

INCONTINENCE: THE IMPORTANCE OF ANATOMICAL VARIATION IN THE LEVEL OF ATTACHMENT OF THE PUBORECTALIS MUSCLE TO THE FEMALE URETHRA



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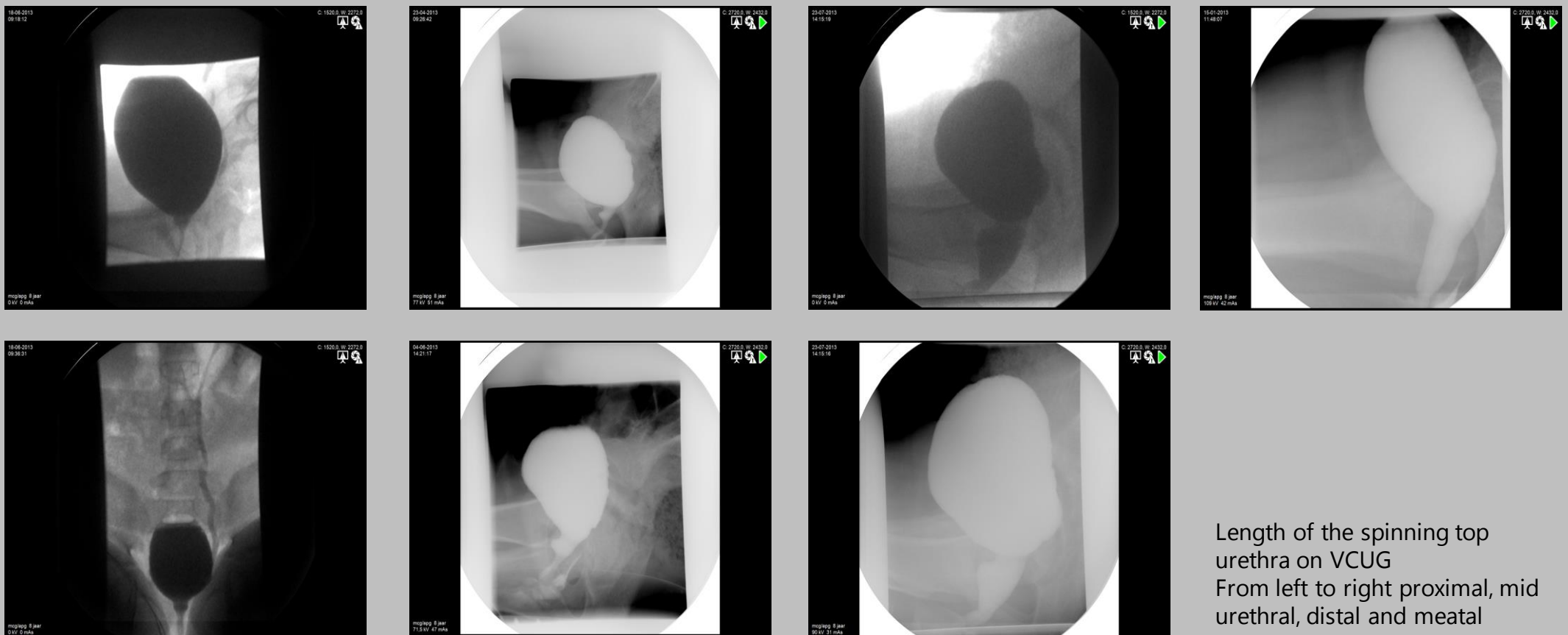
PURPOSE

Point of engagement of the pelvic floor muscle may vary from a few mm of the bladder neck to distal around the urethra near the meatus. This can be seen in the different lengths of spinning top urethra in VCUG from girls with dysfunctional voiding or the muscle can be identified by perineal ultrasound.

The aim of this study was to evaluate in a pilot study if the length of the spinning top urethra (and therefore the point of engagement of the puborectal muscle) in incontinent non neurogenic girls plays a role in the outcome of urotherapy.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Video urodynamic investigations of 57 girls were studied and the length of the spinning top urethra was categorized into 4 levels. The scoring was done by two independent reviewers. In a retrospective chart review the effect of the urotherapy was evaluated to see if there was a correlation between the length of the spinning top urethra and the result of urotherapy. As end points for evaluation were taken complete dryness and improvement at the end of urotherapy.



RESULTS

26 of the 57 girls had a spinning top urethra on video urodynamics. There was no difference between the length of the spinning top urethra and the effect of urotherapy in this group. There also was no difference between the length of the spinning top urethra and the final end points of complete dryness and improvement at the end of urotherapy.

CONCLUSIONS

In our pilot study we found a variety in the length of the spinning top urethra in incontinent non neurogenic girls. However we could not find a correlation between the length of the spinning top urethra and a predictive role in the outcome of urotherapy.