

THE EARLY EXPERIENCE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TRANSOBTURATOR TAPE (TOT) PROCEDURE AND THE FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION

Hypothesis / aims of study

There are several reports that showed the relationship between the urinary incontinence and the female sexual dysfunction. However, there is a paucity of report related with the sling operation and the improvement of the female sexual function. We evaluated the impact of sling operation for urinary incontinence on female sexual function.

Study design, materials and methods

We included 86 patients who underwent TOT procedure for urinary incontinence in our institute as well as who were sexually active. All patients were asked to complete the Korean version of female sexual function index (FSFI) pre-operatively and post operative 3months. In addition to the FSFI, all patients were asked the King's Health Questionnaires (KHQ) and self reported satisfaction scale (5 degree ; cure to very worsening) to assess the surgical outcome of the sling operation.

Results

The mean age was 45.43 ± 6.32 and mean VLPP was 98.7 ± 12.6 cmH₂O, respectively. In these patients, 5 patients were grade 1 and only 1 patient was grade 3 while others were all grade 2 urinary incontinence according to the Stamey grade. Among the 5 domain of the FSFI, the desire domain (2.8 ± 1.2 to 3.9 ± 1.1 , $p=0.034$) and the satisfaction domain (2.4 ± 1.1 to 4.1 ± 1.8 , $p=0.029$) were significantly improved post operatively. Other domains (arousal, lubrication and orgasm) and total scores had a tendency to improvement but they had marginal significance ($P>0.05$). The surgical outcomes were feasible with the global improvement of KHQ as well as reasonable subjective satisfaction scale (cured were 70 and improved were 12 while no interval change was only 4 patients)

Interpretation of results

The female sexual function is not only related the physiologic factors but also psychological factors. Our data confirms that the TOT procedure has positive effects on the overall sexual function, especially on the psychological aspects and it was directly related with the total QoL of the patients with stress urinary incontinence.

Concluding message

TOT had positive effect on the female sexual function especially on the desire and satisfaction. But the long-term follow up data and more large scale survey will be necessary to support the good result maintenance.

Specify source of funding or grant	NONE
Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	Yes
Specify Name of Ethics Committee	Institutional Review Board of Hallym Medical Center
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	Yes
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	Yes