

DOES THE VAGINAL PROLAPSE REPAIR AFFECT WOMEN'S SEXUAL LIFE?Hypothesis / aims of study

The purpose of this study was to assess sexual function in women after surgery for pelvic organ prolapsed. At 6 months with the Pelvic Organ Prolapse Urinary Incontinence Sexual Questionnaire (PISQ).

Study design, materials and methods

In this study 37 women with anterior vaginal prolapse were included. The pre- and 6 month post-operative protocol included: complete uro-gynaecological history, physical examination and all women agreed to participate in a sexual function study. Women underwent reconstructive surgeries using polypropylene mesh. Sexual function was assessed preoperatively and at 6 months postoperatively with the PISQ. PISQ test compared individual questions pre- and postoperatively.

Results

Mean age was 56.7 years, and 64% of women were premenopausal. Thirty five women completed questionnaires at 6 months. Women reported difficulties with sexual activity before surgery. After surgery, women reported improvement in their sexual function. Overall sexual satisfaction remained unchanged at 6 months. De novo dyspareunia occurred in two women.

Interpretation of results

The results show that prolapse surgery improves sexual function

Concluding message

Pelvic organ prolapse is a common condition found in women and it has a negative impact on quality of life. Our study suggests that pelvic organ prolapse repair may have a positive effect on sexual functioning in women although de novo dyspareunia could occur.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	No conflict of interest
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	Yes
<i>Specify Name of Ethics Committee</i>	Greek National Health System
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes