Penile Agenesis: Case Report

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Introduction

Penile agenesis (PA) is a rare and complex abnormality of the male genitalia, with an incidence of 1 in 30 million.

Case Report

We present the case of an infant who was referred at the age of 5 months for a lack of penis. Physical examination confirmed the absence of a phallus with a normal scrotum and bilaterally descended testes into normal position. The anus was normally placed and the urethral opening was visible on the perineum in midline. Patient did not have dysmorphic features or clinical evidence of any other associated anomaly. Ultrasound examination revealed normal looking kidneys and urinary bladder with absence of corpora cavernosa and corpora spongiosum. The karyotype was 46 XY. Historically, the approach was to reassign the gender of a patient with PA as female due to the fact that the construction of a functional penis in children was not considered possible. However clinical observation and new concepts have questioned this strategy, and opened the possibility of a cosmetic repair in children, which allow a satisfactory psychological development and future prosthesis implanted at puberty.

Conclusion

Management of PA presents many challenges and it involves a multidisciplinary approach. Surgical intervention unfortunately remains difficult to implement in limited resources.