Hypothesis / aims of study
Vaginal erosion is one of bothersome complications after suburethral sling operation for the female stress urinary incontinence (SUI). The purpose of this study was to evaluate the clinical features before and after surgical removal of the mesh.

Study design, materials and methods
From April 2005 to April 2010, 27 patients underwent removal of mesh causing vaginal erosion at our department were prospectively followed and analyzed their operation procedures and symptoms. Also, we evaluated Self-assessment/Sandvik questionnaire of SUI after their surgical removal of tape.

Results
Mean age of patients was 53.3±7.3 years. Vaginal erosion was found at 29.4±22.3 months after the operation, patients presented with vaginal bleeding and discharge accompanied with some of the foul odor, dyspareunia of partner, itching sense of genitalia, and introvaginal foreign body sensation. 25 patients (86.2%) had partial removal and 4 (13.8%) had complete removal of 29 patients, 2 of them (6.9%) who recurred vaginal erosion after primary removal had reoperation. 3 (13.6%) of 22 patients except 7 (24.1%) who had SUI at detected vaginal erosion were recurred SUI after tape removal. (Table1).

Interpretation of results
There were no differences between modalities of SUI operation procedures and recurrences of stress incontinence (p=0.226).

Concluding message
Vaginal erosion after diverse suburethral sling operation was detected in various periods. This could be corrected easily by surgical tape removal and low recurrence rates were reported. Longer term evaluation with more objects is recommended.

Table 1. Clinical characteristics of the patients groups of surgical transvaginal mesh removal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ant. IVS</th>
<th>TOT</th>
<th>TVT</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of patients (%)</td>
<td>16 (55.2)</td>
<td>9 (31.0)</td>
<td>4 (13.8)</td>
<td>29 (100)</td>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>53.1±7.3</td>
<td>52.8±8.3</td>
<td>55.5±6.5</td>
<td>53.3±7.3</td>
<td>0.819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period of Diagnosis of mesh erosion (month)</td>
<td>23.5±12.6</td>
<td>26.0±19.7</td>
<td>36.5±41.3</td>
<td>29.4±22.3</td>
<td>0.523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent SUI at the diagnosis of vaginal erosion (%)</td>
<td>2 (28.6)</td>
<td>3 (42.8)</td>
<td>2 (28.6)</td>
<td>7 (100)</td>
<td>0.224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent SUI after the surgical removal of the mesh.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.226</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specify source of funding or grant: no any funding or grant
Is this a clinical trial? Yes
Is this study registered in a public clinical trials registry? No
Is this a Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT)? Yes
What were the subjects in the study? HUMAN
Was this study approved by an ethics committee? Yes
Specify Name of Ethics Committee: Cheil general hospital ethics committee
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed? Yes
Was informed consent obtained from the patients? Yes