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Specify Name of Public Registry, Registration Number	SingHealth Centralised Institutional Review Board, 2009/295/D
Is this a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	Yes
Specify Name of Ethics Committee	SingHealth Centralised Institutional Review Board
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	Yes
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	No