

A. Liapis, P. Bakas, G. Creatsas.

2ND Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Aretaieio Hospital, Urogynecology Unit, University of Athens, Greece.

TENSION-FREE VAGINAL TAPE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF GENUINE STRESS INCONTINENCE IN WOMEN.

Aim of the study: Tension-free Vaginal Tape has been used for the last 5 years for the management of women with genuine stress incontinence, as a minimally invasive procedure(1).It appears to be very effective with low complications rates and fast postoperative recovery (2,3), but more studies are needed for safe conclusions to be made. Objective of this study was to assess the effectiveness and the complications associated with Tension-free Vaginal Tape (TVT) for the management of genuine stress incontinence in women and also to assess the possibility of using TVT in combination with operative procedures for the management of genital prolapse.

Methods: 59 patients with the diagnosis of genuine stress incontinence (GSI) participated in the study. 37 patients had GSI with first degree genital prolapse or less according to the International Continence Society classification, 11 patients had stage II –Cx genital prolapse and GSI , 4 patients had stage III –Cx prolapse and GSI, 6 patients had previous anterior colporrhaphy and 1 patient had a previous Marshall-Marchetti –Crantz operation performed .The patients with GSI and genital prolapse stage II or more underwent vaginal hysterectomy with anterior and posterior colporrhaphy plus TVT. All patients had a medical history taken and a clinical examination performed at initial visit and subsequently, they had frequency- volume charts to complete for 3-4 days and filling and voiding cystometry performed before and 3 months after the operation. All the patients were comparable in relation to their age and parity and body mass index (BMI) (Table I) Mean follow-up time was 21 months. Statistical analysis was performed with the use of Student's t-test with $p < 0.05$ considered statistically significant.