found in partial or complete androgen insensitivity syndrome. The aim of this study was to determine whether even the most minor forms of isolated hypospadias are associated with AR mutations and thus whether all types of hypospadias warrant molecular analysis of the AR.

Methods 292 Caucasian children presenting with isolated hypospadias (no micropenis, no cryptorchidism) and 345 controls were included prospectively. Mutational analysis of the AR through direct sequencing (exons 1–8) was performed.

Results Five missense mutations of the AR were identified in 9 patients with glandular or penile anterior (n=5), penile midshaft (n=2) and penile posterior (n=2) hypospadias, i.e., 3%: p.Q58L (c.1288 A>T), 4 cases of p.F925S (c.2289 C>T), 2 cases of p.A475V (c.2559 G>C), p.D551H (c.1651 G>C) and p.Q799E (c.3510 C>G). None of these mutations were present in the control group. Four of these novel findings are novel and were never reported in date (p.D551H). 3 have never been reported in patients with genital malformation but only in isolated infertilities: p.Q58L, p.F925S, and p.A475V. It is notable that microepi, a cardinal sign of AIS, was not present in any patients.

Conclusion AR mutations may play a role in the cause of isolated hypospadias, even in the most minor forms. Identification of this underlying genetic alteration is important for proper diagnosis and may significantly improve the follow-up of these patients during puberty, especially regarding future fertility.

**Abstract 1587**

THE FEASIBILITY OF TISSUE EXPANDERS IN RECONSTRUCTION OF GIANT CONGENITAL MELANOCYTIC NEVI IN CHILDREN

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Background Children with Giant Congenital Melanocytic Nevi (GCMN) carry a great challenge to the pediatric and reconstructive surgeons to cover the widely exposed area after its excision. A variety of treatment options exists for the management of such cases. In this retrospective review of selected group of children had a GCMN of their abdominal walls were managed with implantation of tissue expanders (TE) for staged reconstruction, patients evaluated with respect to complications, general and esthetic patient and parents satisfaction.

Objective Our purpose was to study the feasibility of use tissue expanders in the management of children who had GCMN with special emphasis to the complications and children and their parents satisfaction.

Material and Methods Retrospective data collection of the 12 patient’s charts, operative data of 86 surgical procedures and follow up visits were calculated and analyzed, with. Statistical analysis done using the Student t test, and P<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Results In a period of 4 years, from 2004 to 2008, the results of using 37 different sizes tissue expanders and 86 operative procedures in a 12 child, 9 boys and 3 girls aged from 2 to 12 years with different types of abdominal wall GCMN will be discussed.

Conclusion Tissue expander is a useful and feasible tool for reconstruction of the abdominal wall in cases of GCMN in children. Parents and children satisfaction and body image are generally acceptable.

**Abstract 1588**

COMPARISON OF CIRCUMCISIONS PERFORMED WITH PLASTIC CLAMP AND CONVENTIONAL DISSECTION TECHNIQUE

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Background and Aims In the current study we searched the outcome of circumcisions performed with a new plastic clamp. The results were compared to those who underwent conventional circumcision.

Methods We analyzed the short-term complications of the procedure among the 3650 children who were consecutively circumcised by plastic Aliks clamp technique. The results were compared to those of 1275 children who were circumcised by conventional technique.

Results The rate of infection (0.4%) and bleeding (0.2%) after plastic clamp was significantly lower compared to those children circumcised by conventional technique (3.2% and 4.1%; p<0.0001). The mean duration of circumcision time with plastic clamp and conventional technique was 4.1 ± 1.2 min and 24 ± 3.6 min, respectively (p<0.0001).

Conclusion Plastic Aliks clamp technique is suggested as the circumcision procedure of choice due to reduced complications, as well as short duration and ease of application.

**Abstract 1589**

ROLE OF THORACOSCOPY IN THE TREATMENT OF LOCULATED PLEURAL EMPIema IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS: ABOUT 73 CASES

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Objective Evaluate the results of thoracoscopy for the treatment of located pleural empyema.

Methods Retrospective study of 73 patients with located pleural empyema in pediatric surgery department of Monastir during the period between 1997–2010. Located empyema was confirmed in all patients through imaging (ultrasonography or tomography of chest).

Results The age of patients ranged between 2 months-16 years (mean age: 41.5 months) with a sex ration of 1.28. Fever was present in 98% of the cases. 25 patients had severe respiratory distress and mechanical ventilation was necessary in 4 cases. Bacteriology of the pleural liquid was positive in 12 cases. All patients had intravenous antibioticotherapy during a mean period of 20 days. Sixteen patients (22%) were treated by thoracic drainage. Intrapleural fibrinolysis was indicated in 5 cases (7%). One patient had an open thoracotomy for lung abscess with a located pleural empyema. Thoracoscopy was performed in 51 cases (70%). It was indicated after thoracic drainage failure in 14 cases. It was indicated for first-line before any prior thoracic drainage in 37 cases because of a multiloculated aspect at ultrasonography.

Conclusion Management of pleural empyema is still controversial in children and surgical indication is often delayed. Early first-line thoracoscy yields a better clinical outcome for pediatric patients with pleural loculated empyema, with apparent decreased morbidity, earlier
apoplexy, earlier chest tube removal, earlier hospital discharge and better response to antibiotics. Thoracoscopic prior to thoracic drainage can be indicated as first line treatment of loculated empyema for children.

1590 INGUINAL HERNIA IN "GIRLS" RARELY REVEALS COMPLETE ANDROGEN INSENSITIVITY SYNDROME

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Background Aim According to literature, the incidence of complete androgen insensitivity syndrome (CAIS) revealed by inguinal hernia in “girls” is variable due to the clinical heterogeneity of the series. The aim of this study is to estimate the percentage of CAIS in children with female phenotype who presented with various forms of hernias.

Material and Methods This is a retrospective study based on a population of 129 “girls” treated for bilateral hernia repair. The gonads were assessed either by preoperative US or by intraoperative direct examination. In case of CAIS suspicion, gonadic tissue was sampled, karyotyping and hormonal analysis were performed. Diagnosis of CAIS was confirmed by direct AR gene sequencing (exons 1–8).

Results We identified 2 cases of CAIS (mutations pS204N+I1591E Blevraikis, 1C Sereneti, 1P Katzoi, 1M Ergazaki, 1DA Spandidos, 1G Sourvinos, 1G Sakeilharis. 1Department of Paediatric Surgery, University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete; 2Laboratory of Virology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Objective This study aimed to investigate the incidence of HSV types-1 and –2, VZV, CMV, EBV, HHV-6 and HHV-7 in childhood acute appendicitis.

Study Design Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assays were applied to detect herpes virus DNA in 38 children [11 girls and 27 boys, mean age 9 years (STD±2.59), range 6–14 years], who underwent an appendectomy within a 2.5-year period. Appendix, omentum and peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were available from each case. Of the 38 children with acute appendicitis, 20 (52.6%) had advanced (phlegmonous) acute appendicitis and 18 (47.4%) had perforated appendicitis and local peritonitis. Forty-one blood specimens from age-matched healthy children (25 female and 16 male), with clinical manifestations unrelated to viral infections served as negative controls.

Results CMV was the most frequently detected virus (8/38.21%), followed by HHV-6 (3/38.7%), EBV and HSV-1 were detected; though not in all three different types of tissue specimens tested. None of the samples examined were HSV-2, VZV or HHV-7 positive. Of all the specimens, the omentum was the most commonly infected tissue (65.0%) while the appendix and peripheral blood specimens were found to be positive for viral infection in 60.5% and 50% of cases, respectively. The CMV IgG+ antibodies were positive in 54% of the control cases while 86% of the same group presented HHV-6 IgG+ antibodies.

Conclusion To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study documenting the presence of herpes virus DNA in children with acute appendicitis, suggesting that possible viral infection or reactivation is associated with childhood appendicitis.

1593 ANTENATALLY DIAGNOSED OVARIAN CYSTS: MANAGEMENT AND FOLLOW-UP PROTOCOL

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Objective Abdominal cysts are frequently detected in fetuses through routine prenatal ultrasound.

In female fetuses such cysts are most often originated from ovaries under the stimulus of maternal hormones, and can grow to a rather large size.

We present our survey of prenatally detected ovarian cysts (OC) and we propose a management and follow-up protocol.

Methods A retrospective review of all cases of abdominal cysts in female fetuses detected in our institution from jan. 2007 to jan. 2012 was conducted.

Among all cases of abdominal cystic formations, 28 were originated from the ovary, and resulted at antenatal US scan ranging in