P026 PREOPERATIVE ABDOMINAL WALL RELAXATION WITH BOLULINUM TOXIN A INJECTION CAN FACILITATE SURGICAL REPAIR OF INCISIONAL HERNIAS: LONG-TERM SINGLE CENTER FOLLOW-UP OF 12 PATIENTS

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Aim: It was investigated how preoperative botox injection in the abdominal musculature both facilitates the surgical repair of incisional hernias and reduce the rate of hernia recurrence.

Material and Methods: Botulinum toxin A injections was given to 12 patients (7 female and 5 male) suffering from complex incisional wall hernia, 4 to 6 weeks preoperatively. Mean age was 54 years. 9 patients were treated by anterior and/or posterior component separation repair and 3 by Rives-Stoppa repair. By all patients the mesh could be placed in the retromuscular position. No bridging was necessary.

Results: After a follow-up of 3 to 4 years we examined the patients clinically and by sonography. The rate of incisional hernia recurrence was low as well as the rate of side effects like chronic pain, persisting paresthesia and mobility disorders of the abdomen.
Conclusions: Preoperative injection of botulinum toxin A can help to reduce the risk of further hernia recurrence after surgical repair of complex incisional hernias of the abdominal wall.