Surgery of urogenital trauma in condition of war or precarity

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Personal Experience

<u>ICRC</u>: Peshawar, Quetta, Kabul, Border Thailand-Cambodia

Médecins du Monde: Border Irak-Iran

GFMER: Fistula surgeon (Africa)

« Main difficulty is to have the right surgeon at the right time at the right place »

Urogenital lesions

♦ 1-5% of wounded persons

 More than 95% are associated with other lesions

Urethra

Rape as a weapon of war (traumatic gynecologic fistula)

Following topics will be discussed

- Kidney
- Ureter
- Bladder

External genitalia

Traumatic gynecologic fistula

Distribution of urologic injuries by Conflict

Injured organ %	Vietnam (n=252)	Croatia (n=110)	Desert Storm (n=30)
Kidney	31	35	17
Ureter	3.6	15	0
Bladder	14.7	11.6	17
Penis/urethra	25.1	13.3	30
Testis/scrotum	25.4	25	27

Thompson, J Am Coll Surg, 1998

Common Principles (ICRC)

- Wound excision
- Preservation of as much viable tissue as possible
- Dependant drainage
- Diversion of the urinary flow above the site of injury
- Tensionfree sutures

Kidney

Blunt Trauma

- Blast,

Penetrating Trauma

- Splinter
- Bullet (low and high velocity)
- Stab wound





Kidney injury

Consequences

- Retroperitoneal bleeding
- Hematuria
- Urinary leakage

Diagnostic procedure

- Palpation
- Macro or microhematuria (bladder catheter)
- Hematocrit, blood pressure monitoring
- IVU (no CT available in field hospitals)

Kidney Blunt Trauma

- 10% require renal exploration
- Observational attitude recommended under strict control of vital signs





Kidney Penetrating Trauma

 Renal surgery is recommended in all cases of penetrating trauma in war situation

Higher energy impact in war situations
98% associated with other organ injuries
Radiodiagnostic facilities less available

Kidney : Operative Approach

Midline transabdominal incision allows:

- Ready access to the kidney
- Exploration for associated injury
- Retroperitoneal hematoma requires:
 - Small bowel elevation
 - Incision is made over the aorta above the inferior mesenteric artery
 - Placement of loops on the renal vessels
 - Subsequently colon mobilisation and Gerota fascia opening

Kidney : Operative Approach

Interior mesenteric vein Aorté





McAninch, Carroll, 1989

Kidney : Reconstruction or Ablation



McAninch, Carroll, 1989

Ureteral Injury

 95% are due to penetrating trauma (gunshot wound>90%)

 Most ureteral injuries are diagnosed intraoperatively (and sometimes occured intraoperatively...)

IVU highly sensitive



Ureteral Injury : Operative Approach

 Careful ureteral mobilisation Debridement of non viable tissue to the bleeding edge Mucosa to mucosa, spatulated, tensionfree and watertight anastomosis Ureteral stenting Omental interposition Retroperitoneal drainage

Upper and Middle Ureteral Injury

Ureteroureterostomy



Trans-uretero-ureterostomy



Distal ureteral Injury (1)

Supra-trigonal tunnel implantation



Turner-Warwick and Chapple, 2002

Distal ureteral Injury (2)



Psoas-hitch procedure

Bladder Injury

♦ 80% due to pelvic fracture

Penetrating trauma

 Diagnosis by retrograde cystogram (up to 400 cc)

Treatment of Extraperitoneal Bladder Injury

Transurethral drainage only



Treatment of Intraperitoneal Bladder Injury

- Surgical exploration and closure + urethral catheter + suprapubic catheter
- + perivesical drainage
- ± ureteric catheterization





Urethral Injury

- Diagnosis is done by uretrography:
 - 16-18 Foley catheter
 - injection of 2 cc saline into the balloon 2-3 cm proximal to the penile meatus
 - patient placed 25-25° oblique position
 - 25-30 cc injection of contrast material with irrigating syringe



Posterior Urethral Injury (Type I)





Posterior Urethral Injury (Type II)





Posterior Urethral Injury (Type III)





Sandler, Corriere, 1989

Treatment of Posterior Urethral Injury

 Abdominal approach
 Suprapubic cystostomy

Optional:

 Primary urethral realignment ('rail roading')



Anterior Urethral Injury

Penetrating trauma (gunshot wound) Contusion



Treatment of the Anterior Urethral Injury

 Suprapubic cystostomy Excise the wound Leave open Inspect at time of DPC : accept permanent urethrostomy - consider late repair, if minimal damage, and success can be assured (after 6 weeks)

ICRC Guidelines

Pelvis and Urethral Injury







Pelvis and Urethral Injury









Pelvis and Urethral Injury



Mohame GSW rebound on a rock) i h he poloris + abdomind amergen Reparator ma 11

Treatment of the Anterior Urethral Injury - Late Repair



End to end anastomosis





Treatment of the Anterior Urethral Injury - Late Repair



Free graft foreskin or buccal mucosa for defects up to 4 cm

Barbagli, 2003

External Genitalia

Penis

 primary suture (excellent vascularisation)

Scrotum

- always drain
- if skin loss: meshed grafts or thigh flaps











Delayed and tricky Injuries



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Traumatic gynecologic fistula

 Obstetric fistula (prolonged obstructed labor)

Iatrogenic

 Direct traumatic tearing (violent sexual assault and rape or by the forcible insertion of objects-gun, bottle, or sticksinto the vagina)

Traumatic gynecologic fistula in conflicts

Rape as weapon of war

Young sexual slave

Delayed access to health care



Complete incontinence (urine/feces)

Social stigmatization

Post traumatic stress disorder

Unwanted pregnancies, STIs, HIV (rape)





"Direction du plaidoyer international" SC-CF 'le Cartographie : Vincent Moriniaux, Paris IV-Sorbonne

* les dates sont celles des périodes couvertes par les rapports (111 rapports et 64 ouvrages) * les dates sont celles des confilts

Problem

Abandoned from their families

Co-morbidity

 Infections
 Bladder stones
 Infertility





Classification

Simple fistula

- Non-fibrotic tissue
- Easy to access

Complex fistula

- Fibrotic tissue
- Loss of tissue
- Urethral involvement
- Retracted bladder
- Aberrant tract
- Previous failed surgery



Complex VVF





http://www.gfmer.ch/Video/Extrait fistules.wmv

Surgical tips

Extended Trendelenburg position
Scott retractor
Headlight
Sharp scissors
Suture material

- Post op follow-up
- Cave: obstructed catheter !







Simple closure









Martius Flap



Symmonds / Falandry



Mainz II

Stress incontinence

- Junction bladder/urethra most often concerned
- Closure mechanismus damaged
- Residual stress incontinence
- Surgical challenge



For experts and motivated surgeons



http://www.gfmer.ch/Video/Reconstruction cervico-uretrale.wmv

A new Web-Based Data Entry System : the GFMER Database

- Collection and evaluation of prospective data
- Demographic characteristics of fistula patients
- Various surgical and clinical procedures for fistula repair
- Social reintegration

A new Web-Based Data Entry System : the GFMER Database

 Facilitate the development of a standardized fistula classification

 Comparative research across surgical centers

 Identification of cases requiring expert fistula surgeon

Areas covered by the GFMER Database

- Circumstances leading to the occurrence of fistula
- Socioeconomic and preoperative health status
- Surgical and other medical treatments received
- Postoperative health status and follow-up

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Transitioning to Robotics



Robotic Surgery GFMER Internet Data Base

- Web oriented interface connected to a data base
- Study of clinical practices of DVP
- Multicenter / multiple users
- Real time statistics
- Access and anonymity secured (users/patients)

Security Access Login		
User ID	sdd	
Password		

Submit

Concluding Remarks

 Humanitarian medicine: A global commitment and mutually beneficial
 Drawing Connections: Translating high tech solutions into practice in low-resource settings

