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THE INVANCE™ MALE SLING IN TREATING URINARY INCONTINENCE: THE RESULTS DECLINE RAPIDLY BUT REMAIN STABLE AFTER 1 YEAR FOLLOW UP.

Hypothesis / aims of study
To evaluate the efficacy and safety of the Invance™ bone-anchored bulbourethral sling in male stress urinary incontinence (SUI) after prostate surgery.

Study design, materials and methods
Between 2005 and 2008, the bulbourethral sling was implanted into 35 patients with SUI after prostate surgery. The SUI was evaluated by the number of daily pads: mild incontinence (1 to 2 pads per day), moderate (3 to 4 pads per day) and severe (5 or more pads per day). The patients were monitored and evaluated in a prospective manner. Early and late postoperative complications were reported. The treatment was considered to be successful if the patient was completely dry. The residual incontinence was evaluated by the number of pads needed.

Results
The preoperative urinary incontinence was mild in 14 patients (41,4%), moderate in 8 patients (20,7%) and severe in 13 patients (37,9%). The time between prostate surgery and anti-incontinence surgery was 47,9 months. The removal of the sling was necessary in 6 patients (17,1%) after a median period of 4 months (1-8,5 months) secondary to persistent perineal pain or infection of the surgical site. At 3 months the continence rate was 62,8%. After 1 year follow-up this rate decline to 37,1% and remains stable at 18 months. The success rate in the patients with mild or moderate incontinence was, respectively, 43% and 37,5% versus 30,7% in the patients with severe incontinence. Compared to the preoperative IIQ-7 and IQoL scores, the questionnaire scores improved in all patients.

Interpretation of results
The continence rate (complete dryness) declines rapidly with time but remains stable with time. This technique seems more efficient in mild to moderate stress urinary incontinence.

Concluding message
The long term efficacy of the bone-anchored male sling procedure is questionable.

Specify source of funding or grant	**NO Funding or gant**
Is this a clinical trial?	**No**
What were the subjects in the study?	**HUMAN**
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	**No**
This study did not require eithics committee approval because	**no need**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**No**