

Peer Review File

Article Information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/tau-22-488>

Review Comments:

Comment 1 : The aesthetic has not been improved. And patient's final result as the penis still looks tip heavy and not cylindrical nor physiologic in appearance

Reply 1: We first planned a delayed operation that reduced the length of the penis and then made the shape of the glans. However, after the reduction surgery, the patient was satisfied with the size and did not want to make the shape of the glans. Although the cosmetic improvement was not made because it could not make a glans, hypospadias was improved.

Comment 2 : It is indeed unusual and I question what the value of its publication has to the general readership. And the lack of an implant or sensation makes this neophallus even more unusual.

Reply 2 : Implant can be used to improve the strength and size of the penis. However, the patient had already received an abdominal flap operation by another surgeon. And the patient wanted to reduce the length of the penis, but he did not want an additional surgical treatment such as Implant insertion. The implant have an important role in phallus reconstruction. However, by providing a method to reduce flaps without using implants, we think it will be an opportunity to provide a new method to surgeons planning surgery for patients who want thicker phallus reconstruction.

Comment 3: It appears that the patient had the phallic reconstruction solely for urinary direction and appearance. Given that, why did he simply not choose to have a hypospadias repair and save the longer more risky, and complicated intervention reported here?

Reply 3: The correction of urinary directions is also an important issue, but the patient wanted to improve the length first. So, it was not possible to perform hypospadias repair alone. Therefore penile reduction which was reported in the manuscript was needed.

Comment 4 : Is there a plan to insert an implant to make it functional? I would surmise not, as it has been 30 years without sexual use. Providing the readership with future plans, whether an implant is scheduled or anticipated, and how he will use the neophallus would all add to the manuscript

Reply 4: After undergoing abdominal flap surgery, [The patient had a sensation in the remnant penis of the undamaged proximal area, which enables sexual intercourse. Therefore, he wanted to reduce the length rather than functional improvement such as erection.](#) We added this content to Case presentation line 72-74.

Comment 5 : Though the technique is ingenious, One case is far too few to be acceptable for publication. I personally have done over 40 of these cases after SCIP, ALT or LD phalloplasty for example.

Reply 5: There are not many cases of reconstruction using an abdominal Flap, so we reported one case. However, we think this case will help surgeons who plan similar case surgery.

Comment 6 : The penis did not have any sensation: Why was the abdominal flap not used as a sensate flap?

Reply 6 : The reconstruction using an abdominal flap was first performed by another surgeon. Therefore, we are sorry, it is difficult to answer this question.

Comment 7 : The girth seems too much for the length. And Ddd the patient not want donor-site adjustments?

Reply 7 : We have previously explained that the patient will reduce the length and it makes the penis look thicker, but the patient wanted only to reduce the length. He did not want other additional surgery.

Comment 8 : authors are describing a new technique: I would rephrase 'new' with 'Authors' approach' or 'first time description', since we are unaware what are the surgical techniques used by other Authors.

Reply 8 : We rephrase the sentence to [“In this case presentation, we introduce a first-time described method for reducing reconstructed penis.”](#) on Introduction, Line 61- 62

Comment 9 : Line 71: “ penis had no sensation.” The authors need to clarify the goals of a neophallus reconstruction including aesthetic goals, having penile sensations since this patient still has dorsal nerves, ability to place an implant and attain an erection. This is a case of a 50 years old patient and the focus of his care should address functionality.

Reply 9: We have modified this expression. “[Since the reconstructed part of the penis had no sensation](#)” As you pointed out, there was no sensation in the flap, but it is possible to have sexual intercourse because he has penile sensation through the remnant penis after the previous trauma. However, he wanted to reduce the length rather than functional improvement such as erection.

Comment 10: Line 74 “attention to neourethra damage.” Authors need to clarify how they protect the vascularity of the flap and the urethra and how they identify the pedicle, is there any advantage of using an intraoperative doppler. They may need to clarify in the discussion the different types of flaps available for penis reconstruction and what a random flap means to explain this.

Reply 10: Checking the intraoperative doppler Sound can reduce the damage to the [main pedicle](#). Also, by checking the path of the [neourethra through the inserted foley catheter](#), the remnant tissue was dissected not to damage the neourethra. We added this content to Case presentation line 82-83 and Discussion line 114-117

Comment 11: Line 75 “fit the height of the resected penis” how did the authors decide on the length of the neophallus, was this a patient-driven process. The reason this is not a common procedure is that the initial template of reconstruction of the neophallus has a certain length, that can be discussed preoperatively with the patient- what is the process in the authors experience to avoid this mismatch in expectations in the future.

Reply 11: We think that ideal penile length can determine in consideration of the needs of the patient, the environment, race. [Considering the average length of Koreans, it was planned to reduce it to 11cm, but the patient wanted to shorten it to 9cm.](#) We added this content to Case presentation line 75-76

In addition, overall, we have corrected spelling errors and grammatical errors.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you

Sincerely,

Tae Hui Bae, M.D., Ph.D

Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Chung-Ang University Hospital, 102,

Heuksuk-Ro, Dongjak-Gu, Seoul, 06973, Korea

Tel : +82-2-6299-1615

Fax : 82-2-825-9880

E-mail : psbth@cau.ac.kr