



Male Slings for Post-Prostatectomy Incontinence: A Literature Review

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Introduction

- ▶ Male slings are surgical implants used to treat male stress urinary incontinence (SUI), commonly after prostate surgery.
- ▶ There are two main types: Adjustable and Fixed.
- ▶ Both types aim to reposition the bulbar urethra to improve coaptation and reduce leakage..

Reference: Bole, Translational Andrology and Urology, 2024

Efficacy and Continence Outcomes

- ▶ The cure rates for male slings range from 50% to 70%.
- ▶ Fixed slings generally report a cure rate of about 50%, whereas adjustable slings show a slightly higher success rate of around 61%.
- ▶ The AdVance fixed sling shows a higher early success rate (80-87%) but declines over time..

Reference: Hüscher, Translational Andrology and Urology, 2024

Adjustable vs Fixed Slings

- ▶ Adjustable slings show slightly better cure rates (~61%) but come with higher complication rates such as infection and explantation.
- ▶ Fixed slings are preferred for mild-to-moderate SUI due to their lower complication rates..

Reference: Frontiers, Frontiers in Surgery, 2024

Transobturator vs Retropubic Slings

- ▶ Transobturator slings (e.g., Argus) offer better continence outcomes with fewer explantation rates compared to retropubic approaches, especially for patients with moderate incontinence..

Reference: Bole, PMC, 2024

Complications and Safety

- ▶ Common complications include urinary retention, pain, infection, and explantation.
- ▶ Adjustable slings tend to have higher complication rates compared to fixed slings.
- ▶ Retention and perineal pain are common with fixed slings..

Reference: Hüscher, Translational Andrology and Urology, 2024

Patient Satisfaction and Quality of Life

- ▶ Satisfaction rates for male slings range from 62%-100%, with the highest satisfaction found in patients achieving continence.
- ▶ Even partial improvement (e.g., 50% pad reduction) is positively viewed by many patients..

Reference: Bole, Translational Andrology and Urology, 2024

Comparison with Artificial Urinary Sphincter

- ▶ The artificial urinary sphincter (AUS) provides slightly better continence for severe cases, but male slings are less invasive and preferred for mild-to-moderate SUI.
- ▶ AUS has a higher complication rate and requires a mechanical pump..

Reference: *Frontiers, Frontiers in Surgery*, 2024

Conclusions

- ▶ Male slings offer an effective and less invasive alternative to AUS for patients with mild-to-moderate post-prostatectomy urinary incontinence.
- ▶ Further research is needed to directly compare these therapies in larger patient populations..

Reference: Bole, Translational Andrology and Urology, 2024

References

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- ▶ 3. *Frontiers*, Current status of the adjustable transobturator male system (ATOMSTM) for male stress urinary incontinence, 2024.
- ▶ 4. Bole, AdVance™ male sling for stress urinary incontinence: Long-term follow-up and patient satisfaction. *PMC*, 2024.