



African Journal of Urology

Official journal of the Pan African Urological Surgeon's Association
web page of the journal

www.ees.elsevier.com/afju
www.sciencedirect.com



Editorial

Introduction to the special issue of Buccal Mucosa Graft Urethroplasty



Ismail Khalaf

Professor of Urology, Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt

In my capacity as the Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of Urology (AFJU), it is my pleasure to introduce this special issue on “Buccal Mucosa Graft Urethroplasty” chaired by our Guest Editor, *Prof Guido Barbagli*.

The Editorial Board of the AFJU express their deep appreciation, thankfulness and gratitude to the following expert faculty: *Prof. Guido Barbagli*, Director of the Center for Reconstructive Urethral Surgery, Arezzo, Italy; *Prof. Anthony Mundy*, Medical Director, University College, London Hospitals, NHS Foundation Trust, England; *Prof. Abdel-Wahab ElKassaby*, Professor of Urology, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt; *Prof. Sanjay Kulkarni*, Professor of Urology and Chairman of Kulkarni School of Urethral Surgery, Pune, India; and *Prof. Hunter Wessells*, Professor and Nelson Chair of the Department of Urology, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA, USA.

Since the late 1980s buccal mucosa grafts have increasingly gained popularity in urethral reconstructive surgery, they have become more popular than grafts from other body sites, such as genital or extragenital skin or bladder mucosa [1,2]. This is mainly due to the easy use and harvesting of the buccal mucosa, in addition to the low rate of perioperative complications associated with its use, the acceptable long term results and the high lifetime success rate of over 90% [3]. Similarly, in Africa, the use of buccal mucosa for the repair of bulbar urethral strictures and, sometimes, of strictures of the penile urethra has gained common acceptance.

I am happy to present to you in the following a contemporary overview of indications and step-by-step description of operative methods of buccal mucosa urethroplasty for anterior urethral strictures.

Thanks to Professor Barbagli, without whose prompt acceptance and support this special issue of the AFJU would not have been possible.

Peer review under responsibility of Pan African Urological Surgeons' Association.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.afju.2016.03.001>

1110-5704/© 2016 Pan African Urological Surgeons' Association. Production and hosting by Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Faculty of the special issue on Buccal Mucosa Urethroplasty



Prof. Guido Barbagli

Guido Barbagli was born in January 22, 1950, in Pieve Santo Stefano, Arezzo, Italy, a small village founded during the Roman Empire and located near Sansepolcro, where the painter Piero della Francesca was born, and near Caprese Michelangelo, where the artist Michelangelo was born.

He attended Medical School and discussed his thesis on “The role of inflammatory changes of the prostate in the male sterility”, with the Director of the Urologic Clinic of the University of Florence, Italy. In 1979, Dr. Barbagli completed his internship in Urology. In October 1982, he obtained a Postgraduate Degree in Urology from the Urology Postgraduate Department of the University of Florence, Italy, receiving the highest marks in his class cum laude.

Currently, Dr. Barbagli is the Director of The Center for Reconstructive Urethral Surgery, which he founded in March 1999 in Arezzo, Italy and Scientific Director of the “Centro Chirurgico Toscano” Hospital, in Arezzo, Italy.

The scientific activity of Dr. Barbagli includes 126 articles edited and printed in international scientific journals, 5 books on reconstructive urethral surgery and 6 chapters on books on reconstructive urology.

Prof. Barbagli is active member of the following scientific societies: American Urological Association (AUA), Société Internationale d'Urologie (SIU), European Association of Urology (EAU), Arab Association of Urology (AAU), Società Italiana di Urologia (SIU). Currently, Dr. Barbagli acts as a referee for the numerous scientific journals. Dr. Barbagli has been a participant and invited keynote speaker to numerous International Meetings and Congresses.

Dr. Barbagli has been appointed President of "THE SOCIETY OF GENITOURINARY RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGEONS (GURS)", for the period 2008–2009.

Currently, Dr. Barbagli holds a position as a limited-term Professor at the Postgraduate School of Urology – Department of Urology – University Vita Salute-San Raffaele, Milan, Italy. From October 2011, Dr. Barbagli is the Director of the Educational "Live" Courses on Reconstructive Urethral Surgery by internet streaming. From May 2015, Dr. Barbagli was appointed as Visiting Professor, for three years, at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine in Shanghai, China. From 2015, Dr. Barbagli was appointed as Permanent Professor at the I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University in Moscow, Russia.

For more information please visit:

- www.uretra.it
- www.urethralcenter.it
- www.webon.eu

Please contact us at: info@urethralcenter.it



Professor Anthony R Mundy

Professor Mundy is Professor of Urology and Medical Director at University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

He trained in surgery and urology at Guy's Hospital, London and became a consultant urologist there in 1981. He was made Professor of Urology in 1989 and moved to the Institute of Urology in 1995.

His surgical practice devoted to reconstructive urology principally for the management of urethral stricture disease, complex urinary incontinence and iatrogenic (post-surgical) complications. Other than complex urethral surgery his main activity these days is dealing with the posterior urethral complications of the treatment of prostate and rectal cancer.

He holds various honorary Professorships, Fellowships, Memberships, degrees and Diplomas. He has been visiting professor 42 times, has 242 publications and has given 575 presentations to learned societies. He also travels abroad widely to operate.

His is "past" a number of things! He is a past member of Council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, past President of the British Association of Urological Surgeons, past member of the Board of the European Association of Urology, past President of the Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons and past Honorary President of the European Association of Urological Reconstructive Surgeons. He is (not yet past) President of the British Association of Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgeons.



Professor Abdelwahab ElKassaby

Professor ElKassaby is Professor of Urology and former head of Urology department (2001–2005) at Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University in Cairo.

He graduated from Faculty of Medicine, Ain-Shams University at 1967 and became a consultant urologist there in 1976. He was made Professor of Urology in 1986 and till now.

He is a member of the Egyptian, African, European, American and French Urological associations and an honorary member of the Syrian and Kuwaiti Urological association. He was the secretary general of the Egyptian urological association and participated in the foundation of the Pan Arab Urological Society before being the secretary general then the president of the society. Also he was the president of Egyptian Association of Pediatric Urology.

He has been visiting professor many times. He visited many international hospitals and universities in USA, Europe, Africa and Middle East either to give lectures or to perform surgeries for selected patients.

Prof. ElKassaby had many local and international publications and considered a reviewer of some of the international journals of urology as the American, African and Pediatric journals of Urology. He also participated by writing and/or editing the reconstructive urethral chapters in many international books. His main surgical practice is devoted to reconstructive urology especially for the management of urethral stricture disease and Hypospadias repair. Since 1972, Prof. ElKassaby started using urethral substitutes for managing urethral strictures and crippled hypospadias. He started by using eyelid grafts followed later by buccal mucosal grafts. He is one of the pioneers in managing urethral stricture disease using Acellular Matrix.

Prof. El-Kassaby had received international surgical and urology training with international authorities. This included kidney transplantation and microsurgery with Prof. J.M. DeBernard and Prof. Dr. Earl Owen, at Claude Bernard University, Lyon, France (1978–1979), General urology with Prof. J. Gel-Vernet in Barcelona, Spain (1980), Stuttgart-Germany with Prof. Iesenburger in 1983 on Endourology and ESWL, Also with Prof. J Segura on Endourology and ESWL, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (1986). Thereafter, with Prof. Arthur Smith on urologic endoscopy & laser surgery in New York, USA, and on Laproscopic Urology, in Hiedelberg, Germany (1992).



Professor Sanjay Kulkarni

Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni received National Talent Scholarship during medical education. After surgery training from Pune University, he spent 5 years of Urology training in England. He was trained under Richard Turner Warwick, who is considered Father of Urethroplasty. In 1987 along with his wife, Dr. Jyotsna Kulkarni, he returned to Pune and lives with his mother and two brothers in a joint family. Jyotsna is pioneer laparoscopic surgeon in India. Together they started India's first animal lab for Laparoscopic Surgery training in 1991. Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni developed a new technique of single stage urethroplasty for pan-urethral stricture repair. This technique has revolutionized urethroplasty around the world. He is instrumental in devising a new technique of laparoscopic Omentoplasty. In this omentum can be transposed to perineum Laporoscopically without the need for transpubic approach.

He is a master in management of posterior urethral surgery and performs one of the highest numbers in the world today. Dr. Kulkarni's center is a tertiary referral center for all complex urethral diseases.

Dr. Kulkarni's Center in Pune offers Fellowship in Reconstructive Urology recognized by GURS (Society of Genitourinary Reconstructive Urologists) and MUHS (Only two GURS fellowship centers are outside USA, one in London and one in Pune. Dr. Kulkarni is the first Indian to serve as the President of GURS. In 2009 he was awarded "Urology Gold Medal

"for outstanding contribution to Urology in India by the West Zone Section of USI and in 2011 the Presidents Urology Gold medal at USICON at Kolkata. He has published many articles in reputed journals and authored chapters in books on Reconstructive Urology. His book titled "Art of Urethral Reconstruction" is well appreciated and read.

"Kulkarni School of Urethral Surgery" performs monthly live operative workshop on a weekend. About 10 urologists from across globe attend the OR and observe about 8–10 urethroplasty. This is a regular program since last 5 years.

He has served as President of West Zone section of USI. He is invited as a faculty at AUA, EAU and many international conferences. Nicknamed "Workshop Kulkarni", he is instrumental in conducting workshops to demonstrate Urethroplasty in India and around the world.

Dr. Sanjay Kulkarni's goal is to give highest standard of care to all patients including the poorest with urethral stricture disease. In his hospital no patient has been denied surgery so far in last 20 years even if the patient has no funds.



Prof Hunter Wessells MD, FACS

Hunter Wessells is Professor and Nelson Chair of the Department of Urology at the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Dr. Wessells specializes in genitourinary trauma, reconstructive surgery, and erectile dysfunction. He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Georgetown University and completed general surgery and urology residency training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. After completing a fellowship in Genitourinary Reconstructive Surgery and Trauma at the University of California, San Francisco, Dr. Wessells was a member of the faculty at the University of Arizona from 1995 to 2000. He joined the Department of Urology at the University of Washington in 2001, serving as Chair since 2008.

Dr. Wessells is Program Director of a Fellowship in GU Trauma and Reconstruction based at Harborview Medical Center and a NIH T32 Training Grant in Benign Urology. He leads an NIH funded research program investigating the risk factors and genetic susceptibility to diabetes associated

urological complications. He has served in professional and government positions including the AUA Legislative Taskforce for Urotrauma, AUA Guidelines Panels for Urotrauma and Urethral Stricture, the Urological Kidney and Genital Development Study Section of the National Institutes of Health, and as a Trustee of the American Board of Urology. He is Associate Editor of the International Journal of Impotence Research.

References

- [1] Barbagli G, Selli C, Tosto A, Palminteri E. Dorsal free graft urethroplasty. *J Urol* 1996;155:123–6.
- [2] ElKassaby AW, Fathalla M, Noweir AM, Elhalaby MR, Zakaria W, Elbaily MH. The use of buccal mucosa patch graft in the management of anterior urethral strictures. *J Urol* 1993;149:276–8.
- [3] Bhargava S, Chapple CR. Buccal mucosal urethroplasty: is it the new gold standard? *BJU Int* 2004;93:1191–3.

Editor-in-Chief
Ismail Khalaf