



Editorial Comment: Effects of spongioplasty on neourethral function following hypospadias repair: an experimental study on rabbits

Antonio Macedo Jr.^{1,2}

¹ Departamento de Urologia, CACAU-NUPEP, São Paulo, SP, Brasil; ² Departamento de Pediatria, Universidade Federal de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brasil

COMMENT

Authors have evaluated on an experimental study on rabbits the role of spongioplasty after urethral plate tubularization (Duplay technique) by assessing intraluminal urethral plate pressure and flow rate (ex vivo) (1). Two similar groups were created with exception for spongioplasty added to Duplay urethroplasty. Both groups presented similar results with no statistical differences. The fistula rate was higher in the no spongioplasty group (14.29%).

Barrier layers prevent fistula occurrence as shown here, but this is a well known concept that does not require further experimentation. The authors hypothesized that spongioplasty would compress or impact on urethra distensibility or compliance, which is not related to spongioplasty itself but to the degree of tension when suturing both wings of spongy tissue. This is a singularity of the procedure that can not be randomized and compared, because it is a surgical maneuver based on personal experience.

The authors are to be congratulated for the methodology of their work but in a translational world the surgeon awaits experimental studies to advance on relevant questions after clinical procedure. In hypospadias repair, the interposition of well vascularized tissue is desired and one can not omit using viable spongy tissue that has the advantage of being situated adjacent to the neourethra.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None declared.

REFERENCES

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Antonio Macedo Jr.

Departamento de Pediatria
Universidade Federal de São Paulo - UNIFESP
Rua Maestro Cardim, 560 cj 215
São Paulo, SP, 01323-000, Brasil
E-mail: amcdjr@uol.com.br

ARTICLE INFO

 **Antonio Macedo Jr.**

<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2545-5127>

Int Braz J Urol. 2020; 46: 444-5

Submitted for publication:
December 16, 2019

Accepted after revision:
January 07, 2020

Published as Ahead of Print:
January 21, 2020