PATIENT REPORTED INCONTINENCE AFTER ROBOT ASSISTED LAPAROSCOPIC RADICAL PROSTATECTOMY – A SINGLE CENTRE EXPERIENCE

Hypothesis / aims of study
Urinary incontinence is one of the most feared complications of radical prostatectomy (RP) and can significantly affect post-operative quality of life. We have determined the incidence of patient reported urinary incontinence (UI) after robot assisted laparoscopic prostatectomy (RALP). To improve preoperative counseling we have explored potential UI risk factors and measured post-operative quality of life.

Study design, materials and methods
Patient demographics and operative parameters were obtained from our prospective RALP database. Post-operative functional outcome and quality of life was assessed using the Expanded Prostate Cancer Index Composite and Prostate Assessment Questionnaires. Patient questionnaires were dispatched and collected by a third party at 3, 6, 12 and 24 months postoperatively.

Results
The patient questionnaire response rate was 61% (241 of 396 surveys). At 3, 6 and 12 months post surgery, 72%, 87% and 87% of patients respectively, were pad-free or used a security liner. Overall quality of life was high, with 50%, 60%, 70.1% and 77.8% of patients reporting to be mostly satisfied or better with their urinary symptoms at 3, 6, 12 and 24 months after surgery, respectively.

Interpretation of results
Age, nerve sparing, clinical stage of cancer and Gleason grade were not predictive for UI. Six percent of patients have had surgical intervention or are awaiting further investigation for stress incontinence.

Concluding message
Post RALP the majority of men recover urinary control during the first 3 months and quality of life continues to improve to 24 months. The study findings have facilitated preoperative counseling of men considering radical prostatectomy in our centre.

Disclosures
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