

Urinary incontinence (update) and pelvic organ prolapse in women: management

Glossary and abbreviations

NICE guideline tbc

Supplementary material B

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1 Glossary

2 Definitions for many of the terms used in NICE guidelines are available at
3 <https://www.nice.org.uk/process/pmg20/chapter/glossary>. This glossary defines the terms
4 that are specific to this guideline.

5 See also the glossary for the 2013 guideline CG171 [Urinary incontinence in women:](#)
6 [management](#).

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Term	Definition
Absorbent containment products	Products that can be used to contain any leakage that results from incontinence by absorbing it.
Adjustable mini-slings	Single-incision mini slings that allow the sling tension to be adjusted intraoperatively.
Anterior colporrhaphy	A surgical procedure to repair or reinforce the support layer between the bladder and the vagina. Also known as 'anterior repair' or 'cystocele repair'.
Anterior repair	See Anterior colporrhaphy.
Anterior vaginal wall prolapse	See Cystocele.
Apareunia	The inability to perform sexual intercourse as a result of a physical or psychological sexual dysfunction.
Apical prolapse	A condition when part of the womb, cervix or vaginal vault moves down from its usual position. The vault is the top of the vagina after a hysterectomy.
Autologous rectus fascial sling	A sling made from the woman's own tissue to help relieve the symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. The sling procedure requires an abdominal incision or an incision in the leg to harvest a thin strip of tissue. This is placed below the urethra and attached to the abdominal wall to support the urethra.
Baden-Walker quantification system	A system for grading the severity of pelvic organ prolapse.
Barium suspension	A contrast medium that can be instilled into a body cavity or hollow organ (e.g. bowel, bladder) to visualise it using X-ray.
Biological graft	A biological graft is a sheet of biological material that can be made of the woman's own tissues (autologous), tissues of another person (allograft), or tissues from animal-derived tissue (xenograft), which can be used to repair pelvic organ prolapse.
Biological mesh	See biological graft. The term 'mesh' is more commonly used to describe woven synthetic materials, e.g. polypropylene.
Biological slings	A sling (thin strip of material) made of biological material that is used to treat symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. The sling can be made of the woman's own tissues (autologous), tissues of another person (allograft), or tissues from animal-derived tissue (xenograft).
Bulking agents	An inert substance that is injected around the urethra to help relieve symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. There are different bulking agents available such as polyacrylamide hydrogel (e.g. Bulkamid), water soluble gel with silicone elastomer (e.g. Macroplastique) and water soluble gel with calcium hydroxylapatite (Coaptite). These agents are designed to treat urinary stress incontinence by bulking up and strengthening the sides of the urethra so that it is more difficult for urine to leak during physical exertion.
Burch colposuspension	See Colposuspension.

Term	Definition
Colpocleisis	An operation to treat pelvic organ prolapse by closing the vagina. It involves removing the skin of the front (i.e. anterior) and back (i.e. posterior) walls of the vagina. Using the remaining tissue, the vagina is closed from the vaginal opening to the vaginal vault.
Colporrhaphy	A surgical procedure used to repair prolapse of the vaginal walls. An incision is made in the skin of the vagina and stitches are placed in the underlying connective tissue to reinforce the vaginal wall.
Colposuspension	An operation used to treat stress urinary incontinence that involves placing sutures (stitches) in the vaginal tissue either side of the urethra and tying these to supportive ligaments to elevate the vagina and support the urethra. It may be performed through an abdominal incision (open) or laparoscopically (keyhole). (See Laparoscopy)
Containment product	Product (e.g. absorbent, hand-held urinal) used to manage symptoms of urinary incontinence.
Cystocele	Also called anterior vaginal wall prolapse.
Cystourethroscopy	A procedure where an instrument (a urethroscope or cystoscope) which consists of a thin tube with a light and camera at the end, is inserted into the bladder via the urethra to inspect the inside of the urethra or bladder.
Dyspareunia	Painful sexual intercourse.
Dysuria	Pain on passing urine.
Fistula	An abnormal connection that forms between 2 hollow spaces in the body, such as intestines, bladder or blood vessels. They can form after surgery, injury, infection or inflammation.
Fluoroscopy	A procedure that allows the study of moving body parts. A contrast dye is added to the body part in question and a constant X-ray beam is passed through the structure while filmed to produce a video of the movement.
Haematuria	When blood is found in the urine.
Hysteropexy	A procedure, often performed laparoscopically (that is, via keyhole surgery), to re-suspend a prolapsed uterus. The support usually comes from an inserted synthetic mesh sling. In the case of slings, one end of the mesh is attached to the cervix and the other to the ligament over the sacrum (tail bone). (See Laparoscopy)
Imprecision	Results are imprecise when the confidence interval associated with an effect estimate is wide due to a relatively small sample size and/or occurrence of relatively few events.
Indirectness	The available evidence is indirect if the population, intervention, comparison and/or outcomes of the identified studies differs from those specified in the PICO.
Infracoccygeal sacropexy using mesh	See Posterior intravaginal slingplasty.
Internal rectal intussusception	A condition where there is infolding of the rectal wall which can occur during defaecation. It is also known as internal rectal prolapse, when the prolapse of the rectum does not protrude through the anus.
Laparoscopy	A surgical procedure that allows access to the inside of the abdomen and pelvis without having to make large incisions in the skin. A tube with a light and camera in the end is inserted through the abdominal wall to view the abdominal cavity and organs. Small surgical instruments are used to perform the surgery. Also known as 'keyhole surgery'.

Term	Definition
Manchester repair	A procedure performed to correct for uterine prolapse. It involves removal of the vaginal part of the cervix with additional support from the reattachment of the ligaments to the uterus.
Mesh	A structurally-supportive woven synthetic material, which can be permanent, absorbable or partially absorbable, that can be placed surgically through the vagina or abdomen to reinforce the tissues during surgery for treatment of pelvic organ prolapse. Slings made of polypropylene mesh are used for the surgical treatment of stress urinary incontinence. (See Synthetic mid-urethral sling, Synthetic mid-urethral tape, Mesh sling)
Mesh erosion	This is a general term for any synthetic mesh or mesh sling that is found perforating an organ after surgery, such as the urinary tract or bowel. This term is also used to refer to mesh exposure or mesh extrusion. (See Mesh exposure, Mesh extrusion)
Mesh exposure	Mesh or mesh sling that is visible in the vagina, where separation of the vaginal epithelium has occurred. This can be asymptomatic (when the woman is not aware/ bothered by the potential problem) or there may be symptoms such as pain or bleeding. (See Mesh erosion, Mesh extrusion)
Mesh extrusion	Mesh or mesh sling that is protruding into the vagina or through the skin. This can be asymptomatic (when the woman is not aware/ bothered by the potential problem) or there may be symptoms such as pain or bleeding. (See Mesh erosion, Mesh exposure)
Mesh inlay	A sheet of synthetic mesh that can cut to size and sutured under the vaginal skin to reinforce the prolapse repair.
Mesh kit	A commercially-produced kit for the insertion of synthetic vaginal mesh to treat pelvic organ prolapse. The procedure is performed in a standardised fashion, with the necessary equipment to introduce the mesh (trocars and pre-cut mesh) packaged together in one kit. Kits were available to treat anterior, apical and posterior prolapse. The trocar is a long needle that is used to tunnel through the tissues of the pelvis to insert the mesh. The mesh is pre-cut and may have arms (long strips of mesh) or small plastic anchors, which help to anchor the device in the tissues.
Mesh sling	A flat strip of structurally-supportive woven synthetic material, usually made of polypropylene, which is placed surgically below the urethra for the treatment of stress urinary incontinence. Mesh slings are often inserted using trocars (needles) and can be placed behind the pubic bone (via the retropubic route) or through a part of the pelvis called the obturator foramen (via the transobturator route). Some mesh slings are also sometimes inserted using only a single vaginal incision (so called 'single-incision mini-slings'). (See Single-incision mini-sling, Synthetic mid-urethral mesh sling)
Mid-urethra	A term to describe the middle part of the urethra. Synthetic mid-urethral slings are inserted here.
Mini-Cog test	A 3-minute screening test for cognitive impairment in older adults in a primary care setting, consisting of a 3-item recall test for memory and a simple clock-drawing test.
Multidisciplinary team (MDT)	A team of healthcare professionals that is formed to help diagnose and/or treat complex conditions. MDTs are generally used when it is suitable for care to be provided on a case basis and the complex

Term	Definition
	nature of the condition requires input from many professionals in different areas of medicine.
Obturator foramen	Openings in the pelvis that lie to the left and right of the pubic bone. Some surgical procedures for stress urinary incontinence are inserted through the muscles and tissues which lie over the obturator foramen (for example, a transobturator mid-urethral mesh sling). (See Transobturator mid-urethral mesh sling)
Open surgery	Surgery for treatment of incontinence or pelvic organ prolapse that uses incisions in the abdominal skin to access the relevant organs (e.g. bladder neck). (See Laparoscopy)
Paravaginal repair	Anterior vaginal wall repair that involves reattaching the side of the vagina to the sidewall of the pelvis. Can be performed laparoscopically or abdominally. (See Laparoscopy, Open surgery)
Perineorrhaphy	A surgical procedure to repair the perineum (skin, connective tissue and muscle between the vagina and anus). It is often performed at the same time as prolapse surgery to provide additional support.
Pessary	A medical device inserted into the vagina to reduce pelvic organ prolapse or to provide slow-releasing medication (e.g. oestrogen) directly into the vagina.
Posterior intravaginal slingplasty	A procedure to correct prolapse of the vaginal vault in women who have had a previous hysterectomy. The procedure involves attaching a synthetic strip of mesh between the vaginal vault to the pelvic tissues alongside the vagina and rectum. This procedure is also known as 'Infracoccygeal sacropexy using mesh'.
Procedure code	A type of medical classification used to identify surgical, medical or diagnostic interventions in a numeric or alphanumeric form (e.g. OPCS).
Proctogram	This is a test to evaluate bowel emptying (that is, defaecation). It involves radiological imaging in which patients are asked to empty their rectum of a barium paste, whilst the process is visualised with a constant X-ray beam (fluoroscopy).
Quantitative sensory testing (QST)	A procedure that measures how nerve endings are functioning. This can be done by thermal or vibration testing. QST determines the vibration sensation threshold by stimulating the skin and comparing the results to normative values built into the software.
Retropubic bottom-up mesh sling	A method to insert a suburethral mesh sling to help with the symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. A needle is inserted upwards through a small incision in the vaginal wall below the urethra, passing behind the pubic bone and through the abdominal wall. Each arm of the mesh goes through the space behind the pubic bone and into the abdominal muscles in a U shape, and supports the urethra.
Retropubic top-down mesh sling	A method to insert a suburethral mesh sling to help with the symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. A needle is inserted downwards through the abdominal wall passing behind the pubic bone and through a small incision in the vaginal wall below the urethra in a U shape and supports the urethra.
Sacrocolpopexy	A procedure to correct prolapse of the vaginal vault (top of the vagina) in women who have had a previous hysterectomy. The operation is designed to restore the vagina to its normal position and function. The procedure involves attaching mesh (usually synthetic) to the front and back of the vagina while the opposite end of the mesh is attached to the sacrum (tail bone).

Term	Definition
Sacrospinous fixation	A surgical procedure designed to restore support to the uterus or vaginal vault. Through a cut in the vagina, sutures (permanent or absorbable) are placed into a strong pelvic ligament, the sacrospinous ligament, and then to the vaginal vault.
Sacrospinous hysteropexy	A hysteropexy procedure to re-suspend a prolapsed uterus using sutures (permanent or absorbable) to attach the uterus to a strong pelvic ligament, the sacrospinous ligament, usually on one side.
Sigmoidoscopy	A thin, flexible tube that enables a digital image of the rectum and sigmoid colon (the lower parts of the large bowel) to be visualised.
Single-incision mini-sling	A surgical procedure to insert synthetic mesh sling to treat symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. The slings are shorter than retropubic and transobturator mesh slings and are inserted using only a single incision. The sling is usually attached to the tissues at each end with a small plastic anchor. There are several designs of mini-slings, each of which have different tissue anchor or fixation points.
Stricture	A narrowing of the bowel usually caused by recurrent inflammation. This slows or blocks the passage of food through the bowel.
Sub-urethral slings	A flat strip of structurally-supportive material, which can be biological (autologous graft, allograft or xenograft) or synthetic (e.g. polypropylene mesh), that is placed surgically below the urethra to relieve symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. It provides support to the urethra to prevent leakage of urine during exertion.
Suture hysteropexy	A surgical procedure, which is usually performed laparoscopically, to re-suspend a prolapsed uterus. The ligaments that normally support the uterus are shortened (that is, plicated) with a suture (stitch) and reattached to the back of the cervix (the neck of the womb).
Synthetic mid-urethral mesh sling	A flat strip of structurally-supportive material, usually made of polypropylene mesh that is placed surgically below the urethra to relieve symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. Mesh slings are often inserted using trocars (needles) and can be placed behind the pubic bone via the retropubic route, through a part of the pelvis called the obturator foramen via the transobturator route, or only using a vaginal incision (single-incision mini-sling). These devices are also commonly referred to as 'tapes'. (See Mesh sling)
Synthetic mid-urethral tape	See Synthetic mid-urethral mesh sling.
Transobturator inside-out mesh sling	A method to insert a suburethral mesh sling to help with the symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. A trocar is used to insert a mesh sling horizontally through the obturator foramen from an incision in the vagina to an exit point in the thigh. Each arm of the mesh lies in the muscles that overlie the obturator foramen and in the muscles of the upper inner thigh.
Transobturator outside-in mesh sling	A method to insert a suburethral mesh sling to help with the symptoms of stress urinary incontinence. A trocar is used to insert a mesh sling horizontally through the obturator foramen from an incision in the thigh to an incision on the vagina. Each arm of the mesh lies in the muscles overlie the obturator foramen and in the muscles of the upper inner thigh.
Urinary retention	The inability to empty the bladder completely.
Uterosacral ligament suspension	This is a vaginal procedure to support the top of the vagina (vault) after hysterectomy. The top of the vagina is sewn to the uterosacral ligaments, which run between the uterus and the pelvic bones, to provide support.

Term	Definition
V-Brace	A support garment that is worn over underwear for women with pelvic organ prolapse or for pregnancy-related vulval varicosities.
Vaginal vault	A term used to refer to the top of the vagina after a hysterectomy.
Vault prolapse	A prolapse that occurs when the upper portion of the vagina loses its normal support and drops down into the vaginal canal or outside of the vagina.

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2

1 Abbreviations

2

Abbreviation	Definition
6CIT	6-Item Cognitive Impairment Test
ACE-III	Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination III
AMTS	Abbreviated Mental Test Score
BFLUTS-SF	Bristol Female Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms Scored Form questionnaire
BME	Black and minority ethnic
BoNT-A/BOTOX®	Botulinum toxin A
CDSR	Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
CENTRAL	Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (formerly known as Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials [CCTR]).
CT	Computerised Tomography
DARE	Database of Abstracts of Reviews of Effects
EMG	Electromyography
ePAQ-PF	electronic Personal Assessment Questionnaire-Pelvic Floor
ESTER	Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of Surgical Treatments for womEn with stResS urinary incontinence: An evidence synthesis
EUA	Examination under anaesthetic
FSFI	Female Sexual Function Index
GPCOG	General Practitioner Assessment Of Cognition
GRADE	Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation
ICD-11	International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 11 th revision
ICIQ-UI	International Consultation on Incontinence Modular Questionnaire-Urinary Incontinence
ICIQ-UI SF	International Consultation on Incontinence Modular Questionnaire-Urinary Incontinence Short Form
ICIQ-VS	International Consultation on Incontinence Modular Questionnaire-Vaginal Symptoms
I- QOL	Urinary Incontinence Quality of Life Scale
IPG	Interventional procedures guidance
ISI	Incontinence Severity Index
ISD	Intrinsic sphincter deficiency
IVS	Intravaginal slingplasty
KHQ	King's Health Questionnaire
MMSE	Mini-Mental State Examination
MoCA	Montreal Cognitive Assessment
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MUI	Mixed urinary incontinence
NA	Not applicable
NHSE	National Health Service England
NR	Not reported
OAB	Overactive bladder
PFDI-20	Pelvic Floor Distress Inventory-Short Form 20
PFIQ-7	Pelvic Floor Impact Questionnaire-Short Form 7
PISQ-12	Pelvic Organ Prolapse/Urinary Incontinence Sexual Questionnaire Short-Form
PIVS	Posterior intravaginal slingplasty
POP	Pelvic organ prolapse

Abbreviation	Definition
POP-Q	Pelvic Organ Prolapse Quantification system
POP-SS	Pelvic Organ Prolapse Symptom Score
QST	Quantitative Sensory Testing
RCI	Reliable change indices
ROBINS-I	Risk Of Bias In Non-randomised Studies - of Interventions tool
ROBIS	Risk of Bias in Systematic Reviews tool
SCP	Laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy
SEAPI- QMM	Stress-related leak, Emptying ability, Anatomy (female), Protection, Inhibition-Quality of life, Mobility, Mental status incontinence classification system
SIM	Self-instruction manual
SIMS	Single-incision mini-sling
SUI	Stress urinary incontinence
SUIQQ	Stress and Urgency Incontinence and Quality of Life Questionnaire
TOA	Adjustable transobturator mesh sling (also known as adjustable transobturator tape)
TOT	Transobturator outside-in mesh sling (also known as transobturator tape)
UI	Urinary incontinence
UISS	Urinary Incontinence Severity Score
US	Ultrasonography
USI	Urodynamic stress incontinence
VA	Vaginal atrophy
VAS	Visual analogue scale

1

2 **Abbreviations from 2013 guideline**

3 12.1 Abbreviations

4 ADL activities of daily living

5 AE adverse effects

6 AFR acceleration of flow rate

7 ALPP abdominal leak point pressure

8 AM ambulatory monitoring

9 AUS artificial urinary sphincter

10 BAUS–SFRU British Association of Urological Surgeons Section of Female and

11 Reconstructive Urology

12 b.d. to be taken twice a day (bis die)

13 BMI body mass index

14 BNF British National Formulary

15 BOA basic office assessment

16 BSUG British Society of Urogynaecology

17 CEE conjugated equine oestrogens

- 1 CI confidence interval
- 2 CIC clean intermittent catheterisation
- 3 CISC clean intermittent self-catheterisation
- 4 CNS central nervous system
- 5 CT computed tomography
- 6 DB double-blind
- 7 DDAVP desmopressin
- 8 DO detrusor overactivity
- 9 DS diagnostic study
- 10 EL evidence level (level of evidence)
- 11 EMG electromyography
- 12 ER extended release
- 13 ES electrical stimulation
- 14 FB Fluid-Bridge
- 15 GA general anaesthesia
- 16 2013 Update
- 17 Abbreviations and glossary
- 18 367
- 19 GDG guideline development group
- 20 GP general practitioner
- 21 GPP good practice point
- 22 HRT hormone replacement therapy
- 23 ICER incremental cost effectiveness ratio
- 24 ICS International Continence Society
- 25 IIQ incontinence impact questionnaire
- 26 IP Interventional Procedures (see IPAC)
- 27 IQR interquartile range
- 28 IR Immediate release
- 29 ISC intermittent self-catheterisation
- 30 ISD intrinsic sphincter deficiency
- 31 ITT intention-to-treat analysis
- 32 IVS intravaginal slingplasty

- 1 KHQ King's Health Questionnaire
- 2 LA local anaesthesia
- 3 LOCF last observation carried forward
- 4 LPP leak point pressure
- 5 LUTS lower urinary tract symptoms
- 6 MC multichannel (cystometry)
- 7 MDT multidisciplinary team
- 8 MHRA Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
- 9 MMK Marshall–Marchetti–Krantz
- 10 MMSE Mini Mental State Examination
- 11 MPA medroxyprogesterone acetate
- 12 MRI magnetic resonance imaging
- 13 MUCP maximum urethral closure pressure
- 14 MUI mixed urinary incontinence
- 15 n number of patients
- 16 NA not applicable
- 17 NCC-WCH National Collaborating Centre for Women's and Children's Health
- 18 NHS National Health Service
- 19 2013 Update
- 20 Urinary incontinence in women
- 21 368
- 22 NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
- 23 NPV negative predictive value
- 24 NS not statistically significant
- 25 OAB overactive bladder
- 26 OAB-q overactive bladder questionnaire
- 27 o.d. to be taken once daily
- 28 OR odds ratio
- 29 PCT primary care trust
- 30 PFMT pelvic floor muscle training
- 31 PFM pelvic floor muscle
- 32 PGI-I patients global impression of improvement

- 1 PNE percutaneous nerve evaluation
- 2 POP pelvic organ prolapse
- 3 POP-Q pelvic organ prolapse quantification system
- 4 PPIP Patient and Public Involvement Programme
- 5 PPV positive predictive value
- 6 PTFE polytetrafluoroethylene
- 7 P-PTNS percutaneous posterior tibial nerve stimulation
- 8 P-SNS percutaneous sacral nerve stimulation
- 9 PTR pressure transmission ratio
- 10 PVR post void residual
- 11 pt(s) patient(s)
- 12 QALY quality adjusted life year
- 13 q.d.s. to be taken four times a day (quarter die sumendus)
- 14 QOL quality of life
- 15 r correlation coefficient
- 16 RCT randomised controlled trial
- 17 RR relative risk
- 18 SA spinal anaesthesia
- 19 SB single-blind
- 20 SD standard deviation
- 21 SE standard error
- 22 SF-36 Short form 36
- 23 SIGN Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network
- 24 SII symptom impact index
- 25 SNS sacral nerve stimulation
- 26 SPARC suprapubic arc sling
- 27 SSI symptom severity index
- 28 2013 Update
- 29 Abbreviations and glossary
- 30 369
- 31 SUI stress urinary incontinence
- 32 SUIQQ stress and urge incontinence quality of life questionnaire

- 1 t.d.s. to be taken three times a day (ter die sumendus)
- 2 TENS transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation
- 3 TOT transobturator tape
- 4 TVT tension-free vaginal tape
- 5 T-PTNS transcutaneous postier tibial nerve stimulation
- 6 T-SNS transcutaneous sacral nerve stimulaiton
- 7 UCP urethral closure pressure
- 8 UD urodynamics
- 9 UDI urogenital distress inventory (questionnaire)
- 10 UI urinary incontinence
- 11 UISS urinary incontinence severity score
- 12 UPP urethral pressure profile or profilometry
- 13 USI urodynamic stress urinary incontinence
- 14 UTI urinary tract infection
- 15 UUI urge urinary incontinence
- 16 VAS visual analogue scale
- 17 VCU videocystourethrography
- 18 VLPP valsalva leak point pressure
- 19 WVC weighted vaginal cone