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PLACARD-SHAPED IN-SITU VAGINAL WALL SLING FOR THE TREATMENT OF STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE

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Purpose: To evaluate the efficacy of a simple and economic procedure by using a placard-shaped in-situ anterior vaginal wall sling for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence with or without cystocele.

Patients and Methods: From July 2003 to July 2004 fourteen female patients with a mean age of 45.21 years (range 37-57 years) were operated for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) with the placard-shaped in-situ anterior vaginal wall sling technique. The average follow-up period was 11 months (range 4-14.5 months). Twelve patients were operated primarily with this technique and two patients had undergone previous surgeries before due to SUI (one patient had had two and the other patient one previous surgery). In all patients urethral hypermobility or/and bladder prolapse were observed. Urodynamic tests showed a sufficient bladder capacity with no detrusor overactivity.

Results: No urinary retention was observed in any patient during the post operative period. While eleven patients had achieved 100% continence, one patient who had been operated twice before (obese) and two patients with primary repair started leak of urine after 1-2 months of operation. In two patients suprapubic tenderness and redness were observed, and they were treated by appropriate oral therapy.

Conclusion: The placard technique is simple, cost effective and has a low incidence of urinary retention in the postoperative period. The successful rate seems to be satisfactory and it can be applicable in patients who are not very obese and without multiple previous surgeries due to SUI. Yet, further long-term studies need to be carried out with a larger number of patients for further evaluation of this technique.