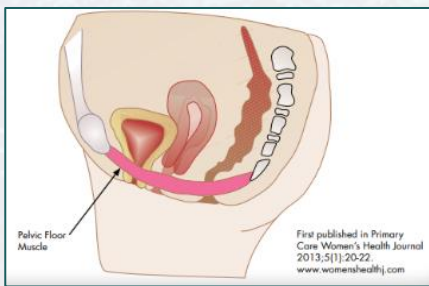


Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI)

What is Stress Urinary Incontinence?

Stress urinary incontinence (SUI) is defined as an involuntary leakage of urine during normal day to day activities. SUI is a very common bladder problem, especially amongst women which increases with age. SUI is thought to affect about one in three women during their lifetime.



Why does SUI occur?

Normally, the pelvic floor muscles hold the bladder and bowel in place and help to stop leaks. In SUI, leakage occurs due to the pelvic floor muscles or urinary sphincter being damaged or too weak to prevent urination when the bladder is under pressure, for example during physical activity, or actions such as laughing, sneezing or coughing.

What causes the pelvic floor muscles to weaken?

- Tissue and nerve damage during childbirth
- Increased abdominal pressure due to pregnancy or obesity
- Age-related weakening of the pelvic floor muscles
- Conditions causing chronic coughing or sneezing such as smoking, chronic bronchitis or asthma
- Hormonal deficiency and changes in menopause
- Chronic constipation
- In men, SUI can occur after prostate surgery

How common is SUI?

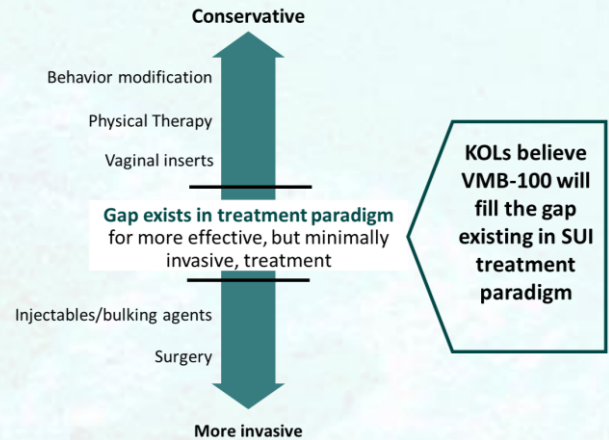
- Between 15% and 50% of adult women worldwide suffer from SUI¹
- The physical changes resulting from pregnancy, childbirth, and menopause are risk factors in the development of SUI¹
- There is currently no drug treatment approved that restores physiological bladder function and has a long-term effect¹

¹Primary research conducted by Informa Pharma Custom Intelligence

²<https://www.yalemedicine.org/conditions/urinary-incontinence>

What are the challenges in the management of this hard-to-treat disease?

- ✓ Interviews conducted with KOLs regarding SUI concluded the below:
- ✓ On average, KOLs examined 90 patients per month (with a maximum number of 200 patients for some). Only 34% of those affected by SUI seek treatment.
- ✓ KOLs believe addressing the stigma of SUI and expanding education will help increase the number of patients seeking medical treatment.
- ✓ Many KOLs say the gold standard of care in SUI is suburethral slings (suspended in UK due to severe complications suffered by patients)¹



	<p>Intermediary therapies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is a lack of effective therapies between physiotherapy and surgery ▪ Bulking agents largely occupy the intermediary space in the US, but these leave behind foreign material in the patient. They are not used in Europe.
	<p>In-office use agents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimally invasive procedures are required
	<p>Drug-based approaches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No drugs are approved in the US for SUI ▪ EU physicians do not use approved drug duloxetine to treat SUI due to low effectiveness and side effects, which would result in treatment discontinuation

How is SUI currently treated?

Depending on the cause and severity of urinary incontinence, both surgical and nonsurgical treatment options are available to patients.

Nonsurgical treatments include behavioural changes such as pelvic floor muscle exercises, weight loss as well as incontinence pads. Office procedures, such as injectable therapy or minimally invasive outpatient procedures—including suburethral slings and nerve stimulation—are also available.

Patients who still suffer from bladder issues after multiple treatment options have failed might be eligible for a clinical trial, designed to test new, experimental treatments.²

Additional Resources/ Charities/Organisations for support

- Support in Continence - www.supportincontinence.org
- World Federation for Incontinence and Pelvic Problems - www.wfipp.org
- Bladder & Bowel Organisation - www.bladderandbowel.org
- Bladder Health UK - www.bladderhealthuk.org
- Bladder & Bowel Community - www.bladderandbowel.org
- The Urology Foundation - www.theurologyfoundation.org
- Urology Care Foundation - www.urologyhealth.org
- American Urological Association - www.auanet.org
- The Simon Foundation for Continence - www.simonfoundation.org
- International Continence Society - www.ics.org
- Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Blasenschwäche - www.inkontinex.ch

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