Fracture of Both Rods of a Malleable Penile Prosthesis: A Case Report

Her İki Parçası da Kırılan Bükülebilir Penil Protez: Olgu Sunumu

İki Parçası Kırılan Penil Protez / Fracture of Both Rods of a Penile Prosthesis

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Özet

Literatürde bükülebilir penil protezler ile ilgili sadece birkaç olguda mekanik bozukluk bildirilmiştir. Altmışaltı yaşında AMS 650® (American Medical Systems, Minnesota) marka protezi beş yıldır kullanan erkek hasta son birkaç haftadır olan cinsel ilişkide zorluk şikayeti ile kliniğimize başvurdu. Preoperatif görüntüleme ve takiben yapılan cerrahi eksplorasyon ile her iki parçada kırılma tespit edildi. İşlev görmeyen protez yeni bir AMS 650® bükülebilir protez ile değiştirildi. 12 aylık takibimizde yeni protez ile ilgili herhangi bir problem gözlenmedi.

Anahtar Kelimeler

Kırılma; Bükülebilir; Penil Protez

Abstract

Only a few cases with mechanical failure has been reported with the malleable penile prosthesis. A 66 year old man, using the AMS 650® (American Medical Systems, Minnesota) malleable penile prosthesis for five years, was admitted with complaining a difficulty in sexual intercourse in the last weeks. Preoperative radiology and surgical exploration demonstrated a fracture in both rods. The malfunctioning penile prosthesis was removed, and a new AMS 650® malleable penile prosthesis was implanted. At 12 months follow-up no trouble with the new prosthesis was occurred

Keywords

Fracture; Malleable; Penile Prosthesis

DOI: 10.4328/JCAM.753 Received: 18.07.2011 Accepted: 28.08.2011 Publihed Online: 01.03.2014 J Clin Anal Med 2014;5(2):154-155
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Introduction

Prosthesis insertion is commonplace due to erectile dysfunction as it provides patients a normal sexually active life. This surgery remains an alternative for restoring erectile function to those in whom have failed more conservative measures [1]. The first case of an alloplastic penile prosthesis was described in 1936 [2]. With subsequent work of many investigators penile implants improved dramatically with low complication rates. Implants consist of an outer silicone which envelops metal wires in a twisted configuration that allowed some degree of torqueing and an accompanying loss of some axial rigidity. This was supplanted with a trimmable version to ensure adequate sizing. Complications with malleable penile implants have been well documented and include corporal or urethral perforation; wrong sizing postoperative haematoma; infection; pain; deformity and erosion [3]. As an unusual complication few cases of fracture of prosthesis have been reported in the past; however; complete fracture of both rods of a malleable prosthesis has never been reported; the following case report highlight this rare but potential complication.

Case Report

A 66 year old man was admitted with a dull aching and non radiating pain in the penile region during the sexual intercourse of three months duration. There was no history of trauma or abnormal use. Physical examination revealed dislocation of the rods of the penile prosthesis. Laboratory studies revealed normal hematological and biochemical profile. Pelvic radiography and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) showed fracture and dislocation of the rods of the penile prosthesis. He was prepared for surgery. A broad spectrum antibiotic was given preoperatively. Penile surgery was performed in the supine position under spinal anesthesia with a circumferential subcoronal degloving incision. The tunica was opened and removal of the prosthesis followed by insertion of the new; same sized one uneventfully (Figure 1-2).

Discussion

Penile implants are considered the definitive solution for the treatment of organic erectile dysfunction. AMS 650® malleable penile prosthesis implantation is a simple procedure as it gained an acceptance all over the world. Also mechanical complications of this kind of prosthesis are so rarely seen. Unilateral fractures have been reported in the past rather frequently Kim et al have previously documented a six year interval between Hydroflex prosthesis placement and fracture in a patient who required exploration and prosthesis removal [4]. In this case fracture of only one rod was complete while others were incomplete and could be named bending. Akand et al have also reported mechanical failure with a malleable penile prosthesis unilaterally. The malfunctioning fractured right penile prosthesis was removed and a new malleable penile prosthesis was implanted like our case [5].

Although we performed an MRI; direct pelvic graphy provides enough information in the assessment of a penile prosthesis; also it is an inexpensive and easy method in such cases.

As a conclusion we introduce fracture of both rods of a malleable penile prosthesis as a complication of a mechanical trauma. This adds further evidence to previous reports in the literature that fracture may occur bilaterally secondary to mechanical traumas. There are very few such cases described in the literature and most of them are unilateral. This report emphasizes both the significance and the necessity of the detailed evaluation in patients with penile prosthesis; suffering from penile deformity and difficulty in sexual intercourse as it may sometimes reveal complications that have not been suspected on clinical grounds. Routine radiological evaluation with a direct graphy seems to be an easy and cost-effective approach; as it provides unique information that can impact on patient management decisions.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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Figure 1. Bilateral fracture in the plain radiograph.



Figure 2. Fracture detected after the prosthesis removal.