Complications in the removal of subdermal contraceptive implants for seven years.

Migration of the implants.

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Introduction

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Inability to palpate a device may be due to its small size and

- migration from the site of initial insertion,
- development of dense fibrous sheaths,
- deep subdermal implantation
- large amounts of subcutaneous fat or
- clinician inexperience with insertion

Materials and methods

97 one-rod implants

50 two-rod implants
Results

Removal causes

- Expiry
- Changes in bleeding pattern
- Others
Results
Results
Three cases of migration
  – Two one-rod devices
  – One two-rod device
Results

one-rod implants
Results

two-rod implant
Results
Discussion and conclusions

- The spontaneous migration of the sticks is very unlikely, due to the encapsulation with fibrotic tissue produced soon after the insertion.

- The rod can move along up to 2 cm due to a heavy or insistent palpation after the insertion.

- The causes for the lack of location can be:
  - An incorrect technique of insertion.
  - The insertion in some unusual places,
  - The implant has not been inserted from the beginning of the process.

Discussion and conclusions
When we do not palpate the stick, we should try to locate it with image techniques.

Exploratory surgery without an exact knowledge of the situation of the implant uses to be a way of failure and the cause of avoidable scars.

The sticks are not radiopaque, and the radiology techniques or the CT cannot help us.
Discussion and conclusions


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- In our series, all of the migrated devices could be removed successfully with the help of the image techniques.
- We could find the one rod implants with ultrasonography.
- We needed MRI to find the two-rod device.
- The previous location of the migrated implants with image techniques, facilitated their removal without wide wounds, not increasing surgical times.
Thank you for your attention