ARGUS ADJUSTABLE MALE SLING – A NEW SURGICAL METHOD IN THE TREATMENT OF URINARY INCONTINENCE IN MEN

Hypothesis / aims of study
Male urinary incontinence is a possible complication of prostatic surgery. It causes serious psychological problems and represents a socio-economic issue as well. The aim of this study is to evaluate the efficiency of a new surgical technique using ARGUS® sling.

Study design, materials and methods
Physical and laboratory examination were performed in all patients undergoing surgery, as well as panendoscopy and urodynamic study. The follow-up was performed using a quality of life questionnaire, evaluation of the continence and neurological symptomatology and, of course uroflowmetry with post-void residual volume.

Results
Between 2005 and 2007, 21 men with incontinence grade II-III were implanted the ARGUS sling. The average age was 67.5 years (54-74). Eleven patients had undergone radical retropubic prostatectomy for prostate cancer (PCa), 4 patients transurethral resection of the prostate and 1 patient open suprapubic prostatectomy for benign prostatic hyperplasia, 4 patients had undergone radical retropubic prostatectomy followed by adjuvant radiotherapy and 1 had been after perineal application of collagen seeds. Incontinence had lasted for at least 2 years and had been resistant to any conservative therapy. Urine cultivation was negative in all patients before surgery. Complete continence was achieved in 15 (71.5%) patients, 2 patients (9.5%) were improved, failure was noted in 4 patients (19%) – all of them had undergone adjuvant radiotherapy for PCa. Post-void residual urine volume was 0-45 ml after surgery. The sling proved as non-obstructive: Qmax in free uroflowmetry ranged between 10 and 32 ml/s.

Interpretation of results
The results show an improvement of continence in 81% of 21 patients. Postoperative protrusion of the sling into the urethra was noted in 2 patients (9.5%), both of them had undergone radiotherapy. History of radiotherapy is a relative contraindication to the implantation of the sling.

Concluding message
ARGUS adjustable male sling is a promising new step in the treatment of male urinary incontinence.

Specify source of funding or grant
NONE.

Is this a clinical trial?
Yes

Is this study registered in a public clinical trials registry?
No

What were the subjects in the study?
HUMAN

Was this study approved by an ethics committee?
Yes

Specify Name of Ethics Committee
Local ethical committee

Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?
Yes

Was informed consent obtained from the patients?
Yes