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Long-term results of ventral penile curvature repair in childhood

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Introduction: The etiology of penile curvature with hypospadias is still unknown. There are different approaches to the repair of the curvature. Limited data exist regarding the post-pubertal outcomes of patients in whom the curvature was repaired during infancy. In this study, we assessed the recurrence of post-pubertal curvature and patient satisfaction with their penile appearance after puberty.

Patients, Materials and Methods: Patients with ventral penile curvature and hypospadias repaired during infancy and are postpubertal were contacted and asked to come for a clinic visit. A picture of their erect penis was assessed by the examining physician. Patients were divided into two groups: curvature repaired by skin release compared to dorsal plication. Recurrent curvature, patient satisfaction and need for redo surgery were assessed.

Results: 14 patients in whom a straight penis was gained after skin release (SR) only, and 13 in whom dorsal plication (DP) was performed were recruited. Mean age of the post-pubertal examination was 16.5 years. Curvature was found in 6 of the 14 (43%) patients in the SR group compared to 10 of 13 (77%) in the DP group (p=0.087). In addition, the curvature of 30 degrees was found only in 1/14 in the SR group vs. 4/13 in the DP group (p=0.59).

Conclusions: Recurrent ventral penile curvature is common in post-pubertal patients in whom a straight penis was achieved during infant hypospadias repair. The curvature rate and severity were found to be higher in patients who needed dorsal plication. Patient satisfaction does not differ significantly between the two groups

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