**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Immediate endoscopic realignment of traumatic anterior urethral injuries: long term results.

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 25 June 2005

**Reviewer:** Ghulam Nabi

**Reviewer's report:**

General
This paper describes a single centre case series of iatrogenic urethral injuries managed immediately using endoscopic realignment. The word realignment is most commonly used for posterior urethral injuries, where a disruption and distraction happens due to different mechanism of injury. The mechanism of injuries in this series seems most likely due to false passages rather than disruption and distraction. I would suggest to revise the title.

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**Major Compulsory Revisions** (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The statement "The management of anterior urethral injuries remains controversial" needs references. The following reference is for posterior urethral injuries. More background on anterior urethral injuries is needed.

2. The pre-operative and postoperative urethrogram pictures need to be incorporated into the manuscript. This will improve the quality of manuscript.

3. Needs careful checking of syntax and grammar. Few errors such as "16Fr needle" need to be taken care.

4. "All patients were in urinary retention". What about patient number 5 in Table? Table shows that the procedure was carried out 2 hours after the injury.

5. Discussion need to be focussed on the management of anterior urethral injuries.

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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)

Timing of removal of suprapubic catheter? Any reason for removing catheters at different time intervals.

2. What kind of urethroplasty patient no.6 in Table had?

3. What is the protocol authors would suggest to follow these patients and how long?

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**Discretionary Revisions** (which the author can choose to ignore)

Description of material and methods under different techniques used to delineate proximal urethra.

**What next?:** Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'