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IN BRIEF

PROSTATE CANCER

Targeted GRPR photoacoustic imaging shows promise

Researchers have developed a photoacoustic imaging agent (AA3G-740) that targets the gastrin-releasing peptide receptor (GRPR), and have demonstrated its ability to detect prostate lesions in mice. GRPR is highly expressed in prostate cancer and AA3G-740 showed strong and specific binding to GRPR in PC3 and LNCaP cell lines, and in mouse models. In mice, use of AA3G-740 increased photoacoustic signal nearly twofold compared with control agent, and was able to bind poorly vascularized tumours.

Original article Levi, J. *et al.* A high-affinity, high-stability photoacoustic agent for imaging gastrin-releasing peptide receptor in prostate cancer. *Clin. Cancer Res.* doi:10.1158/1078-0432.CCR-13-3405

KIDNEY CANCER

Renal pelvic score predicts urine leak after nephrectomy

The renal pelvic score, developed to identify patients at risk of experiencing urine leak after partial nephrectomy, has now been internally validated. 831 patients who underwent partial nephrectomy between 2007 and 2013 were defined as having an intraparenchymal or extraparenchymal renal pelvis according to the renal pelvic score. On multivariate analysis, renal pelvic score (intraparenchymal pelvis) was more predictive of urine leak (odds ratio [OR] 24.8) than tumour endophyticity (OR 4.5) or intraoperative collecting system entry (OR 6.1). External validation is required.

Original article Tomaszewski, J. J. *et al.* Internal validation of the renal pelvic score: a novel marker of renal pelvic anatomy that predicts urine leak after partial nephrectomy. *Urology* doi:10.1016/j.urology.2014.05.001

PROSTATE CANCER

Fixed sling is superior for postprostatectomy incontinence

Comiter *et al.* report the 1-year outcomes of the Virtue sling (Coloplast, Denmark)—a quadratic sling for postprostatectomy incontinence—in *Urology*. They compared fixed and unfixed versions of the sling, and found that fixation was associated with superior success rates. At 12 months, objective and subjective success rates were 41.9% and 41.9%, respectively, for patients who received the unfixed sling, compared with 70.9% and 79.2%, respectively, in the fixed sling cohort.

Original article Comiter, C. V. *et al.* The Virtue sling—a new quadratic sling for postprostatectomy incontinence—results of a multinational clinical trial. *Urology* doi:10.1016/j.urology.2014.02.062

MALE FACTOR INFERTILITY

Effects of ejaculatory abstinence on sperm parameters

Refraining from ejaculation for 1 day results in significantly lower sperm volume (24% reduction), sperm density (28% reduction) and total sperm count (3.2% reduction) than 4 days of abstinence, new research shows. However, the shorter period of abstinence was also associated with a significant increase in total antioxidant capacity compared with the longer duration. The investigators hypothesize that although lower numbers of sperm are produced, they are of higher quality because they are protected from oxidative stress damage, leading to better results after insemination.

Original article Marshburn, P. B. *et al.* Influence of ejaculator abstinence on seminal total antioxidant capacity and sperm membrane lipid peroxidation. *Fertil. Steril.* doi:10.1016/j.fertnstert.2014.05.039