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**Title:** THE VALUE OF AMREICH-RICHTER VAGINAEFIXATIO SACROSPINALIS IN THE TREATMENT OF TOTAL VAGINAL VAULT

**Aims of study:**

In our investigation we include the results of 115 patients who were operated by incontinence combined with a defect of the pelvic floor.

**Methods:**

In the years following 1997 we operated 115 female patients suffering from incontinence and pelvic descensus and prolapsus. We used the combination of incontinence operation (Burch colposuspension) with vaginal plastics and vaginaefixatio sacrospinalis Amreich-Richter. In this combined procedure the top of the vagina has to be connected with the ligament sacrospinosous normally on the right side of the patient. Special speculae (Breisky specula which were long and allow a good look on the ligament) were used to demonstrate the ligaments to the surgeon so that the tights could be setted correctly. The fixation of the tights were within the vaginal wall on both sides. For examination we used clinical investigation as well as the urodynamic procedures (cystometry, urethrocystometry) and ultrasound. The results we compared with those before operation statistically (t test).

**Results:**

In our study we could find that nearly all patients from the first and second year (1997 and 1998) had no new descensus of the top of vagina. Furthermore the patients operated in the last years suffered not from a new prolapsus too. The function of the pelvic floor could be better after the operation which we could explain. Only 2 pts. whom the tights of the Amreich-Richter operation were cutted by general practitioner had a problem with the renewal of descensus of the vagina. But these 2 women we could help by another operation. In these cases we used the left lig.sacrospinosus and after control last time we could state a good anatomical position of the vaginal top. Subjectively the patients did not suffer from any pain and they were very satisfied. After operation the incontinence problems were finished because this demonstrated operation had no influence of these problems.

**Conclusion:**

The operation of Amreich-Richter is not an easy procedure but is very effective to prevent the patients to get a prolaps of the vagina again. The urodynamical results after the operation are good but without direct influence.