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## **IMPACT OF VAGINAL MESH ON SEXUAL FUNCTION**

### IMPACT OF VAGINAL MESH ON SEXUAL FUNCTION

#### Hypothesis / aims of study

To evaluate prospectively the impact of polypropylene vaginal mesh and suburethral slings on sexual function with the use of a validated questionnaire

#### Study design, materials and methods

A prospective and descriptive study of 54 women with pelvic floor disorders or stress urinary incontinence, who underwent genital prolapse surgery.

The period of inclusion was from January to October 2009. A validated sexual questionnaire (PISQ-12) consisting of 12 questions was given to 54 patients. The questionnaire was carried out 3 months before and 3 months after the mesh placement. The types of mesh used were TVM Prolift or IVS for the correction of genital prolapse, and TVT-O for stress urinary incontinence.

#### Results

32 patients answered the questionnaire as sexually active and 22 patients denied having intercourse. After surgery, the sexually active women reported a higher frequency of intercourse (59% before vs. 65% after), a lower incidence of dyspareunia ( 62% vs. 84%) and more satisfaction ( 81% vs. 90%), although there were no statistically significant differences.

#### Interpretation of results

In our experience, the sexual function in women who underwent a placement of a vaginal mesh or sling improves. The synthetic material does not increase the rate of dyspareunia.

#### Concluding message

Vaginal meshes do not restrict sexual function after surgery.

<i>Specify source of funding or grant</i>	No
<i>Is this a clinical trial?</i>	No
<i>What were the subjects in the study?</i>	HUMAN
<i>Was this study approved by an ethics committee?</i>	No
<i>This study did not require ethics committee approval because</i>	it was a questionnaire
<i>Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?</i>	Yes
<i>Was informed consent obtained from the patients?</i>	Yes