



INTERNATIONAL CONTINENCE SOCIETY (ICS) TERMINOLOGY FOR MALE ANORECTAL DYSFUNCTION

A: NEED FOR A WORKING GROUP ON MALE ANORECTAL DYSFUNCTION

- There is a need for terminology on male anorectal function. Existing terminology for anorectal function exist in females, due to its increasing complexity a male-specific approach and clinically-based consensus report is needed.
- Equivalent female anorectal dysfunction had the benefit of such an update in a Joint International Urogynecological Association/ ICS Report published in 2016. That report encompassed over 130 separate definitions was developed. It was clinically based with the most common diagnoses defined. Clarity and user-friendliness have been key aims to make it interpretable by practitioners and trainees in all the different specialty groups involved in male pelvic floor dysfunction. Male specific anorectal investigations and imaging will be included.
- Male anorectal dysfunction terminology is not available. Whilst there are similarities in much of the terminology used in both sexes, it is difficult for a combined male/female report to outline the different emphasis that should be placed on male and female symptomatology and diagnoses.
- A male anorectal dysfunction report is therefore required to (i) achieve and exceed the overall clarity, specificity and coverage of the equivalent female document; (ii) prompt the development of follow-on reports: e.g. on surgical and conservative managements.

B: SCOPE

- The Report would be clinically based and would aim to be as user-friendly as possible.
- It would include (i) A clear introduction and sections on (ii) Symptoms; (ii) Signs; (iii) Assessment tools and questionnaires; (iv) Anorectal physiological investigations.
- The Report would be definitional with any necessary explanations or descriptions included as footnotes. It would be appropriately referenced.
- The Report would give an alphanumeric coding to each of approximately 100-150 definitions (anticipated).
- The Report would be contemporary. Any relatively new concepts in the literature that offer promise but may need further validation and research may be included and defined in an Appendix.
- The Report would be subject to multiple rounds of internal (WG) review (12-16 anticipated), external review (4-6 reviewers) and ICS membership (website) review.



MEMBERSHIP OF WORKING GROUP (Anticipated)

- Chair
- Members (up to 15)

DURATION (Anticipated)

- 18 – 24 months
- 30 months (maximum)