Letters to the Editor

Tubularisation in Hypospadias Repair: Is it Essential or Necessary?

Sir,

Here, we describe the feasibility of buried strip along with tunica vaginalis flap (TVF) in urethroplasty without tubularization in distal penile hypospadias with bad plates.

**PROCEDURE**

The Institute of Ethical Committee approved to study the files of 72 children [Table 1]. “U-” shaped incision was made encompassing both the hypospadiac meatus, and on both sides of so-called bad plate or tissue intended to be urethra (TITBU). Distal incision was made on the margins of “cleft meatus” to create a rectangular TITBU[1] separated from the rest of the penile skin after degloving. Another midline incision was made on the glandular urethral plate at “cleft meatus” to accommodate the urethral catheter to avert tension of stitches following glanuloplasty as well as for the “hinging”[2] of the glandular urethral plate [Figure 1] as well as to get vertical meatus at follow-up. Following that, the incision was made at the junction of inner pinkish and outer prepuce[3] to deglove the penis. Outer preputial skin was then rotated toward ventrum. The catheter was fixed over the island of TITBU with few tie-over stitches with 4-0 catgut. Glans wings were created by dissecting the tissue cleavage of Buck’s fascia and glans. Following that, TVF harvested from testis[4] was wrapped over the catheterized urethral plate. Glans wings were stitched subcutaneously with 5-0 polyglycolic to cover TITBU, catheter, and TVF.

Urethral catheters were removed after 7 days or earlier if there was any pericatheter leakage of urine with or without uncomfortable bladder spasm.

**RESULTS**

Two suture tract fistulas out of six were cured by regular dilation and four by “needling.”[5] Six patients (8%) needed further operations for repair of medium size fistula and glans dehiscence [Table 1].

**CONCLUSION**

Tubularization is good for the urethroplasty in hypospadias with good plate. Nevertheless, the concept of buried strip urethroplasty seems to be viable and effective by the amalgamation of TVF as vascular layers.

**Financial support and sponsorship**

Nil.

**Conflicts of interest**

There are no conflicts of interest.

---

**Table 1: Patients’ profile and outcome**

| Total number of patients | 72 |
|--------------------------|----|
| Age of patient           | 8 months-12 years |
| Local application of testosterone gel | 64 |
| Good response with testosterone gel | 46 |
| Follow-up period (months) | 5-120 |
| Uroflowmetry within normal range | 29 |
| Uroflowmetry within single SD range | 43 |
| Meatal stenosis           | 2 (all cured on regular calibration) |
| Vertical meatus           | In 66 patients |
| Suture track fistula      | 6 |
| Medium size fistula       | 5 |
| Glans dehiscence          | 1 |
| Re-operation              | 6 |

SD: Standard deviation

---

**Uday Sankar Chatterjee, Ashoke K. Basu, Kuntal K. Bhaumik, Debashis Mitra**
Pediatric Surgery, Park Medical Research and Welfare Society, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

**Address for correspondence:** Dr. Uday Sankar Chatterjee, Park Medical Research and Welfare Society, 4, Gorky Terrace, Kolkata - 700 017, West Bengal, India. E-mail: udaysankarchatterjee@yahoo.com

Submitted: 17-May-2021.
Revised: 06-Oct-2021.
Accepted: 22-Nov-2021.
Published: 26-Jul-2022.
Transanal protrusion of nonischemic compound intussusception

1. Chatterjee US, Chatterjee SK. Regenerative urethroplasty in reoperative hypospadias: Buried strip principle revisited. J Indian Assoc Pediatr Surg 2012;17:63-7.
2. Rich MA, Keating MA, Snyder HM, Duckett JW. Hinging the urethral plate in hypospadias meatoplasty. J Urol 1989;142:1551-3.
3. Kureel SN, Gupta A, Singh CS, Rawat J. A novel skin management scheme in surgery of epispadias undergoing cantwell-ransley repair: A technique to improve the aesthetics and minimize complications. Urology 2013;82:1400-4.
4. Chatterjee US, Mandal MK, Basu S, Das R, Majhi T. Comparative study of dartos fascia and tunica vaginalis pedicle wrap for the tubularized incised plate in primary hypospadias repair. BJU Int 2004;94:1102-4.
5. Chatterjee US, Basu AK, Bhaumik K. Needling for suture track fistula. J Indian Assoc Pediatr Surg 2021;26:203-5.