# Pathway Guide – Pelvic Organ Prolapse

## Patient presents with Pelvic Organ Prolapse. Initial assessment to include:

### History:

- Prolapse history (mechanical symptoms, lump, bulge, obstruction, pressure, back ache)
- Urinary history (frequency, nocturia, urgency, stress incontinence, urge incontinence, voiding symptoms)
- Bowel symptoms (constipation, digitation/splinting, faecal incontinence, tenesmus)
- Sexual Function (sexual activity, dyspareunia, obstruction, incontinence)

- Obstetric / Gynaecological / Surgical history
- Past medical history, co-morbidities and BMI

#### **Examination:**

- Abdominal, speculum and bimanual examination of pelvis to exclude pelvic masses.
- Assessment of prolapse (NB: an incidental finding of prolapse in an asymptomatic patient does not require treatment)
- Consider rectal examination.

#### Investigations:

- Urinalysis (+/- MSU if indicated) ONLY IF HAS URINARY SX
- 3 Day Bladder Diary (IN:OUT) If urinary SX
- Consider USS for post void residual if urinary SX
  - Consider FBC, U&Es if severe prolapse with risk of ureteric obstruction

#### **Conservative management in Primary Care:**

- Weight loss, address co-morbidities and precipitants
- Manage constipation
- Prescribe vaginal oestrogen if atrophy, recurrent UTI's or pessary used
- Reassurance and watchful waiting if mild symptoms (advise pelvic floor muscle exercises)
- Consider ring pessary
- Bladder retraining and fluid modification
- Anticholinergics and/or Mirabegron

### Follow up assessment after 3 months

- Continue management if effective
- Consider referral for physiotherapy or continence advisor if ineffective

#### Referral to Urogynaecologist if:

Patient is willing to consider surgery with

- Persistent symptomatic prolapse with reduced quality of life despite conservative management and/or
- Prolapse beyond introitus or worsening prolapse despite conservative measures

**NB:** Give patient NHS/BSUG Patient information on "Surgery for Prolapse" (see below). Where appropriate the patient should be made aware that they may need to engage in a weight loss and exercise programme.

It is essential also that patients complete an ePAQ questionnaire prior to a consultation in order for a full assessment to be made. Saint Mary's will send patients the questionnaire to complete up acceptance of referral. However, patients will not receive an appointment until this has been completed

## **Patient Information**

**NHS Website** 

# **National Guidance**

**NICE Pelvic Organ Prolapse**