

Start	End	Topic	Speakers
11:00	11:05	Introduction	Vincenzo Li Marzi
11:05	11:25	Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications	Maurizio Serati
11:25	11:45	Vaginal Surgical POP Treatment Complications	Frank Van Der Aa
11:45	12:05	Complications of Concomitant Urinary Incontinence Treatment	Matteo Balzarro
12:05	12:25	Discussion and Share of Cases With Audience	All
12:25	12:30	Closing Remarks and Take Home Message	Matteo Balzarro

### Speaker Powerpoint Slides

Please note that where authorised by the speaker all PowerPoint slides presented at the workshop will be made available after the meeting via the ICS website [www.ics.org/2017/programme](http://www.ics.org/2017/programme) Please do not film or photograph the slides during the workshop as this is distracting for the speakers.

### Aims of Workshop

In this workshop the delegates will learn how to recognise, manage and treat the complications of Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP) treatment: surgical and not surgical.

### Learning Objectives

1. Diagnosis of complication.
2. Management of complication.
3. Treatment of complication.

### Learning Outcomes

After the course the learners will be able to recognise, manage and treat in a correct way the complications that may occur after treatment of Pelvic Organ Prolapse (surgical and not).

### Target Audience

Urologist and Gynaecologist, Urogynecologist, Nurse.

### Advanced/Basic

Advanced

### Suggested Learning before Workshop Attendance

Delegates should have practice in Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP) management, POP surgical repair, and SUI surgical treatment. Nurse should know what is a POP and how to manage it conservatively. Moreover, they should know what is Urinary Incontinence.

### Suggested Reading

1. An International Urogynecological Association (IUGA)/International Continence Society (ICS) joint report on the terminology for female pelvic organ prolapse (POP).  
Haylen BT1, Maher CF2, Barber MD3, Camargo S4, Dandolu V5, Digesu A6, Goldman HB3, Huser M7, Milani AL8, Moran PA9, Schaer GN10, Withagen MI11.  
Int Urogynecol J. 2016 Apr;27(4):655-84. doi: 10.1007/s00192-016-3003-y.
2. Frailty and the role of obliterative versus reconstructive surgery for pelvic organ prolapse; a national study.  
Suskind AM1, Jin C2, Walter LC3, Finlayson E4.  
J Urol. 2016 Dec 6. pii: S0022-5347(16)31894-8. doi: 10.1016/j.juro.2016.12.001. [Epub ahead of print]
3. Use of Concomitant Stress Incontinence Surgery at Time of Pelvic Organ Prolapse Surgery since Release of the 2011 FDA Health Notification on Serious Complications Associated with Transvaginal Mesh.  
Drain A1, Khan A1, Ohmann EL1, Brucker BM1, Smilen S1, Rosenblum N1, Nitti VW1.J Urol. 2016 Nov 17. pii: S0022-5347(16)31791-8. doi: 10.1016/j.juro.2016.11.087. [Epub ahead of print]  
Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol. 2016 Nov;206:181-183. doi: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2016.09.025. Epub 2016 Sep 30.

4. Should we use a vaginal pack to reduce blood loss at the time of prolapse surgery?  
Subramanya J1, Curtiss N1, Balachandran A1, Duckett J2.t]  
Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol. 2016 Nov;206:181-183. doi: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2016.09.025. Epub 2016 Sep 30.
5. Sacrocolpopexy: Surgical Technique, Outcomes, and Complications.  
Takacs EB1, Kreder KJ2.  
Curr Urol Rep. 2016 Dec;17(12):90.
6. Minimally Invasive Sacrocolpopexy: How to Avoid Short- and Long-Term Complications.  
Matthews CA1.  
Curr Urol Rep. 2016 Nov;17(11):81.
7. Uterine preservation for advanced pelvic organ prolapse repair: Anatomical results and patient satisfaction.  
Fink K1, Shachar IB1,2, Braun NM1,2.  
Int Braz J Urol. 2016 Jul-Aug;42(4):773-8. doi: 10.1590/S1677-5538.IBJU.2015.0656.
8. Transvaginal mesh: a historical review and update of the current state of affairs in the United States.  
Iyer S1, Botros SM2.  
Int Urogynecol J. 2016 Aug 22. [Epub ahead of print]
9. Vaginal Mesh Exposure Presentation, Evaluation, and Management.  
Zambon JP1, Badlani GH2.  
Curr Urol Rep. 2016 Sep;17(9):65. doi: 10.1007/s11934-016-0617-z.
10. Safety considerations for synthetic sling surgery.  
Blaivas JG1, Purohit RS1, Benedon MS2, Mekel G3, Stern M4, Billah M4, Olugbade K5, Bendavid R6, Iakovlev V7.  
Nat Rev Urol. 2015 Sep;12(9):481-509. doi: 10.1038/nrurol.2015.183. Epub 2015 Aug 18.
11. Consensus Statement of the European Urology Association and the European Urogynaecological Association on the Use of Implanted Materials for Treating Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence.  
Chapple CR(1), Cruz F(2), Deffieux X(3), Milani AL(4), Arlandis S(5), Artibani W(6), Bauer RM(7), Burkhard F(8), Cardozo L(9), Castro-Diaz D(10), Cornu JN(11), Deprest J(12), Gunnemann A(13), Gyhagen M(14), Heesakkers J(15), Koelbl H(16), MacNeil S(17), Naumann G(18), Roovers JWR(19), Salvatore S(20), Sievert KD(21), Tarcan T(22), Van der Aa F(23), Montorsi F(24), Wirth M(25), Abdel-Fattah M(26).  
Eur Urol. 2017 Apr 13. pii: S0302-2838(17)30279-8. doi: 10.1016/j.eururo.2017.03.048. [Epub ahead of print]

## **Abstracts**

### **Introduction**

#### ***Vincenzo Li Marzi, urologist- Italy***

The treatment for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) and pelvic organ prolapse (POP) is very common in the female gender and is gradually increasing. Many women are living longer and have a high expectation for quality of life beyond menopause including an active life-style and the capacity for sexual activity.

Recognizing and dealing with a complication related to the treatment of SUI and POP has become an essential issue in current clinical practice. While mid-urethral slings are considered the current standard of care, there is no ideal surgical technique for the treatment of POP nor an ideal mesh or graft able to reconstruct the anatomy and functionality of the pelvic floor with minimal risk of complications.

In this workshop, thanks to three speakers with extensive experience in female pelvic floor dysfunctions, we will provide a comprehensive overview of all possible complications of the available treatments of SUI and POP and their management.

### **Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment: Complications**

#### ***Maurizio Serati, gynecologist - Italy***

The most considered conservative treatment in case of POP is the use of the ring pessary. Different pessaries have been used for the treatment of prolapse since the 15th century BC. There are over 120 available pessaries for use, with 20 in common use worldwide. However, very few long-term data have been published on sustained ring pessary use, and long-term complication rates have not been examined. However, some recently published studies demonstrated that the many different complications of pessary use exist, in particular vaginal bleeding, severe vaginal discharge, extrusion of the device, severe discomfort, severe constipation and provoked or worsening urinary symptoms. These complications occurred in more than 50% of women treated using this device. These findings are true regardless of type of pessary.

The abdominal surgery to correct POP includes three different approach: open, laparoscopic and robotic assisted. One of the most important limitations in the available evidence on the abdominal treatment of POP is just that too many different surgical interventions, too many different meshes, too many different methods to fix the mesh exist. Therefore, also the list of the

intraoperative and postoperative complications is not at all homogeneous, reflecting the significant heterogeneity among studies. The intraoperative complications are not frequent and they include: bleeding, vaginotomies, bladder injuries, ureteral injury, and bowel injuries. We can find in the available literature also some strange and very rare complications; for example some authors described that a suture with its needle was lost and a 2-cm incision for needle retrieval was necessary.

Moreover, the postoperative complication rates are significantly higher and more relevant. It is well-demonstrated that the most important and reported complication is the mesh erosion. Overall, the postoperative complication rate is 10-15%. Focusing on severe complications, cases of bowel obstructions, port site hernia, port site nerve entrapment, abscess, peritonitis due to bowel injury, vaginal cuff dehiscence and feeling of traction requiring secondary surgery were described.

The rate of mesh erosion among different studies ranged between 0% and > 10%. Possible risk factors for developing mesh erosion include vaginotomy and concomitant execution of total hysterectomy. Several authors, comparing the execution of supracervical versus total hysterectomy before the execution of sacrocolpopexy, suggested that the execution of total hysterectomy is related to an increased risk of developing mesh erosion. Controversially, the use of a lightweight mesh could be considered a protective factor.

It is promising that many different surgical and non surgical options to treat POP with a good cure rate are available. However, it is mandatory to remember and to consider that every possible treatment presents the risk of occurrence of possible complications, even severe.

### **Urinary incontinence treatment associated to POP surgical repair: Complications**

#### ***Matteo Balzarro, urologist- Italy***

Stress urinary incontinence (SUI) and pelvic organ prolapse (POP) are prevalent conditions that are often managed surgically.

In the case of women in whom both of these pathologies are present, it is possible to perform their surgical treatment in a single operating session. In this specific case, SUI should be well evaluated and the concomitant presence of Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS) investigated. The presence of pathological conditions such as bladder overactivity, detrusor underactivity or areflexia, or the routine use of wrong voiding attitudes such as the use of Valsalva can lead to unexpected results. In particular, urodynamic examination is an indispensable investigation that helps to better understand the dynamics between POP and SUI. This investigation should therefore be carried out without, and with the reduction of prolapse. Prolapse reduction should not cause urethral obstruction in order to do not hide SUI and allow proper measurement of VLPP. The use of videourodynamic testing can help to better understand the relationship between POP, urethra and SUI.

When you decide to treat a patient with POP and SUI in the same surgical session it is good rule to treat the POP first. If urinary incontinence was first corrected, the POP treatment could then modify the pelvic static with continence results other than expected. The possible complications in these patients are related both to the surgical technique used for itself, and to the presence of a pelvic floor that was corrected shortly before. If treating a patient with a Middle Urethral Sling (MUS) is a relatively simple surgery, doing so in a patient who has been corrected for a POP can become a very complex procedure. Last but not least is the type of anesthesia performed during the surgical procedure. It is well known how the use of spinal anesthesia can lead to retention of urine in postoperative. This risk rises with the use of certain drugs. The complications related to surgical techniques are manifold: direct injuries to the pelvic floor organs, bleeding and hematoma, urine retention (POUR), extrusion of synthetic material, etc. Treatment of such complications begins to prevent them. In this sense, correct patient evaluation, proper counseling, and good situation awareness in the operating theatre are basic rules. If intraoperative complications arise, their proper management begins with the recognition of the complication itself. Complications such as POUR or prosthetic material extrusion can be addressed differently and with different timing. In conclusion, correction in the same operating session of a POP and SUI is desirable but it is good that it is carried out in expert hands. Some rules can help your expertise in this field.

### **Vaginal Surgical POP Treatment Complications**

#### ***Frank Van der Aa, urologist- Belgium***

Women with POP often undergo vaginal surgery as this surgery is less invasive than abdominal surgery. Unfortunately, both native tissue repair and POP repair with use of vaginal mesh give rise to some common and some specific complications.

Common complications of vaginal surgical POP treatment include pain and dyspareunia.

Treatment depends on the underlying cause and timing of the symptoms. Pain that was not present preoperatively and that is reproduced by clinical examination (due to scar formation, suspension stitches or mesh tension/contraction/shrinkage) can be treated surgically. The same holds true for dyspareunia after vaginal POP repair. Other pain syndromes cannot always be treated surgically. A more holistic approach using physiotherapy and neuropathic pain medications can offer alleviation of these complaints.

Infection and urinary retention can occur both in native tissue repair as in vaginal mesh surgery. Perforating sutures or mesh material should be looked for and surgically treated. Further investigation of bladder emptying disorders after vaginal POP repair (+/- incontinence treatment) includes a micturition diary, cystoscopy and urodynamic investigation. Obviously, treatment will depend on the findings of these investigations. Often, a surgical release can solve the problem.

Mesh specific complications include exposure and perforation in several organs. Mainly the exposure rates after vaginal mesh implant seem to be higher than previously thought. We will discuss the treatment of exposure, going from asymptomatic small exposure to larger and symptomatic exposures.

After this course, the participant should have an idea of the prevalence of the above mentioned complications, the diagnostic work up and the treatment modalities of the different complications after vaginal POP surgery.

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE**

**WORKSHOP 12**

**COMPLICATIONS IN PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE AND STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE MANAGEMENT**

Vincenzo Li Marzi, MD  
 Chair of UroGynecological Section  
 Dept. of Urology, A.O.U. Careggi- Florence, Italy

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> september 2017

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Vincenzo Li Marzi

Affiliations to disclose<sup>†</sup>:

**Allergan**  
 Speaker Honorarium  
**Wellspect HealthCare**  
 Speaker Honorarium  
 Other: **Treasurer of Italian Urodynamic Society (SIUD)**

\* All financial ties (over the last year) that you may have with any business organisation with respect to the subjects mentioned during your presentation

Funding for speaker to attend:

Self-funded  
 Institution (non-industry) funded  
 Sponsored by:

Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Frank Van Der Aa

Affiliations to disclose<sup>†</sup>:

<b>Cook Myosite</b> Trial participation	<b>Coloplast</b> Trial participation Other: Proctor	<b>Astellas</b> Speaker Honorarium Trial participation Fellowship, travel grants Research grant	<b>Allergan</b> Consultant Trial participation Research grant
<b>Boston Scientific</b> Other: Proctor Trial participation	<b>Ferring</b> Consultant <b>Axonics</b>		<b>Medtronic</b> Consultant Research grant

Funding for speaker to attend:

Self-funded  
 Institution (non-industry) funded  
 Sponsored by: Astellas

Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Maurizio Serati

Affiliations to disclose<sup>†</sup>:

**Astellas**  
 Speaker Honorarium  
**Pfizer - Pierre Fabre**  
 Speaker Honorarium

Funding for speaker to attend:

Self-funded  
 Institution (non-industry) funded  
 Sponsored by: Pierre Fabre

Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Matteo Balzarro

Affiliations to disclose<sup>†</sup>:

none

Funding for speaker to attend:

Self-funded  
 Institution (non-industry) funded  
 Sponsored by: Wellspect

Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE**

**W12: Complications in Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence Management**

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Workshop # 12: **Advanced**

**Learning Objectives**

1. Diagnosis of complication
2. Management of complication
3. Treatment of complication

Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** W12: Complications in Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence Management

- The treatment for stress urinary incontinence (SUI) and pelvic organ prolapse (POP) is very common in the female gender and is gradually increasing.
- Many women are living longer and have a high expectation for quality of life beyond menopause including an active life-style and the capacity for sexual activity.
- While mid-urethral slings are considered the current standard of care, there is no ideal surgical technique for the treatment of POP nor an ideal mesh or graft able to reconstruct the anatomy and functionality of the pelvic floor with minimal risk of complications.

*Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy*

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** W12: Complications in Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence Management



**WORKSHOP 12**

**TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

**11:00 - 12:30**

**SPADOLINI D**  
Capacity: 200

**SPEAKERS**

	<b>VINCENZO LI MARZI</b> WORKSHOP CHAIR		<b>MAURIZIO SERATI</b> WORKSHOP SPEAKER
	<b>MATTEO BALZARRO</b> WORKSHOP SPEAKER		<b>FRANK VAN DER AA</b> WORKSHOP SPEAKER

*Dr. Vincenzo Li Marzi - Department of Urology - Firenze - Italy*

ICS 2017 FLORENCE

Complications in Pelvic Organ Prolapse and Stress Urinary Incontinence Management

### Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

**MAURIZIO SERATI**  
Associate Professor - Urogynecology - University of Insubria - Varese

Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

Conservative treatment

Abdominal surgery

Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

Pessary

open\LPS\robotic

Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

Pessary

open\LPS\robotic

Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

Pessary

open\LPS\robotic

Braeburn	Cortland	Fuji	Gala	Ginger Gold
Golden Delicious	Red Delicious	Granny Smith	Honeycrisp	Jonathan
Jonagold	McIntosh	Pacific Rose	Pink Lady	Winesap

Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications

...evidence based

**Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications**

Pessary      open/LPS/robotic

**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

- ❖ Introduced since 15<sup>th</sup> century BC
- ❖ More than 120 types available
- ❖ About 20 commonly used

**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

**HOWEVER**

- ❖ few long-term data

**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

**Long-term vaginal ring pessary use: discontinuation rates and adverse events**  
 S Sarma,\* T Ying,\* Kh Moore\*

*Abstract* We were surprised to find a 56% complication rate in pessary users. Our study shows that, over time, the majority of women chose to discontinue using pessaries. Women should be informed of these data when deciding on the management of their pelvic organ prolapse.

**PESSARY**

- ❖ At least 6 yr
- ❖ 273 women
- ❖ length of use and complications (bleeding, extrusion, malodorous vaginal discharge, constipation, incontinence)

**PESSARY**

**Conclusions** We were surprised to find a 56% complication rate in pessary users. Our study shows that, over time, the majority of women chose to discontinue using pessaries. Women should be informed of these data when deciding on the management of their pelvic organ prolapse.

## PESSARY

DOI: 10.1111/1471-0528.12818  
www.bjro.org

Urogynaecology

**Long-term vaginal ring pessary use: discontinuation rates and adverse events**

S Sama,\* T Ying,\* K M Moore\*

\*Department of Engineering, St George Hospital, Sydney, NSW, Australia; †Department of Engineering, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia; ‡Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia; Correspondence: Sam, Prof. S. Sama, The Peter D'Abreu Clinical Science Building, St George Hospital, Care St, Sydney 2217, NSW, Australia. Email: s.sama@unsw.edu.au

	n (%)
Bleeding	44 (46.8)
Ertisation	26 (27.6)
Vaginal discharge	24 (25.3)
Pain/constipation	24 (25.5)
Incontinence	3 (3.19)
Theatre for removal	2 (1.19)

Figure 5. Graph of duration of pessary use in those who discontinued pessary use.

## PESSARY

DOI: 10.1111/1471-0528.12818  
www.bjro.org

Urogynaecology

**Long-term vaginal ring pessary use: discontinuation rates and adverse events**

S Sama,\* T Ying,\* K M Moore\*

\*Department of Engineering, St George Hospital, Sydney, NSW, Australia; †Department of Engineering, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia; ‡Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia; Correspondence: Sam, Prof. S. Sama, The Peter D'Abreu Clinical Science Building, St George Hospital, Care St, Sydney 2217, NSW, Australia. Email: s.sama@unsw.edu.au

*❖ Not possible to predict in advance women that will present complications*

## CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY

**Prevention:** Not possible

**Diagnosis:** Observation and examination

**Treatment:** Removal

## CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY

**Prevention:** Not possible

**Diagnosis:** Observation and examination

**Treatment:** Removal

doi:10.1111/1471-0528.12764  
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**2015**

**Successful use of ring pessary with support for advanced pelvic organ prolapse**

Jing Ding\*, Chen Chen\*, Xianchen Song\*, Lei Zhang\*, Mei Dong\*, Lei Zhu\*

**Clinical use of ring with support pessary for advanced pelvic organ prolapse and predictors of its short-term successful use**

Menopause, August 2017, Volume 24, Issue 8, p 954-958

*❖ PREDOMINANT ANTERIOR WALL PROLAPSE PREDICTIVE OF SUCCESSFUL PESSARY*

**2017**

**Gellhorn pessary**

## CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY

**Prevention:** Sometimes possible

**Diagnosis:** Observation and examination

**Treatment:** Removal



**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

Prevention: Sometimes possible

Diagnosis: Observation and examination

Treatment: Removal

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

Online Case Report

**Forgotten vaginal pessary eroding rectum**

S Hanavadi, A Durhan... **10 years**

Department of Surgery...

essential to prevent com... to cause vaginal irritation, ulceration, bleeding and... should be removed and cleaned... elderly population, the use

Int J Gynaecol (2015) 113(1173-1179)  
DOI: 10.1007/s00192-015-0576-2

CASE REPORT

**Complications of neglected vaginal pessaries: case presentation and literature review**

Beatriz E. Arias · Berl Ridgeway · Matthew D. Barber

**3years**

HELP!

**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

Treatment: Removal...AND?

**CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT: PESSARY**

ARE YOU SURE?

**Conservative and Abdominal Surgical POP Treatment Complications**

open\LPS\robotic









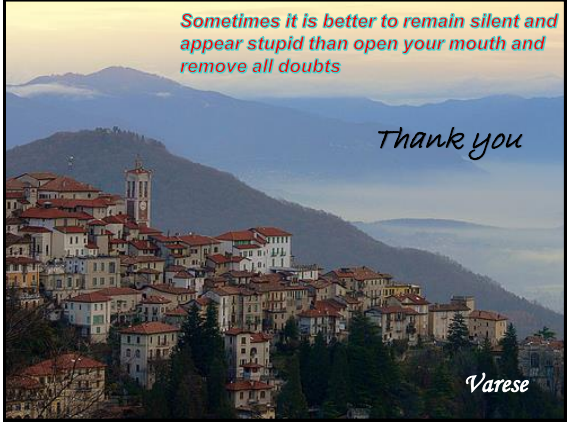
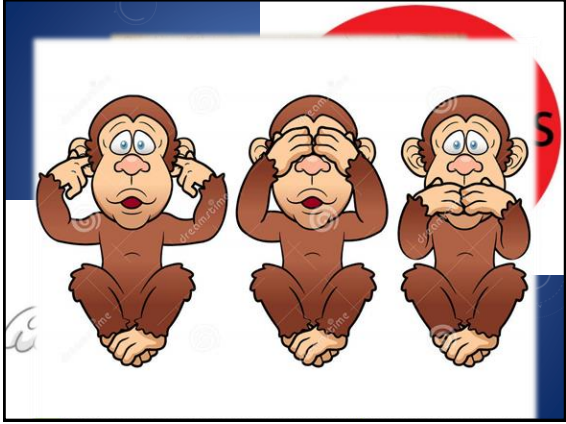















UZ LEUVEN

### Clinical approach

- History
  - Detailed pain history
    - Location/radiation
    - Time of onset/duration (preexisting pain?)
    - Aggravating/relieving factors
    - Nature (dull/aching/needles/...)
  - Associated symptoms
    - Discharge
    - Bleeding
    - UTI's



UZ LEUVEN

### Clinical approach

- Clinical examination
  - Lithotomy position
  - Speculum
  - Vaginal surgery scars/contracture/fixation/mesh extrusion/fistulae/...visual and palpation
  - Pain reproducible by palpation?
  - Nerve entrapment signs? Trigger points?
  - Muscle tone

If necessary: perform clinical examination under general anesthesia

Repeat clinical examination

UZ LEUVEN

### Clinical approach

- Technical investigations
  - Always perform cystoscopy
  - Consider additional investigations if questions remain unanswered
    - ultrasound
    - (CT, MRI)
    - EMG
  - Referral to gynecologist/ gastroenterologist/ colorectal surgeon/...for further investigation

UZ LEUVEN

### treatment

- Surgical if:
  - Complicated mesh (extrusion/fixation)
  - Abnormal tensioning (sutures/mesh) (“like string”) (due to shrinkage/contracture)
  - Fistulae

UZ LEUVEN

### treatment

- Surgical if:
  - Complicated mesh (extrusion/fixation)
  - **Partial/total excision**
  - Abnormal tensioning (sutures/mesh) (“like string”) (due to shrinkage/contracture)
  - **Partial/total excision**
  - Fistulae
  - **Fistula repair +/- mesh excision**
  - **Abdominal vs. vaginal**

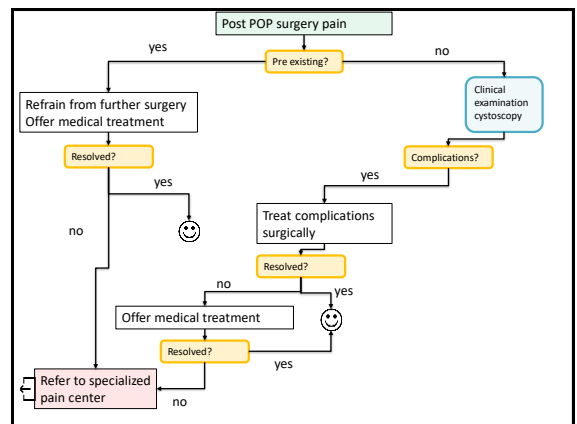
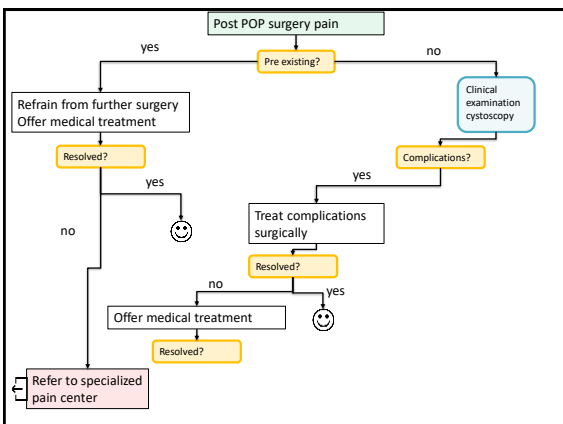
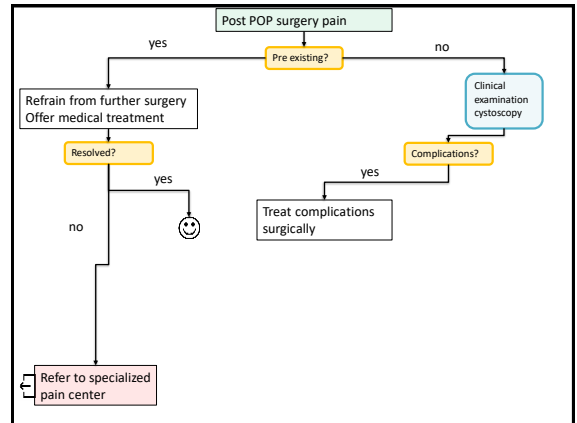
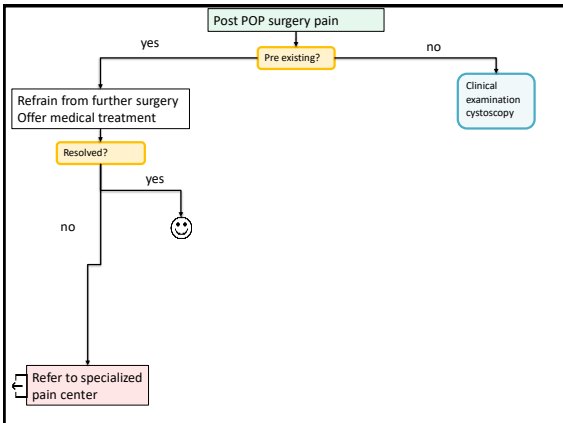
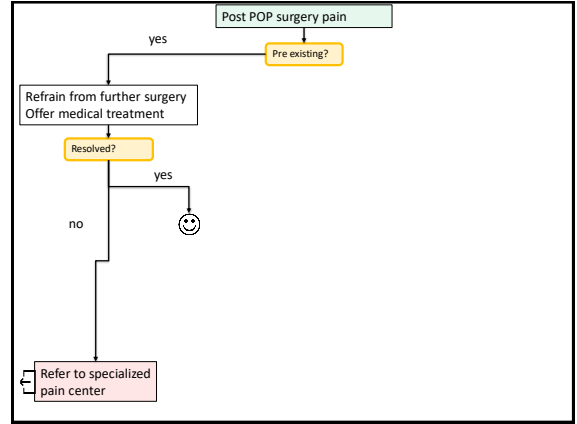
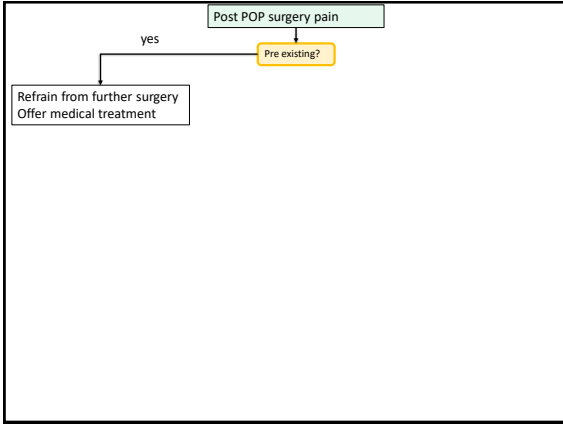
UZ LEUVEN

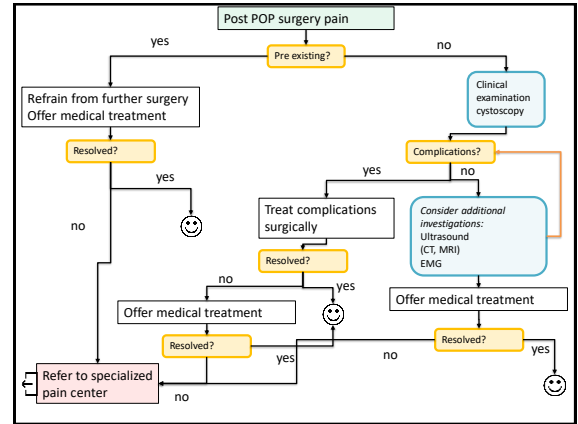
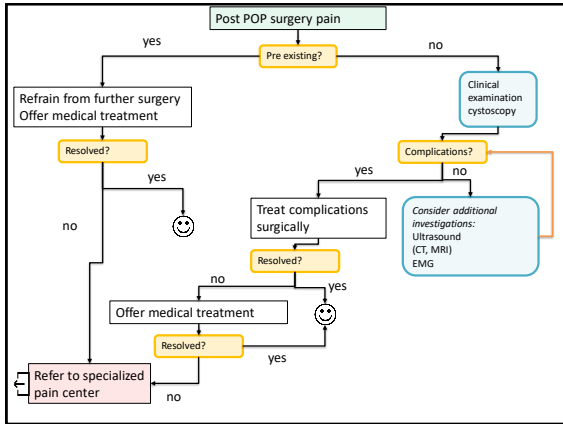
### treatment

- “Medical” if:
  - Pre-existing pain
  - No clear, reproducible pain on clinical examination
  - Persisting pain after surgical treatment
- “medical” treatment = multimodal
  - Painkillers → neuropathic pain meds
  - Pelvic floor muscle physiotherapy
  - Locoregional blocks
  - Psychological (sexuological) help









**UZ LEUVEN**

**lessons**

- Always document preoperative status !
- Pre-existing pain will be attributed to the surgery
- Post-surgical pain exists and can be treated
  - Surgically if specific
  - Medically
  - Supportive (multidisciplinary)

**UZ LEUVEN**

**Specific causes of postoperative dyspareunia**

- Mesh exposure
- Mesh shrinkage/tension
- Sutures
- Vaginal synechiae

**UZ LEUVEN**

**lessons**

- In general dyspareunia is less present after POP repair then before
- Some specific causes of dyspareunia can be solved by repeat surgeries
- As in general pain symptoms: thorough history and clinical examination is the corner stone

**UZ LEUVEN**

**INCONTINENCE**


UZ LEUVEN

*“ de novo stress urinary incontinence will occur in up to 40% of patients adequately treated for POP.  
Vesicovaginal fistulae are a very rare complications of POP repair”*

Wei et al NEJM 2012

UZ LEUVEN

**Patient counseling**



UZ LEUVEN

**Adequate PREOP clinical examination**

- With filled bladder
- Coughing and valsalva
- Lithotomy and if necessary standing
- With prolapse reduction stress test

UZ LEUVEN

**To sling or not to sling**

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

**A Midurethral Sling to Reduce Incontinence after Vaginal Prolapse Repair**

John T. Wei, M.D., Ingrid Nygaard, M.D., Holly E. Richter, Ph.D., M.D., Charles W. Nager, M.D., Matthew D. Barber, M.D., M.H.S., Kim Kenton, M.D., Cindy L. Amundsen, M.D., Joseph Schaffer, M.D., Susan F. Meikle, M.D., M.S.P.H., and Cathie Spino, D.Sc., for the Pelvic Floor Disorders Network

Wei et al NEJM 2012

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**OPUS trial**

- Women “without clinical SUI”
- Multicentric RCT
- treated between 2007 and 2011
- Randomised 1:1 to
  - Vaginal POP repair + sham
  - Vaginal POP repair + TVT

Wei et al NEJM 2012

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**Outcome**

		TVT	sham
Positive cough stress test	Preop	54/165 (33%)	57/172 (33%)
	3M	10/158 (6,3%)	54/157 (34,4%)
	12M	5/143 (3,5%)	31/151 (20,5%)
<b>In the group of patients with a positive prolapse reduction stress test preop</b>		TVT	sham
Postoperative incontinence symptoms		29,6%	71,9%

Wei et al NEJM 2012

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### Safety issues

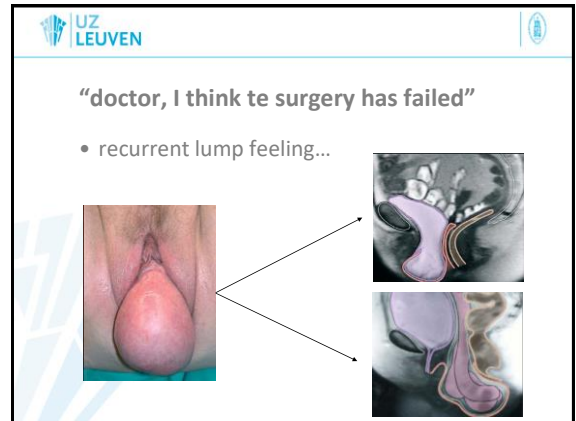
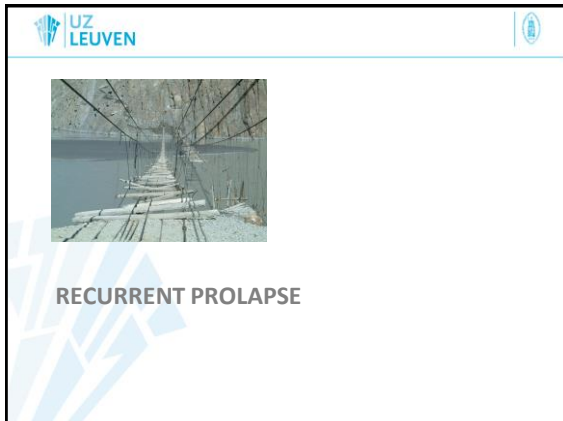
Adverse events		TVT	sham	P
Bladder perforation		11/164 (6,7%)	0/172	< 0,01
Mesh exposure		0/160	0/171	
UTI		49/158 (31,0%)	30/164 (18,3%)	0,008
Major bleeding		5/164 (3,0%)	0/172	0,03
Incomplete bladder emptying	At discharge	69/162 (42,6%)	51/170 (30,0%)	0,02
	At 2 wk	9/163 (5,5%)	1/169 (0,6%)	0,01
	At 6 wk	6/162 (3,7%)	0/170	0,01
Urethroliths		4/165 (2,4%)	0/172	0,06

Wei et al NEJM 2012

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### lessons

- Adequate preoperative counseling
- Test (clinically) for occult SUI
- Consider concurrent MUS when performing vaginal POP surgery



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### Clinical problem

- Failure rate of native tissue primary repair is estimated around 17- 20% in 10 yr BUT the authors classified retropubic suspensions and suburethral sling surgery as anterior compartment procedures. Up to 33% will require secondary prolapse compartment procedures

Denman et al Am J Obstet Gynecol 2008  
Lavelle et al Am J Urol 2016

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### Prevalence of repeat prolapse...

- Awareness of prolapse after 1 to 3 years post repair varies between +/- 13% (mesh groups) to 18-30% (native tissue groups)
- RR 1,77
- Recurrent anterior wall prolapse after 1 to 3 years varies between 13% (mesh groups) to 32-45% (native tissue groups)
- RR 3,01

Maier et al Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2016: CD004014



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### Prevalence of repeat prolapse...

- Stage 2 or greater posterior or apical compartment prolapse after 1 to 3 years varies between +/- 18% (mesh groups) to 5-18% (native tissue groups)  
RR 0,54
- Repeat surgery for prolapse after 1 to 3 years varies between 2% (mesh groups) to 2-7% (native tissue groups)  
RR 2,03

Maher et al Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2016: CD004014

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### lessons

- Prolapse in the same compartment is relatively frequent (although absolute numbers are not well known)
- Prolapse in other compartments is also relatively frequent
- Both may require additional procedures but are not always clinically relevant
- Long term follow up data are lacking

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### conclusions

- Only treat symptomatic/high grade POP
- Pain has to be investigated and can be treated in many patients. A full recovery cannot always be achieved
- Take incontinence into account prior to vaginal POP surgery
- Recurrence rates in the anterior compartment are somewhat better after mesh repair, at cost of...

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**WORKSHOP 12**

COMPLICATIONS IN PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE AND STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE MANAGEMENT:  
**COMPLICATION OF CONCOMITANT URINARY INCONTINENCE TREATMENT**

**MATTEO BALZARRO M.D.**  
 Dept. of Urology, A.O.U.I. Verona, Italy

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> september 2017

**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** **Matteo Balzarro M.D.**

Affiliations to disclose<sup>†</sup>:

None

† All financial ties (over the last year) that you may have with any business organisation with respect to the subjects mentioned during your presentation

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**How many of you do Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI) surgical treatments?**

**How many of you do Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP) surgical treatments?**

**How many of you manage SUI & POP surgical treatment in the same operating session?**

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In this case, does she leaks urine?

No → Occult SUI? → No / 80% Yes

Yes → What to do?

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** **American Urological Association**

**AUA GUIDELINES**

**Guideline Statement 20**

In patients undergoing concomitant surgery for pelvic prolapse repair and stress urinary incontinence, physicians may perform any of the incontinence procedures (e.g., midurethral sling, pubovaginal sling, Burch colposuspension). (Conditional Recommendation; Evidence Level: Grade C)

[www.auanet.org/guidelines/stress-urinary-incontinence-\(sui\)-new-\(aua/sufu-guideline-2017\)](http://www.auanet.org/guidelines/stress-urinary-incontinence-(sui)-new-(aua/sufu-guideline-2017))

When specifically considering patients without SUI symptoms preoperatively, two important studies provide guidance:

- The CARE trial (2008):** lower rate of postoperative SUI when Burch + abdominal sacrocolpopexy (even with no preoperatively occult SUI)
- The OPUS trial (2009):** lower rate of SUI with concomitant sling. However, the number of patients needed to treat with a sling to prevent one case of incontinence was 6.3. Thus, 5 of 6 patients who had a sling placed had an unnecessary procedure with the additional (small but real) risk of increased morbidity.

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** **European Association of Urology**

**EAU GUIDELINES** <http://uroweb.org/guideline/urinary-incontinence/>

Recommendations for women requiring surgery for bothersome pelvic organ prolapse who have symptomatic or unmasked stress urinary incontinence	GR
<u>Offer simultaneous surgery for pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence.</u>	A
<u>Warn women of the increased risk of adverse events with combined surgery compared to prolapse surgery alone.</u>	A

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** eau guidelines

Summary of evidence	LE
<b>Women with prolapse + urinary incontinence</b>	
Surgery for pelvic organ prolapse (POP) + stress urinary incontinence shows a higher rate of cure of urinary incontinence in the short term than POP surgery alone.	1a
There is conflicting evidence on the relative long-term benefit of surgery for POP + stress urinary incontinence vs. POP surgery alone.	1b
Combined surgery for POP + stress urinary incontinence carries a higher risk of adverse events.	1b
<b>Continent women with pelvic organ prolapse</b>	
Are at risk of developing urinary incontinence post-operatively.	1a
The addition of a prophylactic anti-incontinence procedure reduces the risk of post-operative urinary incontinence.	1b
The addition of a prophylactic anti-incontinence procedure increases the risk of adverse events.	1b
<b>Women with pelvic organ prolapse and overactive bladder</b>	
There is some low-level inconsistent evidence to suggest that surgical repair of POP can improve symptoms of overactive bladder.	3
Surgery for POP + occult stress urinary incontinence shows a higher rate of cure of occult stress urinary incontinence in the short term than POP surgery alone.	1a
Combined surgery for POP + stress urinary incontinence carries a higher risk of adverse events than POP surgery alone.	1b

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** IUGA 2017, Vancouver 

Committee 15 Pelvic Organ Prolapse Surgery ICI 2017

POP Surgery & ...

*<< IT - COULD - WORK! >>*

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Before surgery → During surgery → After surgery

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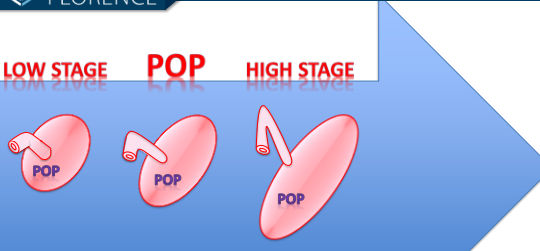
**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Prevention: **before** surgery

- ❖ Evaluation of type of UI, and kind of UI prevalence
  - ✓ If UUI is prevalent... treat first OAB, and then re-evaluate the situation
  - ✓ Look for occult SUI
    - ✓ Reduce the POP during stress test and UD tests
  - ✓ Patients with obstructed voiding due to POP may have wrong voiding attitudes (Valsalva maneuver)...
    - ... Be sure that your patient does not strain to void the bladder

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Prevention: **before** surgery

LOW STAGE POP HIGH STAGE



Probably normal voiding

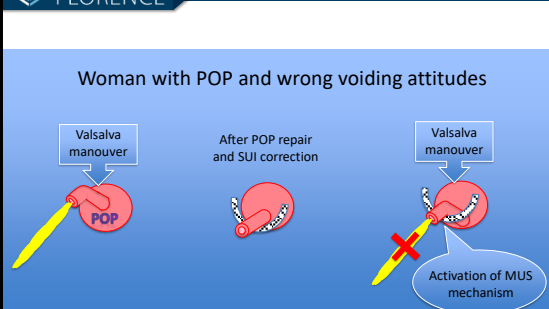
Probably dysfunctional voiding due to urethral kinking

- Valsalva maneuver
- manual POP reduction

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Prevention: **before** surgery

Woman with POP and wrong voiding attitudes



Valsalva manoeuvre

After POP repair and SUI correction

Valsalva manoeuvre

Activation of MUS mechanism

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **before** surgery

- ❖ Evaluation of patient's goals (... and not surgeon's goals!)
- ❖ Evaluation of your own surgical experience
- ❖ Evaluation of patient's frailty... **less is better in frailty patients!**
- ❖ Counseling
  - ✓ POP procedure and UI procedure
  - ✓ warn women of increased risk of adverse events with combined surgery (compared to POP surgery alone)
- ❖ Correct therapy:
  - ✓ Antibiotics
  - ✓ Thromboprophylaxis (POP & UI treatment needs time...)
  - ✓ Heparin
  - ✓ Elastic stockings
  - ✓ Suspension of anticoagulants/antiplatelet drugs before surgery

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

- ❖ Good **positioning** of the patient on the surgical table
- ✓ Positioning before the anesthesia, and ask patient to keep thighs relaxed
- ✓ POP and SUI may request different patient's positioning
- ✓ Wrong positioning may gain nerve injuries (stretching or compressing)

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

- ❖ Share with **anesthetist** the type of anesthesia and the drugs
- ✓ The **duration of detrusor dysfunction** caused by neuraxial anesthesia (*spinal/epidural*) and analgesia is **related to the dose/potency** of local anesthetic and the use of long-acting neuraxial opioids
- ✓ **Denervating** the regional pelvic nerves **for pain control also leads to denervation of the bladder** for a transient period of time
- ✓ **Local anesthetics in spinal bolus block both the afferent and efferent pathways of the voiding mechanism**
- ✓ **Addition of opioids** to this bolus **enhance bladder dysfunction** (increased bladder capacity decreased detrusor contractility)

S. Choi, P. Mahon, LT. Awad, Can J Anesth 2012

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

Local anesthetic drugs	Drug potency	POUR	Bladder Recovery Time min (h)
Tetracaine	High	> 20%	n.a.
Bupivacaine	High	> 20%	n.a.
Procaine	Medium		
Lidocaine	Medium		

Opioids	POUR	Bladder Recovery Time min (h)
Fentanyl	very high	25-36%
Sufentanil	high	0-25%
Sufentanil	medium	0-25%
Sufentanil	low	0-25%
Sufentanil	very low	0-25%
Sufentanil	prolonged	Prolonged bladder disfunction by over 1h30'

**THE TIME NEEDED FOR THE ONLY POP REPAIR IS DIFFERENT FROM THE TIMING NEEDED FOR POP+SUI REPAIR. SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR ANESTHETIST !!**

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

WHICH CAME FIRST ?  
 "THE CHICKEN - OR- THE CHICKEN EGG"

"POP REPAIR - OR- IUS REPAIR"

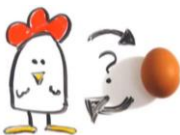
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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

WHICH COMES FIRST ?




FIRST: POP REPAIR!

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

... and what could happen in the case you decided to first treat SUI and then the POP using a MESH?



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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery


Again....the rule is:

**The first steps of your surgery must be POP**

**and the last step SUI**

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery



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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

- ❖ **MUS**
  - do not make a long single incision for anterior POP repair and MUS: tape can slip to bladder neck
  - Limit the peri-urethral dissection to provide sufficient

**“Prevention of obstruction during surgery may be the best way to avoid reoperation”**

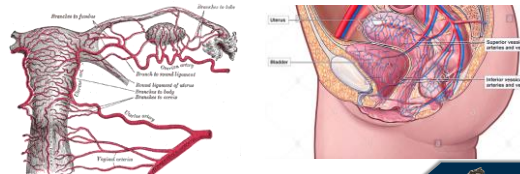
Roger R. Dmochowsky

- fix the sling to peri-urethral fascia to prevent migration or slipping
- “Air knot” in the suspension sutures above the rectus fascia to ensure suspension without tension

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ICS 2017 FLORENCE Prevention: **during** surgery

- ❖ **Bleeding:**
  - If severe bleeding during POP repair timing...
    - ... revalue the scheduled UI procedure, or at least be very careful !!
  - Attempt to control the vessel if possible, otherwise complete the procedure as quickly as possible
  - Manage by tamponade, hemostatic agents, vaginal packing, embolization



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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Prevention: **during** surgery

- ❖ **Direct injury to bladder or urethra by trocar passage**
  - ✓ Intraoperative urethro-cystoscopy to evaluate the damage
  - ✓ What to do?
    1. Remove and replace the trocar, and be sure not to be inside the bladder again!
    2. Drain the bladder with an indwelling catheter, how long? It depends from the extent of injury
    3. Major injuries (rare) must be surgically repaired
  - ✓ If urethral damage is done making the tunnel for trocars revalue the scheduled UI procedure: *The American Urological Association's recommendation is that "synthetic sling surgery is contraindicated in stress incontinent patients with intraoperative urethral injury"*

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Prevention: **after** surgery

- ❖ **Avoid bladder over-distension**
  - ✓ Pain control by epidural: denervating the regional pelvic nerves for pain control also leads to denervation of the bladder for a transient period of time
  - ✓ Post Operative Urinary Retention (POUR) identification, post-void residual must be checked

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Complications

- ❖ **POUR**
  - ✓ Transient retention 96-98%, recovery time is 4-6 weeks
  - ✓ 2-4% pts have F-POUR > 4-6 weeks
  - ✓ Treatments:
    - ✓ Clean intermittent catheterization
    - ✓ Tape stretching, tape incision, urethrolisis
  - ✓ Timing of surgical management is debated:
    - ✓ It is reasonable to **wait at least 4-6 weeks post surgery as most cases of retention will resolve spontaneously**
    - ✓ Early intervention:
      - Risk of over treatment
      - Any associated complication would be regrettable

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Complications: POUR management

**REMEMBER:**

- *No consensus* has been achieved with regard to **define female obstruction**
- There is *no consensus* on **Post Void Residual (PVR) cut-off**
- There is *no consensus* on **definition of female urinary retention**... and it is almost reported in Literature as "voiding dysfunction"

**But you still have the problem, so how to move?**

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Complications: POUR management

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**ICS 2017 FLORENCE** Complications

- ❖ **Infection of the tape**
  - Management:
    - Local topic antibiotics --> systemic antibiotics --> exposed tape excision if remains problematic
- ❖ **Exposure**
  - Management:
    - Local topic estrogen --> suture of urethra if remains problematic
    - Local topic estrogen --> suture of urethra if remains problematic
- ❖ **Pain**
  - Causes:
    - Incomplete placement
    - Obturator for longus trauma in trans-obturator procedures
    - Incorrect lithotomy positioning
    - Tissues reaction to synthetic materials
  - Management:
    - Pain medication --> imaging --> possible sling excision if remains problematic

**NO DIFFERENT MANAGEMENT WITH OR WITHOUT POP SURGERY**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

*For any question please... say your name and country*

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**WORKSHOP 12**

**COMPLICATIONS IN PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE AND STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE MANAGEMENT**

**CLINICAL CASES**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> september 2017

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**Case 1**

87 y.o woman hospitalized for the fracture of the left tibia and fibula after a vehicle-to-pedestrian crash. A complete uterine prolapse, stage IV POP-Q system, was diagnosed and reduced by the placement of a flexible ring pessary (size100mm)

- Worsening of serum creatinine from 0.91 to 1.38 mg/dl
- Abd. ultrasonography: severe HUN on the right side
- 3D CT scan: severe right HUN (worse than that shown in the previous CT scan taken a few days before). HUN was caused by the compression of distal ureter due to an oversized pessary

The pessary was replaced with a smaller one, resulting in the normalization of serum creatinine (0.78 mg/dl), and a following abdominal US documented the resolution of HUN

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 35 of 9

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**Case 1**

In literature are reported several cases related severe complication in neglected pessaries... the question is in women with severe prolapse and a complication by pessary use, how would you treat the POP after pessary removal?

How many in the audience use pessaries for POP?

Any experience from the audience about pessary complication?

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 36 of 9

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**Case 2**

57 y.o. woman with symptomatic POP

Vaginal examination: anterior defects; uterus descensus; posterior vaginal wall defect associated to low anal descensus into sphinter/anal canal (Oxford grading IV). No SUI.

Aa	Ba	C	gh	pb	tv	Ap	Bp	D
2.5	2.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	10.0	3.0	4.5	-0.0

**IV**

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 37 of 9

ICS 2017 FLORENCE Case 2

UD tests (non reported if with POP reduction or not):


- No OAB
- No SUI
- Micturition obtained by the only use of abdominal strength: Pdet/Qmax was 6/10
- Bladder sensations: non reported

**What to do?**

Performed surgery:

- Transvaginal hysterectomy, McCall suspension, anterior vaginal wall colporrhaphy, and Kelly plication
- No surgery for the posterior compartment was performed

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 38 of 9



ICS 2017 FLORENCE Case 2

The patient developed POUR:

- Very low bladder sensation... (like before the surgery)
- PVR 500/500
- The attempt to void was characterized by Valsalva maneuver ... "compared to before the surgery I can not urinate"

**What to do?**


The patient had a Foley catheter (IC) for 3 weeks, she had 3 attempt of removal all with urine residual > 450 ml

Options proposed were:

- Indwelling catheter/CIC
- ... wait and see

**What to do?**

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 39 of 9



ICS 2017 FLORENCE Case 2

The patient had Foley removal after 4 months... POUR was persistent

**What to do?**

Options proposed were:


- OnaBontA Injections laterally to urethra
- Catheter removal and wait and see...

**Do you agree?**

Surgeons decided:

- To leave the patient without catheter and wait and see...
- To ask proctologists to resolve posterior POP and the low anal descensus into sphinter/anal canal

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 40 of 9



ICS 2017 FLORENCE Case 2

The patient decided for a second opinion...


- New UD testing:
  - No bladder sensations
  - No OAB
  - CC > 500 ml
  - No micturition, several Valsalva maneuver, no Pdet
  - PVR 250/250ml – 350/350ml – 450-450ml

Options proposed were:

- CIC and gain urinary continence
- Urethrolisis with the risk of SUI

Patient had a very careful counseling and decided for **urethrolisis** ("no more CIC, I can't live in this way!!")

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 41 of 9



ICS 2017 FLORENCE Case 2

Urethrolisis was performed and the patient was able to start again to empty the bladder by straining... No SUI

She is now disturbed by the posterior compartment POP and she is going to have a rectopexy...

Complications in pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence management Slide 42 of 9

