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COMPLETE UROGENITAL NON-UNION ASSOCIATED WITH UNDESCENDED TESTIS. A TRICKY AND POTENTIAL MISDIAGNOSED CONDITION

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Introduction: Complete urogenital non-union is the rarest form of epididymo-testicular fusion anomalies, associated frequently with cryptorchidism. In its typical form, the vas deference leads into a distal epididymis attached to the scrotal tunica vaginalis and can easily be regarded as nubbin/ atrophic testis, and the completely separated testis with its vascular pedicle and processus vaginalis is located proximally.

Purpose: To emphasize the significance in identifying epididymal-testicular fusion anomalies, avoiding thus the missing of an intraabdominal or proximally located inguinal testis.

Materials and Method: Four boys aged between 15 months and 3 y.o presented with left sided cryptorchidism, associated with complete urogenital non fusion were operated on at our department by open orchidopexy. Ultrasound was performed in 2 of 4 cases, showing normal morphologically, proximal located undescended testis. Annual follow up was recommended.

Results: In all cases vas deference was leading into the scrotum, ending in a "nubbin testis like" structure. Proximal to this structure completely separated a normal macroscopically testis with its vascular pedicle surrounded by processus vaginalis. In one case the two structures were connected with a fibrous band. In all cases the two complexes were approximated and fixed into the scrotum. No biopsies were performed. At follow up no testicular atrophies were noticed.

Conclusion: In the presence of a nubbin testis further exploration should be performed preventing the missing of a viable testis. Inguinal-Scrotal Ultrasound could be useful in these cases. Permanent surveillance should be recommended.