

ADVANTAGES ON URINARY CONTINENCE USING THE CAPIO RP SUTURING DEVICE FOR VESICO-URETHRAL ANASTOMOSIS AFTER RADICAL RETROPUBIC PROSTATECTOMY

Synopsis of Video

Showing the use of the Caprio RP Suturing device for vesico-urethral anastomosis on patients who have had radical retropubic prostatectomy.

Hypothesis / aims of study

A well performed vesico-urethral anastomosis should provide watertight closure, with appropriate mucosal to mucosal coaptation, and a proper tension free urethral realignment, in order to avoid complications, and improve functional results on early continence rate. Aim of the study is to evaluate the urinary continence rate in patients undergone radical retropubic prostatectomy and Caprio RP assisted vesico-urethral anastomosis.

Study design, materials and methods

150 patients age ranged from 51 to 73 suffering from localized prostate cancer, underwent radical retropubic prostatectomy, and vesico-urethral anastomosis using the Caprio RP suturing device. After the prostate gland and seminal vesicles had been removed, bladder neck was tailored, and the mucosal everted, to obtain a caliber compatible with urethral size, for a better and safe Caprio Rp assisted anastomosis by means of six stitches. The 20F. Foley catheter was removed on postoperative day 7, during cystography, which showed a perfect anastomosis in all cases, with a small leakage in 4 patients. Urinary continence was evaluated on the basis of the daily count of pads used, as reported by the patients.

Results

130 patients (86,6%) showed an immediate complete urinary continence, when the catheter has been removed. 18 patients (12%) had a mild urinary dribbling (2 to 3 pads/day), which disappeared within 4 to 6 weeks from surgery. 1 patient is completely incontinent, 1 patient has a stress incontinence.

Interpretation of results

Complete urinary continence after radical prostatectomy depends mostly on a well-healed vesico-urethral anastomosis. The results obtained with our surgical technique on continence rate are very encouraging when compared with those reported in Literature (from 6% to 20%).

Concluding message

In our experience, the use of Caprio RP made every vesico-urethral anastomosis extremely easy and safe, allowing the needle to rotate perfectly deep inside the urethral stump, so that the suture can pass through the mucosal, the smooth fibers of the urethra, and the peri-urethral muscular aponeurotic fibers, thus preserving in most cases an immediate and complete urinary continence.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	NONE
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	No
<i>This study did not require ethics committee approval because</i>	IT'S A SURGICAL TECHNIQUE
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes