

St. Vincent's Birmingham Surgeon Performs a Novel Combined SUI/ED Surgery

Concurrent Procedures to Correct Stress Urinary Incontinence and Erectile Dysfunction Mean Fewer Surgeries, Quicker Quality-of-Life Improvement

(BIRMINGHAM, AL) — (2/17/08) — St. Vincent's Birmingham, part of the St. Vincent's Health System, announces that on 1/28/09 prosthetic urologist Dr. Brian Christine, Urology Centers of AL, performed a concurrent penile prosthesis and male sling implantation surgeries at the hospital. The combination of penile implant surgery for correction of Erectile Dysfunction (ED) and male sling implantation to remedy Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI) is a significant step forward for patients afflicted by both maladies. As an alternative to separate procedures, the combined SUI/ED surgery may result in fewer hospital stays, less overall recovery time and faster resumption of normal activities. The patient is recovering nicely and is continent.

In the case addressed by Dr. Christine, the 60 year old patient suffered from both SUI and ED as a result of a radical prostatectomy performed in 2005. "Relatively few men have both persistent urinary incontinence and erectile dysfunction," stated Dr. Christine. "For those that do, however, a combined procedure may produce an immense and near-immediate improvement in their quality of life."

After radical prostatectomy surgery, the patient may suffer from SUI that persists. It's estimated that up to two million men worldwide suffer from SUI, which causes urine to leak during exertion or when laughing, coughing or sneezing. Erectile dysfunction is a common condition that affects as many as half of all men by age 70. While ED can be treated through drugs or injections, for some men the only practical option is a penile implant.

The option of having a combined SUI and ED procedure is appealing to patients because two major issues can be improved and/or resolved at one time. The procedure, which takes roughly 90 minutes, is safe and efficient. In addition to less hospital and recovery time, only one surgical anesthetic is required. Post operatively, patients can expect to be discharged the day after surgery and need only to avoid heavy lifting, bending, and sexual activity for six to eight weeks.

For the SUI/ED procedure at St. Vincent's Birmingham, Dr. Christine implanted both the LGX™ penile prosthesis and the AdVance™ Male Sling System, both from American Medical Systems, Inc., Minnetonka, MN. LGX is the only penile implant that provides controlled length and girth expansion, with elongation of up to 20% depending on the patient's anatomy. The Advance Male Sling features a cure rate of 85-90% for men with a mild-to-moderate degree of urinary leakage.

For more information on SUI and Ed, go to www.malecontinence.com and www.edcure.com

