

Result of the histopathologic evaluation of tubal ligation materials

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Objective: To assess the necessity of routine histopathological evaluation of materials resected for tubal ligation.

Design and Methods: Patients' files and pathology reports of the women to whom tubal ligation were performed in Gynecology Clinic of Osmangazi University Faculty of Medicine between June 1985 and June 2001 were reviewed for the type of tubal ligation and results of pathological evaluation.

Results: A total of 359 women were undergone tubal ligation in a period of 16 years. Tubal ligations were performed by laparoscopic Yoon ring or Hulka clip application or electro cauterization in 208 women (57.9%). The remaining 151 women (42.1%) had tubal ligation done by laparotomy and Pomeroy technique or posterior colpotomy and fimbriectomy as an interval, early postpartum or intraoperative procedure during cesarean section. In this group of women at least two materials resected from each tube were available for histopathological evaluation. However, in 82 (54.3%) of the cases pathology results were accessible. Histopathological evaluation revealed that 78 (95.1%) cases had normal tubal histology and only four (4.9%) cases had abnormal findings including acute inflammation in one, chronic inflammation in two, and congestion in one case, all of which had no significant clinical importance.

Conclusion: Histopathological evaluation of the tubal ligation materials cannot disclose any clinical significant and unexpected abnormality other than confirmation of blocking tubal patency. So, routine evaluation may not be necessary, especially in busy clinics, unless there is any clinical indication.