Efficacy of laparoscopy in the treatment of non-palpable testes

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Summary.

Introduction: To assess the efficacy of laparoscopy in patients with non-palpable testes. To identify associated diagnoses in the studied patients, proposing a critical route of diagnosis and treatment for the patients included in the study.

Methods: Qualitative, retrospective, longitudinal study. Analyzing patients with ages 0 to 18 years old with IAT operated from 2012 to 2019. They were evaluated preoperatively with clinical history, laboratory and imaging studies. Inclusion criteria: patients undergoing laparoscopic exploratory surgery. Exclusion criteria: patients with cryptorchidism and palpable testes, and patients with disorder in sexual development.

Results: There were 989 patients diagnosed with cryptorchidism, of which 36 patients had IAT (47 IAT units), 13 right cases, 12 left cases, and 11 bilateral cases. IAT had an incidence of 3.6 % of the total number of patients with cryptorchidism, with a total of 25 unilateral and 11 bilateral testes. After the surgery, 11/13 right IAT, descended; 6/12 left IAT, descended; 12/22 testes with bilateral IAT, descended; 6/47 IAT had testicular agenesis; 10/47 IAT had testicular atrophy: 6 right and 4 left.

Conclusion: Laparoscopic orchidopexy has gained wide acceptance in the management of non-palpable testes and is increasingly reproducible and useful in timely diagnosis and treatment, allowing for less dissection of the vascular elements, shorter hospital stays, and better cosmetic results.

Keywords: cryptorchidism, non palpable testes, intra abdominal testes, laparoscopy, orchidopexy, clinical pathways