

## TRANSPUBIC REPAIR OF URETHRAL PATHOLOGY IN WOMEN

### Hypothesis / aims of study

Transurethral repair of urethral disruption in males has been performed for many years. There are much fewer lesions in women due to the rarity of the injury. We report on three women who had transpubic repairs of urethral pathology.

### Study design, materials and methods

In 2010-2011, we encountered three women with serious urethral injuries: two complete disruptions and one bladder neck vesicovaginal fistula.

### Results

The first is an 11 year old girl who had a complete disruption due to a farming accident. A previous attempted transvaginal/abdominal repair had failed. The second is a 16 year old who had suffered a complete urethral disruption in a severe car crash, where all other occupants were killed. The third is a morbidly obese, insulin-dependent diabetic who had a vesico vaginal fistula from a hysterectomy many years ago, and three attempted repairs, all of which failed. We documented the fistula at the bladder neck prior to the repair.

The pubis was split in all cases by a Gigli saw and spread with a laminectomy retractor. This afforded access to the urethra as needed. The pubis was closed with wire.

### Interpretation of results

In all cases the repairs were successful. The fistula patient had a wound dehiscence which healed and the 11 year old has persistent moderate stress incontinence. Minor, temporary gait abnormalities were noted, all of which have now resolved.

### Concluding message

Transpubic repair of urethral or bladder neck injury is a viable option for severe problems that are not amenable to traditional repairs. There were no severe complications in our small series.

<b><i>Specify source of funding or grant</i></b>	<b>None</b>
<b><i>Is this a clinical trial?</i></b>	<b>No</b>
<b><i>What were the subjects in the study?</i></b>	<b>HUMAN</b>
<b><i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i></b>	<b>No</b>
<b><i>This study did not require ethics committee approval because</i></b>	<b>None needed</b>
<b><i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i></b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b><i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i></b>	<b>Yes</b>