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IN BRIEF

PAEDIATRIC UROLOGY

24-h VCUG unreliable for follow-up of vesicoureteral reflux

Follow-up voiding cystourethrography (VCUG) is usually performed >3 months after treatment for vesicoureteral reflux (VUR) in children, but a recent study set out to establish whether a 24-h VCUG would be just as reliable. Of 40 patients (56 ureters) with VUR who underwent first injection of dextranomer/hyaluronic acid, only two ureters with grade IV and one patient with grade V VUR showed failure on 24-h VCUG. However, the success rates on 6-month VCUG were 100%, 83.3%, 78.57%, 50%, and 42.85% according to ascending order of VUR grade, suggesting that the 24-h VCUG is unreliable.

Original article Oh, M. M. *et al.* The reliability of VCUG performed within 24 hours after injection of dextranomer/hyaluronic acid in patients with vesico-ureteral reflux. *Urology* doi:10.1016/j.urology.2013.07.035

PAEDIATRIC UROLOGY

Abnormal anatomy increases risk of stone recurrence

Recent data show a high recurrence rate in children with stones treated with either shock wave lithotripsy, ureteroscopy, or percutaneous nephrolithotomy, particularly in those with abnormal anatomy. In a study of 60 children, overall recurrence within 5 years was 55%; patients with abnormal anatomy had a 65% chance of stone recurrence compared with 38% for those with normal anatomy. These findings support the aggressive diagnosis and treatment of metabolic abnormalities in children.

Original article Lao, M. *et al.* High recurrence rate at 5 year follow-up in children who underwent upper tract stone surgery. *J. Urol.* doi:10.1016/j.juro.2013.09.021

BLADDER CANCER

Predicting response to BCG in patients with bladder CIS

Three markers—eosinophil infiltration and degranulation (T_H2 response), number of tumour-infiltrating GATA-3+ (T_H2 -polarized) lymphocytes, and number of tumour-infiltrating T-bet+ (T_H1 -polarized) lymphocytes—have been combined to create an immunological signature that is a statistically significant predictor of response to therapy with BCG for patients with bladder cancer and an initial diagnosis of carcinoma *in situ* (CIS). In a study of 38 patients, a preexisting T_H1 immunological environment within the tumour was predictive of BCG failure.

Original article Nunez-Nateras, R. *et al.* Predicting response to bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) in patients with carcinoma *in situ* of the bladder. *Urol. Oncol.* doi:10.1016/j.urolonc.2013.06.008

PROSTATE CANCER

Foxglove extract could protect against prostate cancer

A drug commonly used to treat heart conditions, digoxin, could reduce the risk of prostate cancer, according to a new study published in *The Prostate*. In this population-based case-control study of 1,001 men with prostate cancer and 942 healthy controls, digoxin use was associated with a reduction in the odds ratio of prostate cancer (OR 0.58, 95% CI 0.30–1.10). It is thought that the foxglove extract might exert an antineoplastic effect.

Original article Wright, J. *et al.* Is digoxin use for cardiovascular disease associated with risk of prostate cancer? *Prostate* doi:10.1002/pros.22733