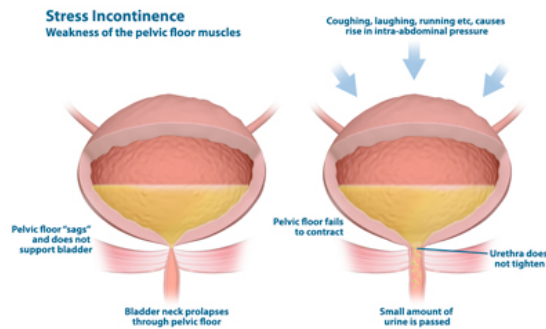




Urethral bulking injections for Stress Urinary Incontinence

Stress urinary leakage is the involuntary leakage of urine, typically upon exercise, coughing or sneezing. It is a common condition affecting 10-40% of women across all age groups.



Stress urinary incontinence can have a significant impact on the quality of life. It can lead to social isolation and poor self-esteem.

There are a number of treatment options for SUI: the most common procedures are various vaginal tapes and open surgery.

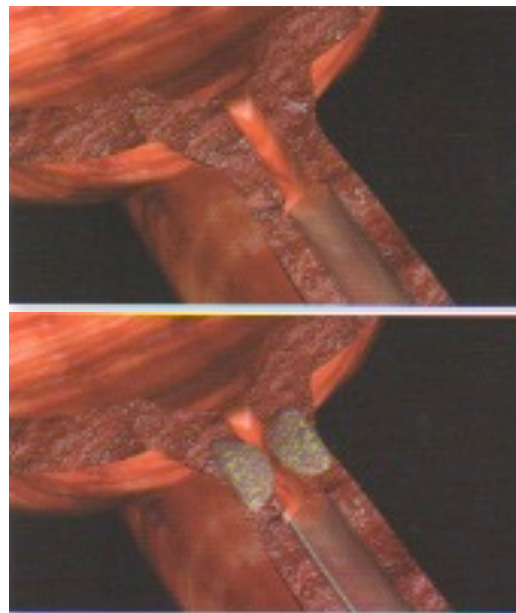
A relatively simple, effective, safe alternative to open surgery is a minimal-invasive procedure with urethral bulking agents.

The injection of a gel-like substance around the urethra causes a bulking effect that leads to significant improvement in stress urinary incontinence – often comparable to results otherwise only achieved through open surgery.

The injection of periurethral bulking agents is an ideal first line treatment for mild to moderate stress incontinence. The substance can be administered under a short general anesthetic and patients can return quickly to normal activity.

How does it work?

Bulking agents consist typically of viscous substances. The use is completely safe and the substances have been successfully used over more than a decade to treat both adults and children for various urological conditions. In the treatment of stress urinary incontinence the substance is used endoscopically to obtain a bulking effect around the urethra. The small gel-like beads have been shown to remain at the injection site for several years. The ingrowth of collagen and connective tissue reinforces the bulking effect.



Benefits

- Bulking agents can be administered under a very short anesthetic.
- It is a minimal invasive procedure.
- Bulking agents have proven to have minimal side effects.
- Patients can return to normal activity within 24-48 hours.
- Success rates are in the region of 75%.
- The use of bulking agents does not affect more invasive surgery at a later stage if necessary.
- On average, if patients require a repeat injection it is usually administered at 5 years.

Advice

You may experience mild urinary symptoms and slightly bloodstained urine for about 24-48 hours after the procedure

Most patients should be able to return to their normal activities within 48hours.

Patients are advised to avoid sexual intercourse, bicycle and horse riding for 1 month.

At review about 10% of patients may require “top-up” injections.

For further information on the treatment please do not hesitate to contact me

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