**PP74**
The use of bladder syringe for the dilatation of urethral meatus

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**Aims:** To highlight the alternative use of Bladder syringe as an alternate method of Urethral Meatal Dilatation.

**Introduction:** Urethral meatal narrowing is routinely encountered during the initial part of the resectional surgery on the prostate and in the bladder when using a 26F resectoscope. In our institution during the last year alone a retrospective review of the resectional surgery showed that "Bougie urethral dilators" were used in 44% as a part of the transurethral resections to gain access to the rest of the urethra beyond fossa navicularis and the bladder. Walton JK et al found similar narrowing in 37% of their patients undergoing TURP (Transurethral resection of the Prostate) surgery[^1].

In our Institution, bladder syringes are routinely used to wash the bladder at the end of the resection surgery. We have found that they can also be used to dilate the meatus. We all know that the Catheter size and all the endoscopic equipment is measured in Charrière or French scale, whereby one Fr or Ch is equal to 0.33 mm. The 26F resectoscope roughly translates to 8.7 mm and sometime can be difficult to introduce into a narrowed, stenosed and tight urethral meatus. With the help of our EBME department (Electrical and Biomedical Department), we have estimated that the bladder syringes in use at our hospital (BD Plastipak™ Syringe without needle, ref 300867) has a uniform increase from $\overline{\circ}$ (external diameter) 7mm to $\overline{\circ}$11mm over a length of 35mm. This roughly translates to about dilatation of up to 20 F to 32/34 F on the French catheter scale.

**Conclusions:** We have been using the bladder syringes successfully to dilate the urethral meatus during the resectional surgery thereby avoiding the opening of a Bougie urethral dilator set. To sterilise a Bougie urethral dilators it roughly cost about £3 GBP (Great British Pounds). The cost of the bladder syringe is roughly less than 40 pence. This technique is safe and economical too especially in the countries where the patient is charged for the consumables.

**References:**