MINIARC SINGLE–INCISION, MID–URETHRAL SLING: MEDIUM–TERM OUTCOMES

Hypothesis / aims of study

The MiniArc single-incision, midurethral sling provides a simpler, minimally–invasive treatment for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) due to urethral hypermobility (UHM).

Study design, materials and methods

Retrospective review of MiniArc slings performed by a single surgeon (SES). Patients seen routinely at 3–5 days, 2 weeks, 3, 6 and 12 months postoperatively. Follow up visits consisted of physical exam, direct visual stress test, PVR assessment, UA, UDS-6, IIQ-7, FSD and QOL questionnaires.

Results

Of 167 slings, 136 had at least 3 months, 79 had at least 6 months, and 6 had 12 months f/u data. Mean age 55 yrs (36–90). All MiniArcs were done as an outpatient procedure unless a concurrent procedure was performed. Median OR time was 10 minutes; median EBL <25cc. Median PVR was “negligible”. Obstructive voiding and elevated PVR necessitated one sling revision. At last f/u, 2 patient reported persistence of mild SUI, with mild leakage seen on direct visual stress test. Significant differences were seen on pre and post UDI–6 [total as well as sub-grouping for urgency (questions 1 and 2) and SUI (questions 3 and 4)], IIQ–7, and QOL questionnaires (p<0.05). No sling mesh extrusion/erosion, infection, sling related pain or dyspareunia was noted.

Interpretation of results

The MiniArc sling is an excellent option for the treatment of SUI due to UHM with comparable medium–term success to other midurethral slings. Patient observation continues in order to assess long–term (at least 1 year) durability.

Concluding message

The MiniArc single-incision, midurethral sling provides an excellent option for the treatment of female SUI due to UHM.

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 ethics committee approval because Retrospective Chart review of Prospectively collected data in a clinical setting

Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed? Yes

Was informed consent obtained from the patients? Yes