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CLINICAL AUDIT OF PATIENT SATISFACTION AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOLLOWING PROLIFT MESH REPAIR IN THE TREATMENT OF WOMEN WITH PELVIC ORGAN PROLAPSE

Hypothesis / aims of study
Pelvic organ prolapse is a common condition with a life time risk of 1 in 11 women developing this condition. Traditionally surgery has remained the mainstay treatment for many patients. However it has been clearly documented that recurrence of prolapse following surgery can occur in up to 30%. Mesh repair was introduced in an attempt to reduce the recurrence of pelvic organ prolapse. Mesh is not a new introduction in the management of pelvic organ prolapse but mesh using kits is new with growing clinical data of its surgical success and complications. However patient perspective and experience is a vital part of assessing this new technology.

The aim of our study is to assess patient satisfaction following prolift mesh repair as women are consumers of these procedures and we wanted their views on this mesh technology.

Study design, materials and methods
Our audit was registered with our audit department. The Governance Unit of the hospital was also notified of the introduction of this new procedure. All patients who presented to our gynaecology clinic with pelvic organ prolapse wishing surgery were offered both traditional surgery and Prolift Mesh repair as outlined by the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) in the United Kingdom. All patients had staging of their prolapse documented prior to surgery and post surgery using the Baden Walker Staging system. They also were asked to fill in QOL questionnaire pre and post surgery.

Results
We carried out 50 prolift mesh repair between September 2008-December 2009. We received completed questionnaire from 40 women.

Interpretation of results
Patients reported improvement in all domains including bladder, bowel and sexual function. They also documented 80% improvement in their quality of life and 83% reported that they would recommend this procedure to other patients

Concluding message
In our patient survey, 80% of our patients were highly satisfied with this operation and 83% would recommend this operation to other patients. This is a very encouraging report but a longer follow up of these patients would be recommended as this survey was conducted three months after their surgery.

Specify source of funding or grant	**None**
Is this a clinical trial?	**No**
What were the subjects in the study?	**HUMAN**
Was this study approved by an ethics committee?	**No**
This study did not require ethics committee approval because	**Approved by hospital audit and clinical governance department.**
Was the Declaration of Helsinki followed?	**Yes**
Was informed consent obtained from the patients?	**Yes**