Update Guidelines
IUGA Guidelines for Training in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRPS)

IUGA Educational Committee

Introduction


At the 32nd Annual Meeting, in Cancun, Mexico (June 2007), the Education Committee (Chair: E. Hanzal) asked Professors Drutz and Koelbl to form a subcommittee to revise and update the original guidelines. A review of the original guidelines was done by the Division of Urogynecology (Staff and Fellows), University of Toronto, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto. A Special Educational Workshop was held at the 33rd IUGA meeting in Taipei, Taiwan (September 2008). Invited presentation of the current status of Educational Guidelines in their individual countries were presented by doctors H. Drutz (Canada), J. Gebhart (USA), C. Benness (Australia), P. Tooz-Hobson (UK), E. Hanzal (Austria), and H. Vervest (The Netherlands). The Special Workshop was attended by Fellowship Program Directors, members of the Educational Committee and current trainees in existing postgraduate programs. All of their suggestions have been incorporated in this version.

In the opinion of the Educational Committee, the Guidelines represent a consensus of IUGA and provide standards of knowledge and skills in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRPS) at the three levels. It is the obligation of national societies and licensing bodies to use the guidelines and adapt them to national and regional needs. The Education Committee recognizes that the practice of healthcare in women in general, and of female pelvic health varies widely throughout the world, and is dependent on cultural, socio-economic and professional circumstances. However, the Education Committee feels that there is a need for standards for training in FPMRPS at all levels of medical education in order to ensure quality assurance purposes. Finally the Committee recognizes the need for regular review of these guidelines, which is reported here.

1- GUIDELINES FOR GENERAL MEDICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS IN FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE AND RECONSTRUCTIVE PELVIC SURGERY (FPMRPS)

Background

It is recognized that Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRPS) is an important part of general medical training. Every student and licensed physician should be familiar with the relevant aspects of urogynecology, and should acquire the necessary knowledge and skills for his or her own practice. Therefore, all accredited medical training programs should provide access to meet these teaching objectives.

The International Urogynecological Association (IUGA), as the leading organization in this field, wishes to establish guidelines that will be
universally acceptable to allow governing boards and licensing bodies on national levels to establish educational objectives. IUGA is aware that there are important regional differences in the organization and structure of medical undergraduate training (University or medical school) and postgraduate training. By publishing universal guidelines IUGA hopes to promote a high and global standard for the care of women with pelvic floor disorders, to enhance scientific knowledge, and to encourage international dialogue between all health-care providers involved with female pelvic healthcare.

Objectives for FPMRPS in General Medical Training Programs

The following objectives are formulated for general medical training programs:
. To improve the quality of care of women with pelvic floor disorders.
. To improve knowledge, practice, teaching and research.
. To promote knowledge and clinical skills relating to female pelvic health.

Definition

A student is a person attending university or medical school. In his or her training – leading usually to a degree of MD, MBBS (in UK), etc. – the student should acquire knowledge in (urogynecology) and reconstructive pelvic surgery. Postgraduate training provides theoretical and practical training necessary for a general practitioner. Since these two components of general medical training vary widely in different countries they are considered together for the purpose of these guidelines.

General Requirements

Since medical school curricula and the specifics of general training programs vary widely, the present guidelines focus on knowledge and skills every physician with a license to practice medicine should have. It is the responsibility of local academic, professional and government institutions to incorporate the aims of the guidelines in program curricula.

Training Program and Guide to Learning

1- Theoretical Aspects

The following knowledge should be acquired:
The urinary tract and pelvic floor
. Embryology
. Anatomy
. Physiology
. The urinary tract in pregnancy
Lower urinary tract dysfunction
History and physical examination
Simple Urodynamic evaluation
. Urinary incontinence – general considerations
. Urodynamic stress incontinence
. Detrusor overactivity (OAB)
. Voiding abnormalities
. Urinary tract infections
. Urethral disorders
. Intraoperative injuries
. Urinary tract fistulae
. Neoplasia
. Psychological impact of genitourinary disorders
- brief overview of pain disorders as they relate to pelvic health
Genital prolapse
. Pathophysiology
. Diagnosis
. Treatment
Anal incontinence and rectal prolapse
. Pathophysiology
. Diagnosis (General)
. Treatment (General)

2- Clinical expertise
On the basis of the learning objectives listed above the physician must have clinical expertise and skills in the following areas (specific skills are listed in appendix 1 and 2).

Diagnostic techniques
The student must understand the indications for, the technique of, and the interpretation of results of diagnostic techniques used in the differential diagnosis of urinary incontinence, pelvic floor and anorectal disorders.

Clinical skills objectives
The student should have acquired a high degree of clinical competence and skills to be able to understand pelvic floor disorders, to counsel patients and to make basic management decisions.

Community care
The student will understand and interact with the role of the community nurse in the detection and management of urinary and fecal incontinence and other pelvic floor disorders in the community. A knowledge of health care economics and resource availability within the community together with the provision of facilities must be obtained.

Appendix 1: Knowledge and Understanding

. Differential diagnosis of incontinence
. Normal and pathologic micturition
. Pelvic floor and urinary tract anatomy
. Principles of proctology
. Principles and interpretation of simple cystometry, multichannel urodynamics
. Fistulas
. Effect of pelvic tumors on the urinary tract
. Anatomy and physiology of fecal incontinence
. Operations for incontinence and pelvic floor relaxation
. Postoperative care after surgery for incontinence and prolapse

Appendix 2: Skills
. Detailed history
. Urinalysis
. Clinical examination including evaluation of pelvic floor function
  Understanding
. Cystoscopy
. Evaluation of the upper urinary tract (ultrasound, x-ray, ct scan)
. Single channel cystometry
. Clinical stress test
. Fitting and management of pessaries

2- GUIDELINES FOR RESIDENT TRAINING PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE FOR RESIDENT TRAINING IN FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE AND RECONSTRUCTIVE PELVIC SURGERY (FPMRPS)

Scope of these Guidelines
The guidelines in this paper provide standards for RT-Programs. However, these requirements may differ between countries, depending on national laws and regulations. Each national organization or association in FPMRPS, government or licensing body, may adjust these requirements to their national situation or law.

Objectives for FPMRPS in Residency Training Programs
The following objectives are formulated for RT in FPMRPS.
. To improve the quality of care of women with pelvic floor disorders.
. To improve knowledge, practice, teaching and research.
. To promote specialized expertise, special facilities and clinical material that will be of considerable benefit to patients with female pelvic disorders and hence improve the quality of their care.
. To encourage co-ordinated management of relevant clinical services throughout a region.

Definition
Obstetrician/Gynecologists trained
according to IUGA-Guidelines will have a detailed knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the pelvis, the contained viscera and the pathological processes affecting their function. They will have defined skills and knowledge in the investigation and treatment of disorders of lower urinary tract function, pelvic floor disorders and other benign pelvic conditions in women. They should be in a position to perform basic examinations and to direct conservative treatment in patients with urinary incontinence and pelvic floor disorders and should know when to refer women with complicated urinary and pelvic floor problems to a FPMRPS-subspecialist.

Requirements for Trainees
In order to start a RT-Program in FPMRPS the following requirements are mandatory:

- Trainees should be qualified physicians.
- The minimum requirements for entry into a RT-Program in Obstetrics/Gynecology is dependant on national laws and regulations.

Length of Training and Registration
The length and scope of specialty training is dependant on national laws and regulations. It is (strongly) encouraged that a formal period is dedicated to FPMRPS-Training.

In order to qualify as a specialist in OB/GYN the trainee should meet skills in FPMRPS as outlined in these objectives.

Requirements for Residency Training Programs Special Requirements
An accredited Residency Training Program in OB/GYN should:

- have access to a service for the referral and transfer of patients with urogynecological problems, with close collaboration with other gynecologists, family physicians, urologists, geriatrists, colorectal surgeons, or other primary care providers, within and outside the center; and have access to a urodynamic laboratory including cystometry, urethral function tests, uroflowmetry, ambulatory equipment, cystourethroscopy, ultrasound, and videourodynamics.

General Requirements
In addition to these special requirements the following general requirements must be met:

- have established close collaboration with other obstetricians and gynecologists within and outside the center, including major regional roles in continuing education and training, research advice and coordination, and audit;
- have a program director who will coordinate the training program, accept the main responsibility for its supervision and be actively involved in it; when more than one center provides the program, there must be a supervisor at each center, with one having overall responsibility as director; have adequate medical staff to enable the trainee to be engaged in his/her field on a full-time basis (or in the case of a part-time trainee, during all of his/her normal working hours); participation in emergency and oncall work outside normal working hours is not excluded; and
- have adequate library, laboratory and other resources to support training.

Training Program and Guide to Learning Theoretical Aspects
The following knowledge should be acquired:

- The urinary tract and pelvic floor
  - Embryology
  - Anatomy
  - Physiology
  - The urinary tract in pregnancy
  - Lower urinary tract dysfunction
  - History and physical examination
  - Urodynamic evaluation
  - Urinary incontinence – general considerations
  - Urodynamic stress incontinence
. Detrusor overactivity
. Voiding abnormalities
. Urinary tract infections
. Urethral disorders
. Intraoperative injuries
. Urinary tract fistulae
. Neoplasia
. Psychological impact of genitourinary disorders
Pelvic pain disorders (IC/PBS)
Genital prolapse
. Pathophysiology
. Diagnosis
. Treatment
Anal incontinence and rectal prolapse
. Pathophysiology
. Diagnosis
. Treatment
Clinical Expertise
On the basis of the learning objectives listed above (8.1) the resident must develop clinical expertise and skills in the following areas (specific skills are listed in appendix 2 and 3):
Diagnostic techniques
The trainee must understand the indications for, the technique of, and the interpretation of results the items listed in appendix 1.
Clinical skills objectives
The trainee should have acquired a high degree of clinical competence and skills to be able to make a clinical diagnosis, plan appropriate management and treat women with the clinical problems listed in appendix 2.
Medical therapy and surgical skills
The trainee must be fully conversant with the indications for, techniques of and complications surrounding the items listed in appendix 3.
Community care
The Obstetrician/Gynecologist will understand and interact with the role of the community nurse, community advisor and general practitioner in the detection and management of urinary and fecal incontinence and other pelvic floor disorders in the community. A knowledge of health care economics and resource availability within the community together with the provision of facilities such as caregivers comodes, enuresis alarms and laundry services must be understood.
It is to be recognized that specific skills necessary for the practice of urogynecology will vary in different parts of the world. The educational committee of IUGA acknowledges these regional differences and encourages regional boards to develop detailed guidelines tailored to the needs of the population served.

Appendix 1: Knowledge and Understanding
. Principles and interpretation of multichannel urodynamics
. Differential diagnosis of incontinence
. Normal and pathologic micturition
. Fistulas
. Effect of pelvic tumors on the urinary tract
. Pelvic floor and urinary tract anatomy
. Anatomy and physiology of anal incontinence and rectal prolapse
. Operations for incontinence and pelvic floor relaxation
. Postoperative care after surgery for incontinence and prolapse
. Evaluation and management of anorectal disorders
Appendix 1: Skills
Mandatory
. Detailed history
. Urinalysis
. Clinical examination including evaluation of pelvic floor function
. Clinical stress test
. Fitting of pessaries
. Management of pessaries
Encouraged
. Cystoscopy
. Evaluation of the upper urinary tract (ultrasound, xray, CT scan)
. Basic urodynamics

3- GUIDELINES FOR POST-GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL
OBJECTIVES FOR SUBSPECIALTY TRAINING IN FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE AND RECONSTRUCTIVE PELVIC SURGERY (FPMRPS)

Background
In order to improve the care given to women with disorders of the pelvic floor, to enhance medical knowledge and to enhance scientific research, several Boards and Colleges around the world have established guidelines for subspecialisation in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRPS). The International Urogynecological Association (IUGA), as the leading organization in this field, wishes to establish guidelines that will be universally acceptable to allow governing boards and licensing bodies on national levels to establish educational guidelines. By publishing universal guidelines IUGA tries to promote a high and global standard for care to women with pelvic floor disorders, to enhance scientific knowledge, and to encourage international dialogue between all healthcare providers involved with female health care.

Publications used in this paper: Guidelines for subspecialisation in Urogynecology (FPM) and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery of the following Boards and Colleges were used in this paper: Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG), German Society of Urogynecology, Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada (SOGC), American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG) and Royal Australian College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RACOG), European Urogynecological Association (EUGA)

In this paper the joint proposal for General and Special Requirements for the new subspecialty of Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and American Board of Urology has been incorporated.

Scope of these Requirements
The requirements in this paper provide optimal standards for subspecialisation. However, these requirements may differ between countries, depending on national laws and regulations. Each national organization or association in Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery, government or licensing body, may adjust these requirements to their national situation or law.

These guidelines will be updated or revised on a regular basis.

Objectives for Subspecialization
The following objectives are formulated for subspecialisation in FPMRPS.

- To improve the quality of care of women with pelvic floor disorders.
- To improve knowledge, practice, teaching and research.
- To promote the concentration of very specialized expertise, special facilities and clinical material that will be of considerable benefit to patients with female pelvic disorders and hence improve the quality of their care.
- To establish a close understanding and working relationship with other disciplines involved in the field of FPMRPS.
- To encourage coordinated management of relevant clinical services throughout a region.
- To accept a major regional responsibility for higher training, research and audit in the subspecialty fields.
- Fellowship recognized programs should be expected to promote
evidence-base medicine prior to the widespread clinical application of industry-driven new technology. These objectives may vary from country to country.

**Definition**

Subspecialists in Female Pelvic Medicine, Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery (FPMRPS) are defined as surgical clinicians either obstetricians/gynecologists or urologists who, by virtue of education and training, are prepared to provide consultation and comprehensive management of women with complex benign pelvic conditions, lower urinary tract disorders, and pelvic floor dysfunction*.

Comprehensive management includes those diagnostic and therapeutic procedures necessary for the total care of the patient with these conditions and complications resulting from them. Subspecialists in FPMRPS will have a detailed knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the pelvis, the contained viscera and the pathological processes affecting their function. They will have clinical competence in the investigation and treatment of the disorders of function of the lower urinary tract in women, pelvic floor and anorectal function. They should be in a position to establish and maintain a FPMRPS unit and should provide a referral service for women with complicated urinary and pelvic floor problems. They should be active in research and teaching and concerned with the management of women with intractable urinary and/or fecal incontinence, and persistent pelvic floor dysfunction.

**Requirements for Trainees**

In order to start subspecialisation in FPMRPS the following requirements are mandatory:

. Trainees should be qualified physicians, certified by their national Board as having successfully completed general residency training in obstetrics and gynecology or urology.
. The minimum requirements for entry into the clinical subspecialty of FPMRPS are dependant on national laws and regulations.
. The minimal requirement may vary from country to country.

**Length of Training and Registration as Subspecialist in FPMRPS**

. The length of subspecialist training is dependant on national laws and regulations. It is encouraged that this period include at least two years of clinical training and should include scientific research leading to peer-reviewed publication.
. The minimum requirements for recognition as a subspecialist in FPMRPS are dependant on national laws and regulations, which may include board examination and certification.
. In order to register as a subspecialist in FPMRPS the trainee should be able to demonstrate his or her skills by means of a list of performed diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, scientific publications and have the approval of the director of the training program to be recognized as subspecialist.

**Requirements for Training Centers in FPMRPS**

To be eligible for providing subspeciality training in FPMRPS a center must adhere to the following special and general requirements.

**Special Requirements**
provide a service for the referral and transfer of patients with urogynecological problems, with close collaboration with other gynecologists, family physicians, urologists, geriatrists, colorectal surgeons, or other primary care providers, within and outside the center;

- have an sufficient clinical workload. The center should have a wide range of urogynecological problems;
- have a well equipped urodynamic laboratory which included cystometry, urethral function tests, and cystourethroscopy;
- there must be easy access to neurophysiological testing equipment, ultrasound, videourodynamics and anorectal function studies;
- have close collaboration, including cross-referral of patients, with a consultant urologist, a consultant for medicine of the elderly, a colorectal surgeon, a neurologist, a continence nurse advisor, and an appropriately trained physiotherapist, all with definite commitments to the management of urogynecological, pelvic floor, sexual problems and pelvic pain, and
- have an active clinical research program in urogynecology for the trainee to access.

General Requirements
In addition to these special requirements the following general requirements must be met:

- have established close collaboration with other obstetricians and gynecologists within and outside the center, including major regional roles in continuing postgraduate education and training, research advice and coordination, and audit;

- have a program director who will coordinate the training program, accept the main responsibility for its supervision and be actively involved in it; when more than one center provides the program, there must be a supervisor at each center, with one having overall responsibility as director. Directors and supervisors will be consultants with special experience in FPMRPS, and with the eventual development of subspecialisation the directors and supervisors will themselves be trained and accredited subspecialists;

- have adequate medical staffing to enable the trainee to be engaged in his/her subspecialty field on a full-time basis (or in the case of a part-time trainee, during all of his/her normal working hours); participation in emergency and on-call work outside normal working hours is not excluded, subject to approval by the National Subspecialty Committee (applications for approval of training program should include an outline of the on-call commitments etc, but all trainees must have suitable experience of emergency and on-call work relevant to their subspecialty; and

- have adequate library, laboratory and other resources to support subspecialty work, training and research.

Certification of training centers in FPMRPS is carried out by the national government or the national licensing body, dependant of the national regulations or law. It is encouraged that approved programs be reviewed periodically, but not less frequently than every five years.

Training Program and Guide to Learning:
Theoretical Aspects:
The following advanced knowledge and skills should be acquired:
Anatomy and Embryology
- the bony pelvis
- all pelvic viscera
- the pelvic floor and endopelvic fascia
- the development of the urogenital system including congenital malformations
Physiology
- A detailed knowledge of the
physiology of the urinary tract, lower gastro-intestinal tract, pelvic floor and genital viscera.

Pharmacology
. the principles of pharmacology
. the pharmacology of chemical substances which act upon the pelvic organs

Pathophysiology
. The effects of pregnancy, parturition, menopause and ageing upon the pelvis and its organs. The effects of disease, both mental and physical upon the pelvic organs. The effects of surgery, trauma, and radiotherapy upon the pelvic organs.

Clinical Expertise
1- Diagnostic techniques:
The trainee must understand the indications for, the technique of, and the interpretation of results the items listed in appendix 1.

2- Clinical skills objectives:
The trainee should have acquired a high degree of clinical competence and skills to be able to make a clinical diagnosis, plan appropriate management and treat women with the clinical problems listed in appendix 2.

3- Medical therapy and surgical skills:
The trainee must be fully conversant with the indications for, techniques of and complications surrounding the items listed in appendix 3. In order to obtain these skills a modular attachment to other departments including Colorectal and Care of the Elderly in the same or another hospital are to be encouraged. A modular attachment to Urology must occur. The details of these modular attachments will vary depending upon national or local circumstances.

4- Community care:
The FPMRPS subspecialist will understand and interact with the role of the community nurse, community advisor and general practitioner in the detection and management of urinary and fecal incontinence and other pelvic floor disorders in the community. A knowledge of health care economics and resource availability within the community together with the provision of facilities such as caregivers comodes, enuresis alarms and laundry services must be understood.

5- Other Related Skills and Expertise
5.1- Epidemiology and research
The trainee should be familiar with the basics of epidemiology and statistics in order to interpret scientific literature and in order to design research trials that will encourage evidence based medicine.

5.2- Scientific meetings
The trainee should have the opportunity to attend and present their own research at appropriate scientific meetings of the training center and national meetings. Trainees should be encouraged to attend the annual meetings of the International Urogynecological Association, the International Continence Society, the American Urogynecologic Society and other relevant societies.

6- Teaching
The trainees should gain experience in teaching which will include:
. some responsibility for teaching medical students, interns, core residents, junior staff, general practitioners, nursing staff and midwives in their subspecialty area;
. full participation in the units postgraduate program with some administrative responsibility for organization of teaching in their subspecialty, to include scheduled teaching rounds and journal clubs;
. participation in the undergraduate teaching program; and
. gain experience of appraisal and assessment techniques.

7- Ethical and legal aspects
The trainee should be able to discuss the ethical and legal aspects of the clinical practice of this subspecialty within the scope of their national law and
regulations.

8- Administration
The trainee should be given some administrative experience and responsibility which will allow the development of skills relevant to the future provision and organization of clinical services. Types of relevant knowledge and experience are listed below:

. attendance at a management course;
. an understanding of health service organization and administrative and advisory structures;
. an understanding of the mechanisms of health care purchasing, provision of care, resource allocation and contractual issues relevant to the clinical service;
. be cognizant of the need for regional referral systems and role of tertiary service in health care provision;
. the system for managing hospital complaints; and
. know how to review a service and formulate a business plan.

9- Training Assessment
It is recommended that trainees keep record of their training in a Training Assessment Record Book. It is furthermore recommended that periodically (i.e. every six months) the training is being evaluated by the supervisor or the program director.

10- Certification
Designing and certification of the training program is carried out by the national government or the national licensing body, dependant of the national regulations or law. These international guidelines are designed to assist the individual national groups (or bodies).

Appendix 1: Diagnostic Techniques

. Subjective assessment including detailed history and quality of life measurement(s) (QoL).
. Clinical assessment of the patient including the pelvic organs, a prolapse grading system, pelvic floor tone and strength, an appropriate neurological examination, and a mobility-mental state assessment.
. Determination of residual urine
. Urinalysis and cytology of urine and the microbiology of the urogenital tract.
. Frequency-volume charts.
. Quantification of urine loss by pad or ambulatory studies.
. Uroflowmetry (simple and pressure/flow/emg)
. Cystometry – filling and voiding phases (simple and subtracted)
. Ambulatory cystometry
. Urethral function tests including urethral pressure profilometry, electrical conductance test, Q tip, and leak point pressures
. Perineometry
. Anal sensation and manometry.
. Imaging techniques ultrasound (transabdominal including upper tracts, transvaginal, perineal, introital, endo-anal, intraurethral and 3 D intraurethral) radiological (micturating cystograph, IVU, video cysourethroscopy, pelvic barium studies (defaecograph), image intensification, urethrogram, MRI, CT) nuclear medicine – isotope bowel transit studies cystourethroscopy including biopsy
. Electrophysiological studies
. Electromyography including Pudendal Terminal Motor Nerve Latency (PTMNL) test.
. Nerve conductant studies

Appendix 2: Clinical Skills Objectives

. Urinary incontinence due to genuine stress incontinence, detrusor overactivity (neurogenic and idiopathic), mixed incontinence, trauma and congenital abnormalities
. Voiding disorders and urinary retention
. Urinary frequency and urgency
. Pelvic pain
Appendix 3: Medical Therapy and Surgical Skills

Management Options

- Catheterization (urethral, suprapubic and clean intermittent self catheterization)
- Devices (mechanical and electronic)
- Aids, appliances, pants and pads

Non-surgical Treatment

- Urinary and GI tract disorders including incontinence
- Physiotherapeutic techniques and aids including biofeedback
- Electrical and magnetic therapy
- Behavioral therapy including bladder and bowel retraining and acupuncture
- Role of pharmacologic agents to treat pelvic floor disorders
- Role of hormonal therapy
- Role of bulking agents (for urinary and fecal incontinence)
- Role of intravesical botulin toxin.
- Role of Stem Cells.

Pessary fitting and management

Surgical Procedures

- Urethral dilatation
- Urethrotomy
- Suprapubic cystotomy
- Bladder neck buttress, Minimally invasive slings.
- Vaginal repair of genital tract prolapse including anterior colporrhaphy, posterior colpoperineorhaphy, vaginal hysterectomy and repair, enterocoele repair, Manchester repair, sacrospinous fixation, iliococcygeous fixation, uterosacral fixation, paravaginal repairs, Total vaginal mesh (TVM), use of various graft materials, Le Fort procedure/Colpocleisis.
- Vaginal and abdominal repair of primary and recurrent prolapse including sacrocolpopexy, rectopexy, uterosacral ligament plication, sacrohysteropexy, Moscowitz and Halban procedure colposuspension and similar suprapubic suspension operations (both open and through minimal invasive techniques)
- Laparoscopically-assisted vaginal hysterectomy (LAVH)
- Total and subtotal Laparoscopic Hysterectomy (TLH, sTLH)
- Sling procedures
- Long needle suspension procedures
- Para- and transurethral injection procedures
- Vaginal plastic surgery
- Implantation of artificial urinary sphincter
- Repair of vesico-vaginal, ureterovaginal, urethrovaginal, and rectovaginal fistulas
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. Martius graft technique and gracilis muscle technique.
. Augmentation cystoplasty
. Urinary diversion and undiversion
. Urethral diverticulectomy and excision of paraurethral cysts
. Urethral reconstruction
. Urethral closure techniques
. Rectal mucosal prolapse surgery (abdominal -Ripstein procedure, and rectal approach)
. Post-anal repair
. Anal sphincter repair – primary and secondary
. Artificial Anal Sphincter
. Sacral nerve stimulation and implantation
. Dynamic gracilis plasty
. Recognition and treatment of intra-operative bladder and bowel injuries.
. Natural Orifice Surgery (NOS)
. Robotic Surgery.
. Operative urethrocystoscopy (removal of mesh/sutures)

**Conclusion**
The Final Draft of these Guideline Proposals will be distributed to international and national societies, organizations, and governing boards in Obstetrics and Gynecology and other related specialties for their input and suggestions within a specified timeframe. The International Urogynecology Journal will publish the final Guidelines.