Trends in Surgical Treatment of Pilonidal Sinus Diseases: Primary Closure or Flap: Reply

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In our recent article [1], the results of tension-free primary closure and of the Limberg flap were similar. These results have caused immediate comment [2, 3]. Azizi et al. [4] reported no recurrence at 1-year follow-up after performing the Limberg flap procedure. In addition, there are studies that reported a 1 % recurrence rate after flap reconstruction for pilonidal sinus [5] in our country. Therefore, flap reconstruction is a highly chosen procedure. However, as Azizi et al. [4] reported, there is no consensus among surgeons about the ideal treatment method. There are successful results for primary closure but the choices of surgeons show variability in the treatment method.

In our study we tried to find whether there is a commonality between the different procedures. Our results showed that being tension-free is the key to reduce recurrences. We are glad that our study triggered the search for the ideal procedure. Moreover, we agree with the other researchers that only time will tell the truth [1, 2].

Additional studies will clarify the situation. For this purpose we have begun a randomized prospective study that compares the results of tension-free primary closure, tension-free primary oblique closure, and Limberg flap

reconstruction. The study began 4 months ago and when it is finished we will publish the results.

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