

Interpretation

- Delorme's procedure showed **higher overall and higher-severity regret** compared with VMR in older adults.
- In the VMR group, **postoperative faecal incontinence strongly predicted regret**, whereas other symptoms such as incomplete emptying and recurrence did not.

Conclusion

Delorme's procedure was associated with higher overall and higher-severity regret compared with VMR in older adults.

In the VMR group, postoperative faecal incontinence was the strongest driver of regret, outweighing recurrence or incomplete emptying.

These findings highlight the importance of procedure selection, preoperative counselling and postoperative expectations in optimising patient satisfaction.

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SURGICAL CHOICE AND REGRET IN OLDER ADULTS: A COMPARISON OF DELORME'S PROCEDURE AND VENTRAL MESH RECTOPEXY FOR FULL-THICKNESS RECTAL PROLAPSE REPAIR

Introduction & Aim

Ventral mesh rectopexy (VMR) and Delorme's procedure (DP) are performed for the repair of full-thickness rectal prolapse (FTRP). We examined decision regret, postoperative symptoms (incomplete emptying and faecal incontinence), and recurrence in patients over 70 years of age who underwent VMR or DP for full-thickness rectal prolapse.

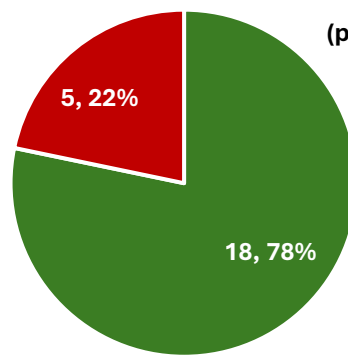
Methods

Baseline characteristics, postoperative symptoms & recurrence were recorded for patients ≥ 70 years between 2014 and 2025. Median follow-up for VMR was 42 months, and for DP was 17 months. Ottawa Decision Regret Scale (ODRS) was assessed via telephone interview.

Results

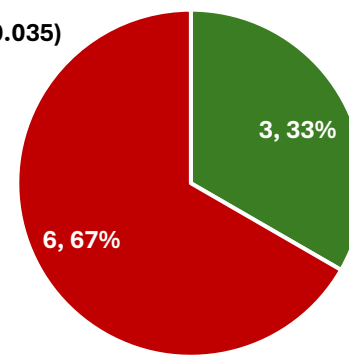
- Thirty-two patients were included: 23 had a VMR (72%), whilst 9 had a Delorme's procedure (28%). High take-off prolapse was more common in the VMR group (82.6%), while low take-off prolapse predominated in the Delorme's group (77.8%, $p=0.003$).
- VMR vs Delorme's procedure: Recurrence (11% vs 26%, p -value 0.640), Incomplete emptying (22 % vs 44%, p -value 0.422).
- Within the VMR group, those with postoperative faecal incontinence were more likely to express regret than those without (50% vs 6.7%; OR 14.0, CI 1.2-163.4, $p=0.033$).

Regret post VMR



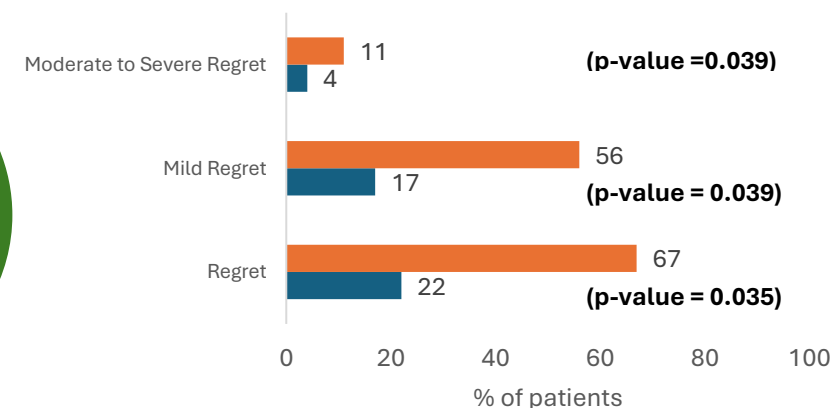
■ None ■ Regret

Regret post Delorme's procedure



■ None ■ Regret

Severity of Regret



■ Delorme's Procedure ■ VMR