

PATIENT SATISFACTION AFTER SLING OPERATION FOR THE FEMALE WITH STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE REGARDING AS PREOPERATIVE CONDITION

Aims of Study

Sling operation is a widely used procedure in the treatment of female patients with stress urinary incontinence.¹ Although treatment results are reported to be successful in current reports, not much data on subjective satisfaction is reported to date.² We evaluated postoperative subjective satisfaction of patients and further investigated whether preoperative status of patients had influence on their satisfaction.

Methods

104 patients who received sling operation for stress urinary incontinence from January 1997 to June 2001 were included in the study. 66 patients underwent pubovaginal sling using cadaveric fascia lata and 38 underwent anterior vaginal wall sling. These patients were followed up for at least one year. The age distribution showed 23 patients below 40, 72 patients between 41 to 60, and 9 patients over 61. Duration of their symptoms varied from less than 1 year for 16 patients, 1 to 5 years for 56 patients, and over 6 years for 9 patients. 21 patients showed valsalva leak point pressure (VLPP) below 60cmH₂O, 45 patients between 60-99cmH₂O, and 38 patients over 100cmH₂O. Cystocele was found in 57 patients (54.81%). Comparison between pre-operative and post-operative SEAPI score³ was done. Post-operative satisfaction scale was divided into 4 stages: very satisfied, satisfied, unsatisfied and very unsatisfied.

Results

The mean age of the patients was a 47±8.9 years and the mean follow up period was 20.1±5.9 months. In evaluation of postoperative satisfaction of the patients after sling operations, 49 patients responded to be 'very satisfied', 49 patients 'satisfied', 2 patients 'unsatisfied' and 4 patients 'very unsatisfied'. The sums of SEAPI score were improved 5.6±2.4 to 1.1±1.3 (p<0.05).

Patient satisfaction in age distribution: below 40 years old, 'very satisfied' 56.52%, 'satisfied' 39.13%, between 41 to 60, 'very satisfied' 45.83%, 'satisfied' 48.61%, over 61, 'very satisfied' 33.33%, 'satisfied' 55.55%, respectively. Satisfaction in duration of the symptoms: less than 1 year, 'very satisfied' 37.50%, 'satisfied' 62.50%, 1 to 5 years, 'very satisfied' 51.78%, 'satisfied' 42.86%, over 6 years, 'very satisfied' 43.75%, 'satisfied' 46.87%, respectively. Satisfaction in VLPP: below 60 cmH₂O, 'very satisfied' 66.67%, 'satisfied' 33.33%, between 60-99 cmH₂O, 'very satisfied' 42.22%, 'satisfied' 48.89%, over 100 cmH₂O, 'very satisfied' 42.10%, 'satisfied' 52.63%, respectively. And satisfaction of the patients with cystocele: 'very satisfied' 43.75%, 'satisfied' 54.38%, respectively.

Conclusions

Postoperative satisfactions were very high regardless of preoperative status. Patients included in the younger age group and the low VLPP group showed relatively higher incidence of higher satisfaction. We believe that it is important to provide appropriate information on the preoperative condition of the patient to maximize postoperative satisfaction.

References

1. Urol Clin North Am 1995; 22: 657.
2. J Urol 2000; 164: 1633.
3. Neurourol Urodyn 1992; 11: 187.