

Chung, M.D. M. <sup>1</sup>, Peters-Gee, M.D. J. <sup>2</sup>, Klutke, M.D. C. <sup>3</sup>, Lucente, M.D. V. <sup>4</sup>

1. Regional Center for Bladder Control and Pelvic Floor Relaxation for Women, 2. Women's Health specialty Care, Newington, CT, USA, 3. Univ of Washington, St Louis, MO, USA, 4. St. Luke's Hospital, Allentown, PA, USA

## **GYNECARE TVT TENSION-FREE SUPPORT FOR TREATMENT OF SUI: A RETROSPECTIVE CHART REVIEW USING ELECTRONIC DATA CAPTURE**

### **Aim of Study**

To investigate the success rate of Gynecare TVT for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence (SUI) among women with routine 1 year post-operative follow-up information.

### **Methods**

This was a retrospective chart review including women with: 1) pubovaginal sling using Gynecare TVT between October 1998 and August 2000, 2) positive cough stress test or diagnosis of SUI determined by urodynamics, 3) routine 1 year post-operative follow-up ( $\pm 2$  mos), and 4) no history of pelvic radiation treatment. Four centers reviewed inpatient and outpatient medical records (pre-operative, operative, post-operative records) on all patients having the Gynecare TVT procedure to determine patient eligibility according to the criteria above. Each center entered electronic case records into a common database via an internet browser. Cure/Improvement rate was based upon medical record documentation of patient self-assessment of post-op SUI symptoms. Data collection continues; this report represents results of information entered to date.

### **Results**

Records for 285 women met the eligibility criteria. The patient disposition was: 129(45%) SUI alone, 109(38%) Mixed incontinence, 44(15%) ISD, 66(23%) previous anti-incontinence surgery, 101(35%) concomitant surgery. The average age at surgery was 56 years ( $\pm 13$ ) and the duration of incontinence before surgery was 6 years ( $\pm 5$ ). At 4-6 weeks post-op, 269 (94%) women reported cure or improvement in SUI symptoms [244(85%) cure; 25(9%) improved]. Similarly, at 1 year post-op, 259 (91%) women reported cure or improvement [243 (85%) cure; 16(6%) improved]. Cure/Improvement rates for patient subgroups at 1 year post-op were: 96% SUI; 92% Mixed; 89% ISD patients; 89% previous anti-incontinence surgery; 96% concomitant surgery. Complication rates were 23(8%) UTI ( $\leq 6$  wks); 18(6%) retention  $> 2$  wks; 7(3%) mesh exposure; 12(4%) voiding dysfunction; 6 (2%) bladder perforation; 1(0.3%) hematoma

### **Conclusion**

This chart review is a real-life representation of patients undergoing the Gynecare TVT procedure, including women with previous and/or concomitant surgery as well as conditions not limited to pure SUI. Gynecare TVT Tension-Free support is an effective treatment for SUI and for patients with varied profiles. The results of this investigation are consistent with other prospective studies reported in the literature.