

Comment

In the current issue of "Progress in Medicine", we present a monography devoted to the problem of abdominal hernias, their etiology and surgical treatment. Among all diseases for surgical treatment, abdominal hernias are one of the most common in clinical practice of general surgeons. This subject has been a point of scientific interest for many years and every year we gain information about the most beneficial treatment methods for patients with this disease. Abdominal hernia has been accompanying human for ages. The first evidence of the treatment of this disease is found in ancient Egypt, Greece and Mesopotamia. Over the decades, the treatment of inguinal hernia has continued to evolve. A great development in the field of abdominal hernias surgery took place in the 20th century, and a historical outline is presented in the article "History of inguinal hernia surgery".

Inguinal hernia and incisional hernia surgery are commonly performed in Poland, Europe and the world. Epidemiology and pathogenesis of these diseases are similar and occur in the same age and gender groups. These data are presented in publications: "Inguinal hernia – literature review" and "Incisional hernia – epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis and surgical treatment".

The article "The characteristic and management of inguinal hernias based on the own experience" has provided information on the natural course of inguinal hernia, taking into account age, profession, co-morbidities and the most frequently reported complaints. Usually, patients report to the physician with perceptible bulge or pain in the inguinal region, which has a negative impact on their quality of life. The guidelines suggest surgical treatment for all symptomatic hernias to reduce clinical symptoms and avoid unfavorable complications. Analysis of surgical treatment has also been performed. Incisional hernias are frequent distant complication of abdominal surgeries.

The occurrence of incisional hernias depends on factors related to the general condition of the patient and the technique of performing the procedure. The only form of incisional hernia treatment is a repair procedure. Experiences are presented in the article "Surgical treatment of incisional hernia – own material". The epidemiology of the occurrence of hiatal hernia, its pathogenesis and therapeutic possibilities are analysed in the article "Hiatal hernia – epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostics". Hiatal hernia is a frequent pathology, and the incidence increases along with age. We differentiate sliding hiatal hernia and esophageal hernia. Patients with hiatal hernia report many nonspecific symptoms which leads to the treatment due to other diseases, delaying proper treatment. Surgical treatment of esophageal hernia is presented in the "Management of patients with hiatal hernia in own material". I recommend all surgeons interested in the subject of hernia treatment to familiarize with this issue. Information in the articles are useful in surgical practice.

*Hady Razak Hady
1st Department of General and Endocrine Surgery,
University Clinical Hospital in Bialystok, Poland*