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Gynaecological Day Surgery

There has been a significant change in gynaecological surgery over the last 10 years, with trends towards less invasive & day procedures. This can be seen with the management of menorrhagia, prolapse & stress incontinence. Ten years ago the standard management of these three common conditions was hysterectomy, major vaginal surgery & open Burch colposuspension. Today these have been largely replaced by Mirena IUCD or ablation, mesh vaginal repairs & suburethral slings. These procedures are increasingly being performed as day only surgery. This can be seen in a recent review of 12 months of Dr Foote's day cases (n=304):

Ablation = 11
Anterior/posterior repair = 29
Bartholins = 3
Circumcision = 29
Cystoscopy = 126
IMC = 7
Hysteroscopy/Mirena = 34
Laparoscopy = 16
Mesh prolapse repair = 6
Suburethral sling = 41
Tubal ligation = 1
Vaginal warts = 1

Stem Cells & Incontinence

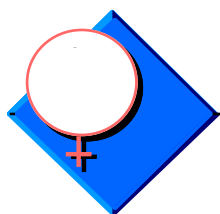
The International Continence Society held its annual scientific meeting in Toronto, Canada in August. Stem cells from autologous muscle derived cells (AMDC) using the quadriceps muscle have successfully been used in humans to treat stress incontinence with periurethral injection. These early trials are looking promising, however still await longer term follow up & randomised trials (Chancellor 2010).



Sex & Prolapse

Painful intercourse as a result of prolapse has been shown to significantly improve after vaginal prolapse surgery (Faton 2010). Corrective surgery included vaginal hysterectomy, vault suspension & suburethral sling & vaginal mesh repair. The study followed 323 patients for 12 months after surgery & found that the rate of dyspareunia dropped from 35% to 25% (P= 0.005)

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