ROLE OF ROUTINE DILATATIONS AFTER ANORECTAL RECONSTRUCTION - COMPARISON OF 2 TERTIARY CENTRES

Dhanya Mullassery1, Sumita Chhabra2, Ashik Mohamed Babu2, Roberta Iacona1, Joanna Stanwell1, Simon Blackburn1, Kate Cross1, Paolo DeCoppi1, Colin Baillie2, Simon Kenny2, Joe Curry1
1Great Ormond Street Hospital, London, UK, 2Alder Hey Children’s Hospital, Liverpool, UK

Aims: Regular anal dilatations are commonly recommended in the post-operative management following PSARP in anorectal malformations (ARM). We compare surgical outcomes of regular postoperative dilatations (RPD) vs. no regular dilatations from 2 UK tertiary paediatric surgical centres.

Methods: Retrospective records review of patients undergoing definitive surgery for ARM in two tertiary surgical centres in the UK over 5 years. Data included ARM type, operative procedures and postoperative dilatation rates. All post-operative interventions under GA were compared between groups by Fisher’s exact test (two tailed: GraphPad Prism v7.01).

Results: From 2011 to 2015, 46 PSARPs and 4 mini-PSARPs were performed in centre A (74% male). Centre B had 54 patients (63% male) with 52 PSARPs and 2 mini-PSARPs. The majority (88% in both centres) underwent defunctioning colostomy prior to definitive surgery. Median follow up period was 31 months (IQR 18-48).

The first postoperative anal calibration under GA was documented for 43 (86%) patients in centre A and 42 (78%) in centre B. Following this, centre A followed RPD at home and centre B reserved further dilatations for specific indications. RPD were performed for 100% of patients in centre A vs. 0% in centre B.

Further anal dilatations under GA were performed in 19 (38%) children in centre A and 6 (12%) in centres B (p=0.29). In centre A, 10 patients (22%) needed further surgery vs. 14 (28%) in centre B (p=0.48). The former included 6 anoplasties (one with covering stoma), 1 PSARP, 2 mucosal prolapse trimming and 1 manual evacuation. Centre B performed 1 anoplasty, 1 PSARP, 5 mucosal prolapse trimming, 4 manual evacuation, 1 repair of fistula in ano and 1 rectal plication.

Conclusions: The use of RPD does not significantly alter surgical outcomes following PSARP in ARM.