Subcutaneous Prosthetic Ureter in Kidney Transplant Patients

Introduction and Objective: We evaluated the efficacy and complications of using subcutaneous prosthetic ureters as a salvage procedure in transplanted kidneys with recurrent ureteral obstruction. There are rarely reports in this regard.
Materials and Methods: Seven subcutaneous prosthetic ureters were inserted in 7 kidney recipients who had recurrent ureteral stenosis and failed endoscopic and open reconstructive surgeries. The prosthetic ureter consisted of an internal silicone tube covered by a coiled e-PTFE tube. The proximal end of tube was introduced in the transplanted kidney percutaneously. The tube was passed through a subcutaneous tunnel and the distal end was inserted in the bladder through a small suprapubic incision.
Results: Mean follow-up period was 19.4 months. One of the patients reoperated two days after operation because of urinary leakage from the distal end of prosthetic ureter. One case had recurrent urinary infections. No case of tube encrustation was encountered.
Conclusion: Subcutaneous prosthetic ureter is a safe alternative for permanent percutaneous nephrostomy in transplanted kidneys with obstructed ureter and failed endoscopic and open procedures.