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Use of Synthetic Mesh (sling) In The Treatment Of Stress Urinary Incontinence

There has been a lot of discussion in the media about the use of synthetic material (mesh) in the treatment of the female bladder problems. While there is still some debate about the use of mesh for prolapse repair, the use of sling has been universally supported.

I agree with FDA and many other medical organizations which have released statements supporting the use of synthetic mesh (sling) in the treatment of SUI. Therefore, I am quoting below from American Urological Association:

POSITION STATEMENT ON THE USE OF VAGINAL MESH FOR THE

SURGICAL TREATMENT OF STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE

"Suburethral synthetic polypropylene mesh sling placement is the most common surgery currently performed for SUI. Extensive data exists to support the use of synthetic polypropylene mesh suburethral slings for the treatment of female SUI, with minimal morbidity compared with alternative surgeries. Advantages include shorter operative time/anesthetic need, reduced surgical pain, reduced hospitalization, and reduced voiding dysfunction. Mesh-related complications can occur following polypropylene sling placement, but the rate of these complications is acceptably low. Furthermore, it is important to recognize that many sling-related complications are not unique to mesh surgeries and are known to occur with non-mesh sling procedures as well. It is the AUA's opinion that any restriction of the use of synthetic polypropylene mesh sub urethral slings would be a disservice to women who choose surgical correction of SUI.

Multiple case series and randomized controlled trials attest to the efficacy of synthetic polypropylene mesh slings at 5-10 years. This efficacy is equivalent or superior to other surgical techniques. There is no significant increase in adverse events observed over this period of follow-up."

If you still unsure about the proposed surgery please talk to me before the procedure. You may also want to read FDA and AUA statements on the web:

http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/AlertsandNotices/ucm262435.htm