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P. W. Thomas · P. J. J. Herrod · E. J. O. Hardy · T. S. Sian · J. E. M. Blackwell · H. Boyd-Carson · J. N. Lund

University of Nottingham, Royal Derby Hospital, Department of Colorectal Surgery, Medical Research Council-Arthritis Research UK Centre for Musculoskeletal Ageing Research, Derby, UK

Recent outcomes from the use of fibrin glue in pilonidal sinus disease

Comment to

Andersson RE (2019) Less invasive pilonidal sinus surgical procedures. *coloproctology* 41:117–120. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00053-019-0341-5>

We read with interest the article “Less invasive pilonidal sinus surgical procedures” by R. E. Andersson, which reviews the current methods for minimally invasive treatment of pilonidal sinus disease (PSD). However, we feel that the article is not up to date with developments in this area, especially in the use of fibrin glue for PSD.

Fibrin glue for PSD was first described by us [4], as cited by Andersson, but he does not go on to mention subsequent reports of the wider use of fibrin glue as monotherapy, with healing seen in 96.9% in a larger cohort of 146 patients [5]. Neither does Andersson include further experience in the use of fibrin glue for PSD in children, a group who particularly benefit from the minimally invasive nature of the treatment, with a very short time away from school and excellent cosmesis [3]. Again, healing rates are high, with 94% achieving complete healing after glue alone.

We feel that the evidence base for the use of fibrin glue is increasing and this method has already proven to be both a safe and effective treatment in children and adults. Patient satisfaction is high and the procedure is quick and cheap to perform, especially when the cost of dressings, aftercare, and time off work or education are considered [2, 3, 5]. Fibrin

glue for PSD may be a treatment for PSD which finally meets the ideal criteria of Allen-Mersh: a low recurrence rate with high levels of success and minimal issue loss [1]. As such, we feel that an article updating your readers about less invasive pilonidal sinus surgical procedures should contain these facts to help them and their patients agree on the mode of treatment that is right for them.

Corresponding address



P. J. J. Herrod

University of Nottingham,
 Royal Derby Hospital,
 Department of Colorectal
 Surgery, Medical Research
 Council-Arthritis Research UK
 Centre for Musculoskeletal
 Ageing Research
 DE22 3DT Derby, UK
pherrod@nhs.net

Conflict of interest P.W. Thomas, P.J.J. Herrod, E.J.O. Hardy, T.S. Sian, J.E.M. Blackwell, H. Boyd-Carson, and J.N. Lund declare that they have no competing interests.

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