

Tension-free vaginal tape-obturator has lasting benefit

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(HealthDay)—The tension-free vaginal tape-obturator procedure is

usually still effective at 10 years after the procedure, according to a study published in the October issue of *The Journal of Urology*.

Daniela Ulrich, Ph.D., from the Medical University of Graz in Austria, and colleagues examined subjective and objective cure rates 10 years after a tension-free vaginal tape-obturator procedure was performed in 124 patients. Overall, 49 percent of the 112 women who were alive were available for [clinical examination](#) and 63 percent completed questionnaires.

The researchers found that the objective cure rate was 69 percent in the 55 women who were examined clinically; 22 percent were not cured and 9 percent had undergone reoperation for recurrent or persistent [stress urinary incontinence](#) (treatment failure). Sixty-four percent of the 71 women who completed questionnaires reported subjective cure. Five percent of patients had vaginal tape extrusion at the time of clinical examination; in all these women the extrusion was small and asymptomatic and did not require treatment. The cumulative extrusion rate was 7 percent. Overall, 9 and 26 percent of [women](#), respectively, underwent reoperation for tension-free vaginal tape-obturator-associated complications and experienced de novo overactive bladder.

"This long-term cohort study suggests that the tension-free vaginal tape-obturator [procedure](#) is a relatively efficient treatment of female stress urinary incontinence in the long term," the authors write.

One author disclosed financial ties to Covidien and Roci.

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