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TRANSURETHRAL RESECTION OF TENSION-FREE VAGINAL TAPE PENETRATING THE URETHRA

Synopsis of Video

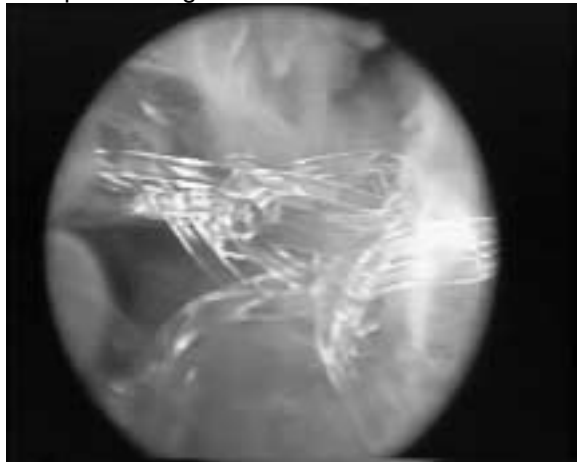
Aims of study

The penetration of a tension-free vaginal tape (TVT) into the urethra is a complication rarely described but in common clinical practice of TVT implantation it may occur much more often. Based on a systematic search of the literature (PubMed, until January 2003) transvaginal urethral resection with concomitant reconstruction is the only technique which has yet been described.

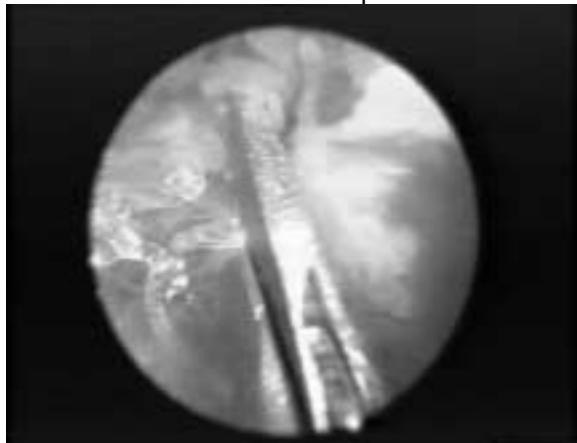
Methods

A 68-year-old woman with stress urinary incontinence underwent a TVT-procedure. After surgery the woman complained about pain and voiding disorders. An urodynamic investigation performed after 14 months revealed an infravesical obstruction caused by parts of the TVT penetrating the urethra. We decided to perform a transurethral video-assisted resection by endoscopic scissors introduced through a 7.5 mm hysteroscope while the patient was under spinal anesthesia.

TVT penetrating the urethra:



Transurethral resection of the penetrated TVT:



Results

After transurethral resection of the mesh, voiding returned to normal and the patient remained subjectively and objectively continent. There was no residual urine and no complaint about newly-developed urinary incontinence.

Conclusions

The transurethral approach described is a minimal invasive and successful technique which should be tried first before embarking on major destructive and reconstructive surgery on the urethra.

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