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AN AUDIT OF THE TENSION FREE VAGINAL TAPE PROCEDURE IN A DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL

AIMS/OBJECTIVES

Ulf Ulmsten et al have published their 3 year follow up of their TVT procedure (British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology 1999 p345-350) 86% of their women were completely cured. However, they were highly selective when recruiting their patients. Women with urge incontinence and prolapse were excluded and the procedure was primary in all the participants. Our only selection criteria was that the women had genuine stress incontinence and our aim was to see if our results were comparable to those of Ulmsten.

BACKGROUND:

31 women with urinary incontinence were selected for the TVT procedure. All 100% of the women complained of stress incontinence and 84% complained of either urge or urge leak, but the majority of the women complained of both. The procedure was primary in 74%. Pre-operative cystometry showed genuine stress incontinence alone in 90%.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The operative and immediate peri-operative details and complications will be described. All 31 women were invited back to the hospital to fill in a simple questionnaire and to undergo cystometric examination. 30 women came and 29 agreed to cystometry. The average time of follow-up was 8 months.

RESULTS:

SUBJECTIVE

90% of the women felt a lot better compared to before the operation. 66% of the women felt totally dry and 26% felt they were still wet but this was better than before the operation. There was a marked improvement in urge/urge leak.

OBJECTIVE

84% of the women were totally dry and the residuals averaged 40 mls. 2 women developed de-novo detrusor instability.

CONCLUSIONS

Our results compare favourably with those of Ulmsten and we feel the TVT procedure has a place in everyday clinical practice.