

Total Verge Amputation by Dog Bite in a Paraplegic Child

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Abstract

We report a case of total amputation of the penis by dog bite in a 09-year-old paraplegic child who arrived at the emergency room of the Cove Zone Hospital at 4am. The wound was trimmed and sutured, the urethral orifice everted and sutured to the wound edges and a Foley catheter was placed in the bladder. This occurrence of a total amputation of the penis in this paraplegic child placed an additional psychosocial burden on his family.

Keywords: Verge Amputation; Dog Bite; Paraplegic Child

Introduction

The penis, a male organ, is used for urination and copulation. Total amputation of the penis is rare [1,2]. We present a case of total amputation of the penis in a paraplegic child.

Case Presentation

A child aged 09 years was received in the emergency department at 4 am. His parents had brought him to the emergency department because of a dog bite. The child was conscious but had paraplegia due to spina bifida. His examination revealed an amputation of the penis flush with the perineum and without a stump (Figure 1). The wound was fresh and did not appear to be very dirty. According to the parents, a dog had bitten the child in the middle of his sleep, tearing off his penis; the animal had run away with the torn-off portion. The wound was then trimmed and sutured, the urethral orifice everted and sutured to the wound edges to prevent stenosis (Figure 2). A Foley catheter was inserted for 2 weeks. In addition, the child received antibiotic therapy with amoxicillin and clavulanic acid, an injection of tetanus serum, and an injection of rabies serum and vaccine. The wound had completely healed after 15 days (Figure 3). It should be noted that the child wears diapers because loses stools and urine continuously.

Discussion

Total amputation of the penis is rare [2,3]. Glans amputation is the most commonly reported form of penis amputation, par-

Figure 1: Total amputation by dog bite involving the distal 2/3.

Figure 1: Appearance after debridement and placement of a 10 two-way bladder urinary catheter.

Figure 3: Day 14 for catheter change.

ticularly as an accident of circumcision [5]. Total amputation of the penis is observed either in a criminal context, or in the context of self-mutilation in a schizophrenic or in the context of an animal bite; amputations of the penis by animal bite (horse, etc.) have been reported in patients without physical handicap [6]. In our case it was a total amputation by dog bite in a paraplegic child, who was sleeping at night when the bite occurred. The amputation of the penis may be criminal or linked to a psychiatric disorder [5]; it may be due to an animal bite such as a horse [6] or result from an accidental circumcision [6].

The urinary, sexual and psychosocial repercussions of amputation of the penis are severe, particularly for a child with paraplegia, and the male image is eroded [4]. This is reflected in the parents' concerns about their child's sexual and reproductive future. Ideally, the reimplantation of the penis would have preserved the male image of this child, even if the restoration of normal urination and copulation was immediately compromised in this context of paraplegia. But the stump of the penis was not available and the technical conditions were not met either.

Conclusion

Amputation of the penis may be due to a bite from a pet such as a dog. Its occurrence in a disabled child places an additional psychosocial burden on the family.

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