Treatment of Penile Incarceration in an Impotent Patient

A. KADIOĞLU, S. ÇAYAN, F. ÖZCAN, S. TELLALOĞLU

Department of Urology, University of Istanbul, Faculty of Istanbul Medical School, Istanbul, Turkey

(Accepted December 28, 1994)

We report a case of penile incarceration in a 53-year-old impotent man. The base of the penis was encircled by a metal ring in order to achieve better erection. There was marked oedema of the entire penis distal to the constricting ring. The metal ring was removed successfully by cutting it with a steel saw.

Introduction

Incarceration of the penis caused by an encircling object is a rare problem and requires emergency treatment. The reason for incarceration is either the attempt to obtain a better erection or metal disturbance [1]. We report an impotent man who placed a metal ring to the base of the penis for one month for a better erection and presented to our emergency clinic because he could not remove it due to oedema.

Metal rings can be removed with high speed drills, cutting tangs, hammer and chisel, saw, surgical operation, the aspiration technique and the string method [1, 2, 3]. We present a case in which the metal ring was removed by cutting it with a steel saw.

Case report

F. K., a 53-year-old man, married but without children, came to our clinic in March 1987 with complaints of pain and swelling in the distal part of the penis. He had suffered from erectile dysfunction for 2 years but he did not seek urologist advice for his moral handicaps. He was advised by a friend to place a metal ring on the penis for one month, so he unscrewed a circular metal part from a water fountain, placed it at the base of his penis and kept it on. He wanted to remove it once but could not because of oedema of the penis distal to the ring.

We evaluated the changes in temperature, colour, sensation, ability to void, and pulses in our case. On physical examination the penis was swollen and oedematous (Fig. 1). The volume of both testes was within normal limits.
Fig. 1. Metal ring at the base of the penis

The engineering department was consulted and the metal ring was cut with a steel saw with a PVC plaque placed between the ring and the penis to prevent injury to the penis while cutting. The metal ring could be removed with the steel saw successfully (Fig. 2). Cefuroxime axetil (1.5 g) was administered prior to the procedure and tetanus prophylaxis was done.

Fig. 2. Penis after removal of the metal ring