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AVLEV - A NOVEL IDEA OF A "LEVATOR BRACE" DURING PELVIC RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY.

Introduction:

Levator ballooning and levator avulsion are being recognised as predisposing factors to causation and recurrence of genital prolapse.

Methods:

After cadaveric dissection and ultrasound, the AVLEV is seemed to be one modality of providing a levator brace to the puborectalis to prevent levator ballooning and possibly correct levator avulsion. AVLEV is now being used as a levator brace along with fascial repairs to study recurrence rates and levator function before and after surgery.

Results:

The index case has a fascial posterior repair with bilateral iliococcygeus fixation and bilateral AVLEV procedure. The AVLEV has a transobturator approach for entry and a transgluteal or transvaginal exit. The index patient showed levator ballooning preoperatively and restricted ballooning with almost intact levators post surgery. At 6 months, the patient has shown no recurrence and good symptom control. A further 20 patients are being recruited.

Conclusion:

AVLEV is a novel approach to facilitate pelvic reconstructive surgery. Applications could include concomitant use with mesh repair, prophylactic use in future to prevent prolapse.

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<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	Yes
<i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i>	The Mater Misericordiae Hospital ethics committee
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes