QUALITY OF LIFE AFTER ARTIFICIAL URINARY SPHINCTER IMPLANTATION (URINARY, SEXUAL AND BOWEL FUNCTIONS).

Hypothesis / aims of study as urinary incontinence is not directly life threatening, the main goal of surgical treatment of incontinence is to improve the quality of life (QOL). In this study we evaluated health-related quality of life regarding urinary, sexual, and bowel function.

Study design, materials and methods A total of 34 patients with severe stress urinary incontinence after prostatic surgery were treated with an AMS 800 artificial urinary sphincter between November 2004 and April 2013. For QOL assessment urinary, sexual, and bowel domains of PC-QOL questionnaire were used before and after AUS implantation. To determine differences between groups Wilcoxon signed-rank test was applied.

Results The mean age was 67 years and the mean follow-up was 44 months. Urinary function domain answers sum median decreased from 54 points (IQR 51 to 61 points) to 35 points (IQR 30 to 39 points), p<0.05.

Interpretation of results There were no significant differences before and after implantation in term of sexual function. Bowel function domain answers sum median decreased from 15 points (IQR 13 to 21 points) to 14.5 points (IQR 13.5 to 18.5 points), p<0.05.

Concluding message AUS implantation significantly improves not only the urinary function, but also bowel function.

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