Reviewer's report

Title: The use of a silicone-coated acrylic vaginal stent in Mc Indoe vaginoplasty

Version: 1 Date: 6 April 2007

Reviewer: John B Gebhart

Reviewer's report:

General
Novel concept tempered by the fact the case series is 2 patients, however the condition is rare. Many approaches work, this offers a new one. You might consider adding drainage holes (a couple) along the lateral aspects near the suture lines as more drainage may come there. I would also suggest considering increasing the diameter. 3cm may originally be adequate but with the potential for contracture over time (and for comfort with intercourse) I would consider increasing it to 4-5 cm.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None
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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
1) Please describe the technique you use to secure the graft to the stent.
2) Do you always use a groin site for skin graft harvest? Do you perforate (mesh) the graft or place it over the stent unmeshed?
3) Why use one full-thickness and one split-thickness? Your case series is too small to compare differences. I understand both are options - which do you suggest?
4) Please use consistent grammar throughout the manuscript - i.e., RK in case one, MRKH in case two, etc.

5) Hypothesize why you think the incorporation of silicone improves graft take. It may help contracture but graft take?
6) How do you manage patients after the stent is removed at 7 months? Do they need to dilate thereafter?
7) Is hair growth a problem on the graft? Should one consider depilatory in the graft site prior to harvest?
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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests