



Letter to the Editor

So the story goes! - Comment on "Correction of hidden penis during Gomco clamp circumcision in the office"



It is interesting to read about the tacking sutures that are performed in addition to the clamp circumcisions in office [1]. Referring to the article they used as an initial reference, the authors note that "a hidden penis is considered a contraindication for clamp circumcision due to the high likelihood of healing with concealment" [2].

However, there is not a single sentence in this article in which the words "hidden penis" and/or "concealed penis" appear. On the other hand, it is difficult to understand why circumcision is performed on infants with hidden penises, who are at risk of concealment (entrapment!). From an etiological perspective, the authors incorrectly use the term "concealed penis" instead of "trapped penis", as a concealed/buried/hidden penis is different condition than penile entrapment. Trapped penis is an acquired condition that occurs after surgical complications such as excessive skin removal during circumcision or excessive scarring after circumcision [3]. Therefore, this procedure cannot be considered as a "correction of hidden penis", but rather as a prevention of entrapment that can occur after unnecessary circumcision of a buried/hidden penis. In our opinion,

- 1- the authors keep the foreskin temporarily retracted until the circumcision heals by using tacking sutures (which we find traumatic and can be a source of pain and infection for the baby under the diaper) to avoid entrapment of penis.
- 2- the authors not only broaden the inclusion criteria for office clamp circumcisions, regardless of whether the penis is buried/hidden or not, but also include additional surgical procedures to prevent associated complications they may create.

The procedure can be applied after any type of circumcision technique and has nothing to do with Gomco clamp circumcision. Although the authors state that the study was approved by the institutional review board, we consider it to be traumatic and experimental. The penis is a unique organ and no surgery on the penis can be performed with the divine or magical belief of the surgeon, as in the recent story of Karolinska's synthetic trachea with stem cell cover.

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None.

Conflict of interest

None.

References

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