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Meatal Stenosis Is A Delayed Complication

Letter to the Editor in Response to: Morris BJ, Krieger JN. Does circumcision increase meatal stenosis risk? — a systematic review and meta-analysis. Urology 2017; 110:

16-26.

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To the Editor:

My hearty congratulations to Morris and Krieger[1] for demonstrating a well-established

fact: meatal stenosis is not an immediate complication following male circumcision. Since the

19th century, when meatotomy was so common in the Jewish men it was referred to as the

"Second Circumcision," [2] meatal stenosis has been recognized as a delayed complication

following circumcision.

Meatal stenosis typically develops three to five years following circumcision, yet 99.17% of

the data presented by the authors was collected from males in the first six months following

the procedure. Likewise, 98.52% of the data were gathered from large databases, which are

known to underestimate circumcision complication rates ten-fold. For example, a database of

1.4 million circumcised males found only 1 had documentation of experiencing "acute

postoperative pain" following circumcision.[3] The between-study heterogeneity is remarkably

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