Robot-Assisted Repair of Uterovesical Fistula

Introduction and Objectives: Uterovesical fistula commonly presents following caesarian section. One of the unique symptoms of this disease is haematuria during menstruation. In this video we demonstrate the technique of robot-assisted uterovesical fistula repair
Material and Methods: The case was performed on a 36-year-old female. She had undergone a lower section caesarian section two years ago, and complained of haematuria during menses. A cystoscopy was done which revealed both sides to be normal ureteric orifices and a supratrigonal fistula. A hysteroscopy confirmed the site of the fistula. The patient was placed in steep trendlenburg position and a gynecologist placed a cervical retractor. The fistula was localized at the forniceal level. One 12mm port was inserted at the umbilicus for the robotic camera, two 8mm ports were placed for the robotic instruments, one 5 mm assistant port was placed for retraction and suction. The traction on the cervical dilator helped in defining the infundibulopelvic and uterine ligaments.
Results: The bladder was dissected off the anterior and the specimen retrieved through the vagina. The vagina was closed with 3-0 suture and the bladder was closed in two layers with 4-0 absorbable suture. The patency of the suturing was established by distending the bladder.
Conclusion: Our video demonstrates the feasibility of robot-assisted uterovesical fistula repair. The robot provides additional advantage of operating under 3D vision, improved dexterity and motion scaling which has advantages in suturing and dissection.

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