Reviewer’s report

Title: Successful Removal of A Telephone Cable, A Self-Inserted Foreign Body through Urethra Into The Bladder: A case report

Version: 2 Date: 26 July 2007

Reviewer: Maneesh Ghei

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes
Is the case report authentic?: Yes
Is this case worth reporting?: Yes
Is the case report persuasive?: Yes
Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes
Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No
Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General
As the authors rightly point out, there are numerous reports of foreign bodies in the penis in the literature. However, most of these are unique and so have been their retrieval methods. The retrieval method described in this case is the most simplistic and straightforward. Still, this does deserve a mention since it can be done under a local anaesthetic in the accident and emergency setting.

The authors make a good point about getting the appropriate radiological investigations before embarking on the retrieval procedures as it helps to identify the size and shape of the foreign body.

The illustrations along with the text are quite crisp and helpful.

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Revisions necessary for publication
I feel the report is good enough to be accepted for publication, however a few questions need to be answered:
1. Did the patient have antibiotic cover during the procedure? If so what, how
much and whether it was intravenous or oral.
2. Was any sedation used during the procedure?
3. Did the patient void straightaway following the procedure?
4. Did the patient had a follow up cystoscopy? And finally
5. Was he sent for a psychiatric evaluation?

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable