

PARENTAL DECISIONAL REGRET AFTER HYPOSPADIAS REPAIR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

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Aims: To determine whether there is an element of parental decisional regret following hypospadias surgery in the United Kingdom (UK) and to identify associated factors. The secondary aim is to evaluate collection of patient reported outcomes via text message.

Methods: The National Outcomes Audit in Hypospadias (NOAH) database was commissioned by the British Association of Paediatric Surgeons to capture demographical and clinical information from hypospadias repairs. Following ethical approval (16/NW/0819) a text message was sent to all mobile numbers in the database inviting participation in a SurveyMonkey questionnaire incorporating the validated decision regret scale (DRS). A mean DRS score was calculated for each respondent, as the primary outcome measure, then correlated with clinical information. For statistical analysis, Fisher's exact test was used for categorical data and non-paired T test for parametric continuous data. $P < 0.05$ was considered significant.

Results: The NOAH database contained 293 valid mobile numbers and 120 (41%) responses were received. Median age at primary procedure was 14.5 (IQR 13-19.5) months. Ninety-three boys had distal hypospadias and 27 had proximal or mid-shaft meatal openings. Forty-six (38%) boys were circumcised and 13 (11%) required a two-stage approach. Moderate-to-severe decisional regret was defined as a mean DRS score of 25 or more and was seen in 18 (15%) respondents. There was no difference in circumcision rate between those who demonstrated regret and those who did not (39% v 38%, $p=1.0$). Shallow glans groove and small glans were associated with higher levels of regret. Repeat surgery for complications correlated with the highest DRS score (table 1).

Conclusion: Decisional regret following hypospadias repair in the UK is associated with unfavourable glans appearance and repeat surgery for complications. There does not appear to be an association with circumcision. This study also demonstrates that mobile phone technology can be used to collect patient reported outcomes.

		Mean DR score +/-SD	P
Meatal position	Distal (n=93)	6.8 +/-11.0	0.2370
	Proximal/mid shaft (n=27)	9.8 +/-13.3	
Glans groove	Shallow (n=42)	11.0 +/-14.0	0.0154
	Normal (n=78)	5.6 +/-9.6	
Glans appearance	Small (n=26)	12.9 +/-16.3	0.0065
	Normal (n=93)	6.0 +/-9.5	
Surgical approach	One stage (n=107)	7.2 +/-11.3	0.3413
	Two stage (n=13)	10.4 +/-13.6	
Circumcision	Yes (n=46)	7.4 +/-10.3	0.9355
	No (n=74)	7.6 +/-12.3	
Repeat surgery for complications	Yes (n=4)	30.0 +/-23.5	0.0001
	No (n=116)	6.7 +/-10.2	

Table 1 – Mean decisional regret scale scores for pre-operative characteristics and operative technique. DR = Decisional regret, SD = standard deviation