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FEMALE SEXUAL FUNCTION AFTER TRANSVAGINAL MESH (TVM) RECONSTRUCTION WITH TOT SLING FOR VAGINAL PROLAPSE CONCURRENT WITH STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE.

Hypothesis / aims of study

To evaluate the female sexual function before and after surgery for pelvic organ prolapsed (POP).

Study design, materials and methods

Between Jan. 2006 and Sep. 2009, 320 patients with POP, underwent tension-free vaginal mesh (TVM). Anterior tension-free vaginal mesh (TVM) was performed for cystocele, posterior TVM for rectoceles, and TVM concomitant with TOT sling for POP with stress urinary incontinence (SUI). Forty five sexually active female patients were enrolled in the study (POP group). The mean age was 64.0 years (range, 49-65). Thirty-four of 45 (75 %) cases showed SUI preoperatively, which was confirmed by one hour pad test or stress test with a vaginal tampon. An age-matched group of 66 women who had no incontinence and POP were enrolled as a control group. The Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI) was distributed before and after 1 year pelvic organ surgery and control group.

Results

FSFI scores were compared between the POP and control groups. All domain scores of FSFI except Desire in the POP group were significantly lower than control group (Desire; 2.1 vs. 2.3, ns., Arousal; 1.5 vs. 2.5, $p < 0.05$, Lubrication; 1.9 vs. 3.4, $p < 0.05$, Orgasm; 1.9 vs. 2.9, $p < 0.05$, Satisfaction; 2.6 vs. 3.4, $p < 0.05$, Pain; 2.3 vs. 3.7, $p < 0.05$). Twenty-nine (64%) and 38 (84%) cases had sexual intercourse before and after the operation. While 10 cases were back on sexual intercourse after the TVM surgery, 3 cases of female retired. FSFI scores improved significantly in the domains Arousal, Lubrication, and particularly Organism, and Satisfaction. Arousal remained unchanged (table 1).

Interpretation of results

POP effects sexual function. TVM improved all domain of FSFI except desire. The efficacies of TVM reconstruction are excellent for both POP and sexual function.

Concluding message

Surgery for pelvic organ prolapse improves female sexual function in some domains but not in all.

Table 1 Changes in the parameters evaluated before and after the TVM surgeries (mean follow up; 15.1 months, n = 45)

	Before (SD)	After (SD)	P value
Desire	2.1 (1.0)	2.4 (0.8)	0.328
Arousal	1.5 (1.3)	2.3 (1.3)	0.020
Lubrication	1.8 (1.8)	2.8 (1.6)	0.015
Organism	1.8 (1.8)	2.9 (1.7)	0.004
Satisfaction	2.7 (1.3)	3.6 (0.9)	0.002
Pain	2.1 (2.3)	3.6 (2.2)	0.009

SD: standard deviation

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Is this a clinical trial?	No
What were the subjects in the study?	HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	Yes
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Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	Yes
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	Yes