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Midterm success rate of tubularized incised plate urethroplasty: an observation

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Sir

I read with interest the article by Cakan et al. [1]. I need to inform you that the procedure mentioned there—tubularized incised urethral plate repair, also known as Snodgrass repair, was originally reported by me in detail in *Urologia Polska—Polish Urology* [2] in 1987 and presented internationally in Vienna in 1989 [3]. Late results have been reported recently [4].

The idea underlying the procedure comes from my incising too narrow a flap for urethral repair in 1985. In order to successfully complete the procedure I simply incised the urethral plate in the middle (Fig. 1).

Although I compared it in my original publication to a reversed Denis Browne procedure, probably “a dead man’s jacket” idea fits better. A few years earlier my aunt had called me to say that my uncle was looking bad. When I arrived before the ambulance came, there was my uncle lying simply dead. My aunt wanted my uncle to wear his favorite hunter’s jacket but by that time he had become pretty fat. So, on her advice I incised my uncle’s jacket on its back and we nicely buttoned it up in front. That was it!

I did my first operation in secondary repairs, but it does not mean that it is a different operation when one does it in primary procedures. The Mathieu procedure is the same in primary and secondary operations and is not being performed differently. The same concerns the Denis Browne, although he did not mention a urethral plate issue.

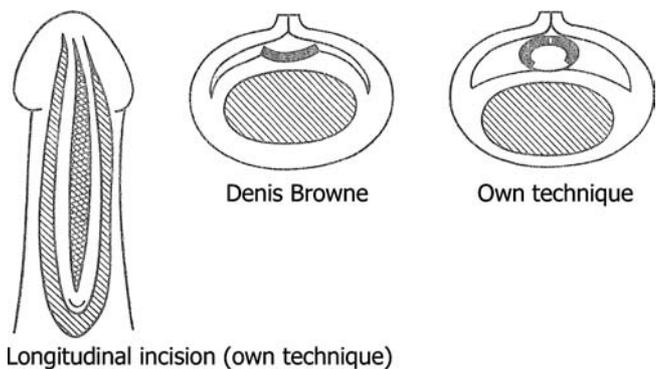


Fig. 1 Denis Browne technique compared with own method

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