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NATIVE TISSUE REPAIR FOR PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE
Pelvic organ prolapse (POP)

• Herniation of the pelvic organs
• Uterus, vaginal cuff, bladder, small or large bowel
• Associated vaginal segments
Prevalence for POP

- Prevalence of pelvic floor dysfunction: 30-50% of population.
- 50% of parous women lose pelvic floor support.
- The lifetime risk of surgery for POP or UI: 11%
- Reoperation risks after previous surgery: 13-56%
Classification (NIH)

• NIH Terminology Workshop for Researchers in Female Pelvic Floor Disorders, 2001

• POP was described:
  – Anterior vaginal prolapse
  – Apical or uterine prolapse
  – Posterior vaginal prolapse
Types of prolapse

- **Anterior** – cystocele, urethrocystocele
- **Apical** – uterine prolapse, vaginal vault prolapse
- **Posterior** – enterocele, rectocele

Pelvic floor support by DeLancey

- **Level I**: cervix / upper third vagina, **suspension** by paracolpium, cardinal-uterosacral ligament

• **Level II**: middle third vagina, supported by attachment of fascial sheet to pelvic sidewall

Pelvic floor support by DeLancey

- **Level III:** lower third vagina, fusion to urogenital diaphragm and perineal body, ant and post.

Management of POP

- Observation
- Conservative tx: PFMT, Pessary
- Surgery
Surgery for POP

- Obliterative
- Reconstructive
Obliterative procedures for POP

- Less invasive
- Better tolerated by frail, older women
- Not candidates for more extensive surgery
- Shorter operative duration
- Decreased perioperative morbidity
- Low risk of recurrence
Obliterative procedures for POP

- Partial colpocleisis (LeFort colpocleisis)
- Total colpocleisis

- Highly effective for treating POP
- Success rate: 90~100%
Partial colpocleisis (LeFort colpocleisis)

- Uterus is left in situ
- Removal of strips of ant and post vaginal epithelium
- Leaving a small strip of lateral epithelium on each side
  ~ outlet for cx or u’t bleeding or drainage
(A-C) In Le Fort colpocleisis, rectangles of vaginal mucosa are removed from the anterior and posterior vaginal walls.
(D, E) The denuded areas are then sutured together, leaving (F) channels on each side open.

Adapted from Uptodate:
https://www.uptodate.com/contents/image?imageKey=OBGYN%2F51734&topicKey=OBGYN%2F15268&source=outline_link&search=Partial%20colpocleisis%20&selectedTitle=1~150
Goals of pelvic reconstructive surgery

• Repair all the defects
• Restoration of normal anatomy
• Maintain normal vaginal function
• Improve symptoms related to POP
• Improve QoL
• Prevent of recurrence
Route of pelvic reconstructive surgery

- Transvaginal
- Transabdominal
- Laparoscopy

=> Choice based on type and severity of POP, surgeon’s training /experience, patient’s preference
Anterior compartment

• Anterior colporrhaphy

• Paravaginal repair

• Concomitant anti-incontinence surgery: Burch, sling
Anterior colporrhaphy

• Ant vaginal wall defects : thinning/stretching of weakened vaginal tissue.

• Excision and/or plication of redundant ant vag wall mucosa to reduce of ant vag defect.

• Central plication of fibromuscular layer of ant vag wall
Anterior colporrhaphy - With the patient in the dorsal lithotomy position, the anterior vaginal wall is clearly visualized. Using allis clamps to grasp the anterior vaginal wall, a transverse incision is made using a knife at the proximal aspect of the defect. Sharp dissection in a vertical manner is then performed as superficial as possible using Metzenbaum scissors along the midline of the anterior vaginal wall, staying at least 1 cm away from the external urethral orifice (Image A). Sharp dissection is performed bilaterally to clear the mucosa from the underlying muscularis and adventitia to the level of the pubic symphysis (Image B). Plication of the remaining muscularis and adventitia is then performed with a delayed absorbable suture, thereby repairing the anterior wall support defect (Image C). The vaginal mucosa is then trimmed and closed in a running manner.

Adapted from Upto date:
https://www.uptodate.com/contents/image?imageKey=OBGYN%2F69730&topicKey=OBGYN%2F8084&source=outline_link&search=transvaginal%20anterior%20repair&selectedTitle=1~150
Anterior colporrhaphy

• Success rates:
  – 80~100% at 1 year f/u
  – 37~57% at long-term f/u
  (Sand 2001, Weber 2001)

• High recurrence rate
Lateral defect

Paravaginal repair

Adapted from website:
http://www.oxfordgynaecology.com/TabPages/Surgery/VaginalProlapse/Paravaginal-Repair.htm
Apical compartment

• Sacral colpopexy

• Sacrospinous ligament suspension

• Uterosacral ligament suspension

• Ilioccygeus suspension
Sacral colpopexy

• Abdominal and laparoscopic

• Suturing ant and post vaginal wall via mesh to the ant sacral ligament

• Complex

• Least impact on sexual dysfunction
Sacrocolpopexy

After dissecting the bladder and rectum off the anterior and posterior vaginal walls, respectively, a Y-shaped graft is sutured to the anterior and posterior endopelvic fascia with a series of permanent sutures.

Courtesy of Peter L Rosenblatt, MD.

Adapted from Upto date:
https://www.uptodate.com/contents/image?imageKey=OBGYN%2F69730&topicKey=OBGYN%2F8084&source=outline_link&search=transvaginal%20anterior%20repair&selectedTitle=1~150
Sacrospinous ligament suspension

• Most commonly used transvaginal procedure for apical prolapse repair

• Unilateral or bilateral

• Right-side preferred
Sacrospinous ligament suspension

• Objective cure rate: 67~97%
• Neurovascular complications
  (inf gluteal or pudendal vessels, branches of sciatic nerve)
• Buttock pain as high as 30%
The surgeon identifies the proximal portion of the uterosacral ligament and uses permanent sutures to bind it to the distal aspect of the ligament, near its insertion into the lower uterine segment and cervix.

Courtesy of Peter L. Rosenblatt, MD.

Dissection of the bladder off the anterior vaginal wall (and underlying fascia) is performed and permanent or delayed-absorbable sutures are used to unite the anterior and posterior fascia before anchoring the vaginal apex to the proximal uterosacral ligaments.

Courtesy of Peter L. Rosenblatt, MD.

Adapted from Uptodate:
https://www.uptodate.com/contents/image?imageKey=OBGYN%2F69730&topicKey=OBGYN%2F8084&source=outline_link&search=transvaginal%20anterior%20repair&selectedTitle=1~150
Posterior colporrhaphy

• Plication the post vaginal muscularis, rectovaginal septum or medical aspect of levator ani muscle in the midline

• Anatomic cure rate: 76~96%
The posterior vaginal mucosa is undermined and a midline incision is made.

The rectovaginal musclaris is plicated in the midline using interrupted 0-delayed absorbable sutures.

Adapted from Uptodate:
https://www.uptodate.com/contents/image?imageKey=OBGYN%2F69730&topicKey=OBGYN%2F8084&source=outline_link&search=transvaginal%20anterior%20repair&selectedTitle=1~150
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<th>Mean Follow-up (mo)</th>
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