Peer Review File

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Review Comments

General comments: authors described the rationale of massive incontinence associated to scarred periurethral plus vaginal wall tissue and presented a comprehensive technique for its treatment. I have no amendments to the text or to the figures.
Reply: Thank you.

Comments on the Review manuscript submitted to Annals of Translational Medicine Entitled "Tethered Vagina Syndrome - massive urine loss caused by bladder neck scarring cured by skin graft" By Klaus Goeschen, et al.

In this review the authors from various institutions describe the rare urinary incontinence condition in women caused by the so called "tethered vagina syndrome" (TVS). Under this condition women involuntarily lose urine due to scarring at the site of the bladder neck on very specific occasions not to be misinterpreted as stress urinary incontinence. The normal elasticity of the continence mechanism at the bladder neck in this condition is impaired by scaring in developed countries caused iatrogenically by operations or scarring after successful closure of obstetric fistula in developing countries. Cure is best offered restoring elasticity with various flaps (skin-on Martius graft technique, bulbocavernosus-muscle-fat-skin-flap from the labium majus, skin on "Singapore flap", which is a graft from skin from the inner thigh).

The review is well written and gives a good overview and description of the TVS. It is also well illustrated with appropriate figures and videos. This review helps in understanding the problem of TVS and offers reproducible therapy strategies.

Reply: Thank you.

A good summary of present knowledge of this special topic. However, I think some of the illustrations could have been more didactic.
Reply: Thank you.

The review is worthy of publishing. It sheds an important light to one of the most waited problem regarding stress urinary incontinence surgery.

Reply: Thank you.