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IN BRIEF

SEXUAL DYSFUNCTION

Efficacy of Sheares neovagina for müllerian agenesis

The Sheares neovagina can provide good long-term sexual and anatomical outcomes for women with Mayer-von Rokitansky-Küster-Hauser syndrome (also known as müllerian agenesis), according to a recent study of 43 consecutive patients. 8 years after surgery, 86% of patients were regularly sexually active, with a mean total Female Sexual Function Index of 27.2 and a median pelvic floor contraction of 4. Although 25% of study participants experienced grade I cystoceles, rectoceles, or apical descent, these complications were all asymptomatic.

Original article Kuhn, A. *et al.* Prolapse and sexual function 8 years after neovagina according to Shears: a study of 43 cases with Mayer-von Rokitansky-Küster-Hauser syndrome. *Int. Urogynecol. J.* doi:10.1007/s00192-012-1980-z

BLADDER CANCER

Should all radical cystectomy patients receive alvimopan?

New data show that routine administration of alvimopan could be a financially viable option for preventing postoperative ileus in patients undergoing radical cystectomy. Hilton *et al.* performed decision-tree model analysis of healthcare costs and outcome probabilities, and concluded that routine use of alvimopan could reduce costs—assuming that postoperative ileus extends hospital stay by ≥ 3.5 days and occurs in $\geq 14\%$ of patients, and alvimopan reduces the risk of postoperative ileus by $\geq 44\%$.

Original article Hilton, W. *et al.* Alvimopan for prevention of postoperative paralytic ileus in radical cystectomy patients: a cost-effectiveness analysis. *BJU Int.* doi:10.1111/j.1464-410X.2012.11499.x

PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacokinetic interactions between HCV and HIV drugs

Data from a randomized study suggest that drug–drug interactions reduce the efficacy of boceprevir (hepatitis C [HCV] medication) and ritonavir-boosted protease inhibitors (HIV medication) upon coadministration. 39 healthy adults received boceprevir for 6 days, followed by atazanavir, lopinavir, or darunavir for 25 days (plus ritonavir on days 10–31 and boceprevir on days 25–31). Concomitant administration of these anti-HCV and anti-HIV drugs resulted in significantly reduced exposure of both agents.

Original article Hulskotte, E. G. *et al.* Pharmacokinetic interactions between the HCV protease inhibitor boceprevir and ritonavir-boosted HIV-1 protease inhibitors atazanavir, darunavir, and lopinavir. *Clin. Infect. Dis.* doi:10.1093/cid/cis968

QUALITY OF LIFE

Development of the ISC-Q quality-of-life questionnaire

Researchers from Oxford, UK, have developed and validated a patient-reported outcome measure—the Intermittent Self-Catheterization Questionnaire (ISC-Q)—for evaluating quality of life in patients with chronic retention who self-catheterize. ISC-Q validation, which involved 306 individuals with neurologic urinary retention, established that the test was psychometrically robust, with excellent internal consistency, adequate test-retest reliability, and good validity.

Original article Pinder, B. *et al.* Development and psychometric validation of the Intermittent Self-Catheterization Questionnaire. *Clin. Ther.* doi:10.1016/j.clinthera.2012.10.006