

A FOUR-YEAR OUTCOME USING THE ANTERIOR ELEVATE™ KIT FOR GRADES 3 AND 4 CYSTOURETHROCELE REPAIR IN A TERTIARY UROGYNAECOLOGY CENTRE

Hypothesis / aims of study

The Elevate™ Anterior mesh is designed to correct the anterior vaginal wall defect by providing level 1 and 2 support via a single incision and transvaginal approach. Our institution began using this mesh in 2011.

The aim of the study is to examine the objective and subjective outcomes following severe (Grades 3 and 4) cystourethrocele repair using the Elevate™ Anterior kit by a single surgeon in a single centre in terms of its safety, efficacy, complication rates and quality of life measures.

Study design, materials and methods

A retrospective review of 83 patients with Grade 3 and 4 cystourethrocele who underwent a single incision transvaginal mesh using the Elevate™ Anterior Kit from 01 October 2011 to 31 December 2012. Peri- and post-operative complications were recorded with follow up intervals arranged at 1, 6, 12, 24, 36 and 48 months post-surgery. A standardised questionnaire directed at both urinary, pain and recurrence symptoms was used for all patients during each follow up session. Speculum and vaginal examinations were performed in all patients at each follow up visit to assess for objective cure and for detection of complications, including mesh erosions. The primary outcome was to assess the cure rate defined as a patient with cystourethrocele ≤ Grade 1.

Results

Eighty three patients were studied and the mean age was 64.9 years. Two (2.4%) intra-operative complications were recorded with 1 having excessive blood loss more than 500 mls, and 1 having rectal perforation. At the end of 4 years, 61 patients were available for review. The subjective and objective cure rates at 48 months were 98.4% and 100% respectively. At 48 months, 1 (1.6%) patient complained of de novo stress incontinence, but no de novo urge incontinence symptoms were reported. No prolapse recurrences, mesh erosions, pelvic pain or dyspareunia were reported at the end of 48 months. 100% of patients were satisfied after surgery.

Interpretation of results

From the results of this 4-year study, the Elevate™ Anterior Kit provides excellent cure rates for severe cystourethrocele with very minimal side effects or complications, and has high patient satisfaction rates. The fear of mesh erosions were of concern in view of the worldwide medicolegal implications with the use of vaginal meshes, but our study has proven otherwise.

Concluding message

Our 4-year experience with the Elevate™ Anterior kit showed excellent subjective and objective outcomes in patients with severe cystourethrocele and has high patient satisfaction rates with no increased risk in complications such as mesh erosions or pelvic pain. As there were no anterior prolapse recurrences in our study, the Elevate™ Anterior kit has proven its long-term efficacy in achieving optimal treatment outcomes.

Disclosures

Funding: NIL **Clinical Trial:** No **Subjects:** HUMAN **Ethics Committee:** Centralised Institutional Review Board **Helsinki:** Yes **Informed Consent:** No