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Mishra V[1], Allen D[1], Yajnik K[1], Ruston M[1]
1. *Watford general Hospital, Watford, UK*

DAY CASE TRANS-OBTUATOR TAPE INSERTION: THE PATIENT PREFERENCE

Hypothesis / aims of study
Trans-obturator tape (TOT) is fast becoming the operation of choice for stress urinary incontinence (SUI). It is usually performed on an inpatient basis. We assess the feasibility and acceptability of TOT as a day case procedure.

Study design, materials and methods
Thirty-six women with SUI underwent insertion of TOT as a day case. The outcomes and preferences were assessed by a retrospective review of the case-notes and patient interview.

Results
Thirty women (83%) were either dry (28) or improved (2). There was no improvement in 4 women (11%), while the tape had to be removed in 2 women (5%) due to erosion (1) and groin haematoma leading to abscess formation and necrotising fascitis (1). The latter patient would have preferred to stay in. One patient, a known asthmatic, had to be admitted overnight for anaesthetic reasons. There was no immediate post-operative problem requiring medical attention in 34 (94%) patients. Four of them (11%) would still have preferred to stay in overnight for added reassurance. If in a similar situation, eighty-three percent of women would prefer to have the operation again as a day case.

Interpretation of results
Our study shows that undergoing insertion of TOT is acceptable to most but not all patients. Therefore, rather than adoption of day case TOT insertion as a universal practice, patients should be given the option and allowed to make a choice.

Concluding message
With appropriate patient selection, performing TOT as a day case is feasible, mostly meets with patient approval and constitutes optimal resource utilisation.

Specify source of funding or grant	**None**
Is this a clinical trial?	**No**
What were the subjects in the study?	**HUMAN**
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	**No**
This study did not require eithics committee approval because	**It was a retrospective review of case notes**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**Yes**