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MESH CUTTING AFTER MIDURETHRAL SLING SURGERY IN FEMALE STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE: 2-YEAR FOLLOW UP

Hypothesis / aims of study

Midurethral sling (MUS) surgery is believed as a gold standard surgical method in managing female stress urinary incontinence (SUI). However, mesh-related complications are inevitable, although the incidence is very low. In some cases, mesh should be cut to solve the problems. We evaluated those patients who required mesh cutting because of mesh-related complications.

Study design, materials and methods

Medical records of patients whose meshes were cut from 2002 to 2008 were reviewed. A detailed telephone interview was performed to know their current status of voiding problems including recurrence of incontinence.

Results

19 patients were included in this study. Mean age was 54.2±9.5 ranging from 38 to 71. The reasons why their meshes were cut were as follows: voiding difficulties in 12 patients (68.2%), mesh erosion in 5 patients (26.3), intractable overactive bladder (OAB) in 2 patients (10.5%). Most complications were disappeared except in 2 patients of voiding difficulties and 1 patient of OAB. When asking recurrence of SUI, 7 patients (36.8 %) answered ‘yes’ (4 out of 12 voiding difficulties, 2 out of erosion and 1 out of OAB). Recurrence occurred in 5 patients whose meshes were cut within 1 month and 1 2 patients whose meshes were cut after 2 months of implantation. 4 patients were mixed incontinence.

Interpretation of results

Most problems associated with mesh implantation could be managed by mesh cutting. However, 36.8% of patients whose meshes were cut had recurrent SUI.

Concluding message

Urologists and patients whose meshes are planning to cut because of unwanted complications should be aware of recurrence of incontinence. Mixed incontinence and early cutting seem to be risk factors of recurrence after mesh cutting. Tension of the mesh is very important to reduce the chance of mesh cutting.

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Is this a clinical trial?	**Yes**
Is this study registered in a public clinical trials registry?	**No**
Is this a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)?	**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	**retrospective study**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**Yes**