LONG TERM UROLOGICAL OUTCOME IN ISCHIOPAGUS CONJOINED TWINS


Division of Paediatric surgery & Paediatric Urology, ** Department of Medical Imaging

Institution: University of Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Objective: The outcome of 5 sets of Ischiopagus conjoined twins (ICT), with specific reference to their urological anomaly, challenges during reconstruction & long-term urological outcome are presented.

Method: This is a retrospective analysis of 5 sets of ICT (Tripus -2 & Tetrapus 3) operated in our centre from 1982 to 2000. Four were attached at the pelvis & one had attachment from chest, abdomen & pelvis. There were 4 females & one male. The urological abnormalities were, Exstrophy bladder in one twin, Neurogenic bladder with one dysplastic kidney in 1 twin, Common urogenital anomaly with single outlet in one.

Results: 4/5 twins were separated. One set of tripus twins, died at 9-months of age, due to cardiac anomaly in one. Four separated twins needed urological reconstruction. In one, a bladder flap urethra was created. The twin with exstrophy closure needs augmentation. The child with neurogenic bladder & one dysplastic kidney required nephrectomy. He is not continent. The child with bladder flap urethroplasty, developed repeated stenosis & needed vescicostomy. She had recurrent UTI, & died of renal failure at the age of 18. Her sister is alive, & is now 31 years of age & needs bladder management & treatment for UTI. Continence was achieved in 3/8 after separation. Others have dysfunction & required further procedures. One set of twins got married.

Conclusion: Separation of Ischiopagus conjoined twins, is the beginning of a series of challenges. A significant number will need secondary procedures & careful follow up.

Key words: Ischiopagus Conjoined twins, urological problems, long-term outcome