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Bilateral attachment of the vaginal cuff to iliococcygeus fascia: anatomic and functional aspects

Hypothesis / aims of study
Complete prolapse of the vagina is a relatively uncommon, but devastating, complication of hysterectomy. The aim of this study was to determine the anatomic, defined as no persistent or recurrent support defects, and functional success of suspension of the vaginal cuff to iliococcygeus fascia.

Study design, materials and methods
18 women treated by suspension of the vaginal cuff to iliococcygeus fascia and repair of coexisting pelvic support defects between November 2008 and July 2010 had urodynamic and site-specific analysis of pelvic support performed preoperatively and at consecutive postoperative visits. Visits were performed 2 months postoperatively and than every 6 months; urodynamic six months after surgery.

Results
18 patients between 60 and 83 yars old underwent attachment of the vaginal cuff to iliococcygeus fascia and repair of other support defects (Tab 1). Median follow up was 11.5 months (range:8-20).

Grade	1 (n)	2(n)	3-4 (n)
iliococcygeus fascia attachment			18
Cystocele repair		2	7
Rectocele repair		2	10

Tab. 1

Clinical and urodynamic,pre and postoperatively, data are presented in Table 2.

	Pre-op	Post-op
Median maximum urethral closure pressure (cm H2O)	76.5 (33-80)	60 (30-70)
Median detrusor pressure at peak flow (cm H2O)	50 (30 – 80)	30 (20-50)
Detrusor instability (n)	3	2
Genuin stress incontinence with prolapse reduced (n)	2	4

Tab.2

At follow up 3 patients had grade 2 vaginal cuff prolapse recurrence, 4 patients had grade 1 or 2 cystocele recurrence.

Interpretation of results
Iliococcygeus fascia attachment is a valuable procedure because the tissue used for suspension is easily accessible and not directly adiacent to any major nerve or vessels, poviding a strong anchor bilaterally.

Concluding message
Iliococcygeus fascia attachment provides good anatomical and functional results in patients with vaginal vault prolapse.

Specify source of funding or grant	**we don't have any source of funding**
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 ethics committee approval because	**it does not contain experimental treatments and there is not a randomization between different treatments**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**Yes**