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# Would Surgeons Opt for Polypropylene Mesh if They Hypothetically Had Stress Urinary Incontinence or Pelvic Organ Prolapse?

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## Introduction

- Controversy surrounding vaginal mesh kits
- Many patients have negative connotations regarding mesh
- If patients were shown that their surgeons would opt for mesh – maybe this would help lessen the negativity?

## Methods

1. Survey was sent to American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS) and SUFU members
2. Basic demographic info
3. Society members were asked what treatment they would elect if they hypothetically had SUI or POP.

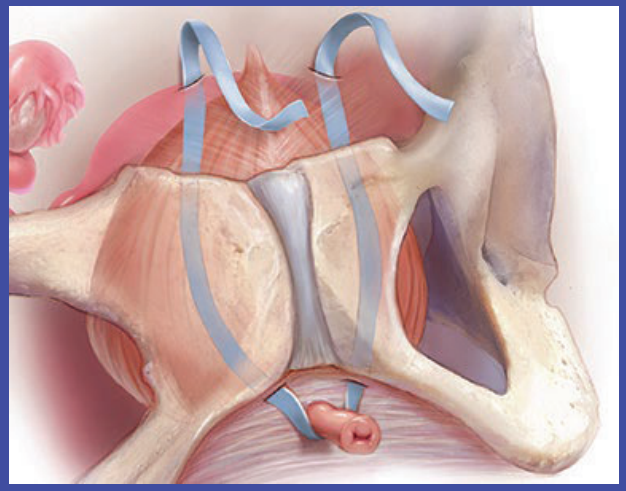
## Results

- 141 of 689 members completed the survey
- A significantly greater portion of members would prefer mid urethral slings (MUS) vs other treatment modalities (96/140, 69%, p < 0.001)
- For SUI: High volume providers (>10 procedures a month) were more likely to prefer MUS.
  - Univariate: OR 3.21 p = 0.003
  - Multivariate: OR: 3.67 p = 0.003
- For POP: Academic providers were less likely prefer transvaginal mesh (loses significance in multivariate)
  - Univariate: OR 0.29 p = 0.039
  - Multivariate: OR: 0.27 p = 0.056

## Discussion

- Majority of society members would prefer MUS for SUI
- Preferences regarding POP treatments were more varied

# **Surgeons** would prefer **mesh slings** if they hypothetically had **stress urinary incontinence.**



Ringel N, Richter LA, Mid-urethral sling. Using slings for the surgical management of urinary incontinence: A safe, effective, evidence-based approach. MDedge. Published Oct 31 2019. Accessed April 25 2021. https://www.mdedge.com/obgyn/article/209304/pelvic-floor-dysfunction/using-slings-surgical-management-urinary-incontinence

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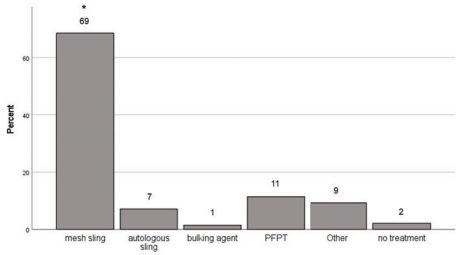
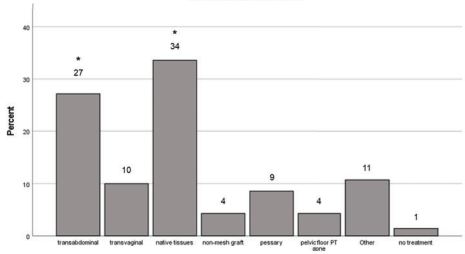
## Overall Tx Preferences




SUI Treatment Preferences




POP Treatment Preferences

## Subgroup Analyses

| | female (N=74) | male (N=64) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | N (%) | N (%) | *p*-value |
| Preferred SUI Treatment? | | | |
| mesh sling | 48 (64.9) | 47 (73.4) | 0.28 |
| autologous sling | 1 (1.4) | 8 (12.5) | .008* |
| bulking agent | 2 (2.7) | 0 (0) | 0.19 |
| PFPT | 11 (14.9) | 5 (7.8) | 0.2 |
| other | 10 (13.5) | 3 (4.7) | 0.08 |
| no treatment | 2 (2.7) | 1 (1.6) | 0.65 |
| Preferred POP Treatment? | | | |
| transabdominal | 21 (28.4) | 16 (25) | 0.66 |
| transvaginal mesh | 4 (5.4) | 10 (15.6) | .047* |
| native tissues | 22 (29.7) | 25 (39.1) | 0.25 |
| non-mesh graft | 2 (2.7) | 4 (6.3) | 0.31 |
| pessary | 10 (13.5) | 2 (3.1) | .031* |
| PFPT | 4 (5.4) | 1 (1.6) | 0.23 |
| other | 9 (12.2) | 6 (9.4) | 0.6 |
| no treatment | 2 (2.7) | 0 (0) | 0.19 |

| | Practice Type | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Academic (N=77) | Private (N=61) | |
| | N (%) | N (%) | *p*-value |
| Preferred SUI Treatment? | | | |
| mesh sling | 47 (61) | 47 (77) | 0.045* |
| autologous sling | 8 (10.4) | 2 (3.3) | 0.11 |
| bulking agent | 0 (0) | 2 (3.3) | 0.11 |
| PFPT | 11 (14.3) | 5 (8.2) | 0.27 |
| other | 8 (10.4) | 5 (8.2) | 0.66 |
| no treatment | 3 (3.9) | 0 (0) | 0.12 |
| Preferred POP Treatment? | | | |
| transabdominal | 19 (24.7) | 18 (29.5) | 0.52 |
| transvaginal mesh | 4 (5.2) | 10 (16.4) | 0.03* |
| native tissues | 31 (40.3) | 16 (26.2) | 0.08 |
| non-mesh graft | 1 (1.3) | 5 (8.2) | 0.048* |
| pessary | 8 (10.4) | 4 (6.6) | 0.43 |
| PFPT | 5 (6.5) | 1 (1.6) | 0.17 |
| other | 7 (9.1) | 7 (11.5) | 0.64 |
| no treatment | 2 (2.6) | 0 (0) | 0.21 |

| | Monthly case volume | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1-10 cases (N=90) | >10 case (N=48) | |
| | N (%) | N (%) | *p*-value |
| Preferred SUI Treatment | | | |
| mesh sling | 57 (63.3) | 39 (81.3) | .029* |
| autologous sling | 6 (6.7) | 4 (8.3) | 0.72 |
| bulking agent | 2 (2.2) | 0 (0) | 0.3 |
| PFPT | 13 (14.4) | 1 (2.1) | .022* |
| other | 9 (10) | 4 (8.3) | 0.75 |
| no treatment | 3 (3.3) | 0 (0) | 0.2 |
| Preferred POP Treatment | | | |
| transabdominal | 23 (25.6) | 15 (31.3) | 0.48 |
| transvaginal mesh | 11 (12.2) | 3 (6.3) | 0.27 |
| native tissues | 30 (33.3) | 17 (35.4) | 0.81 |
| non-mesh graft | 5 (5.6) | 1 (2.1) | 0.34 |
| pessary | 6 (6.7) | 5 (10.4) | 0.44 |
| PFPT | 4 (4.4) | 2 (4.2) | 0.94 |
| other | 9 (10) | 5 (10.4) | 0.94 |
| no treatment | 2 (2.2) | 0 (0) | 0.3 |