



# Mid-urethral sling (Mesh) Procedures for Stress Urinary Incontinence – on the Downward Trend?

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## Introduction

The use of mesh for the management of urinary incontinence and pelvic organ prolapse has been surrounded by controversy following significant adverse outcomes in women and subsequent senate inquiry in 2017.

## Aims

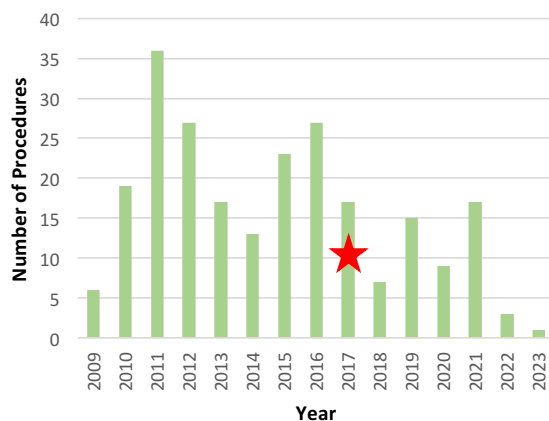
To investigate the trend of mid-urethral sling (mesh) procedures in the management of female urinary stress incontinence at a regional hospital in Queensland.

## Methods

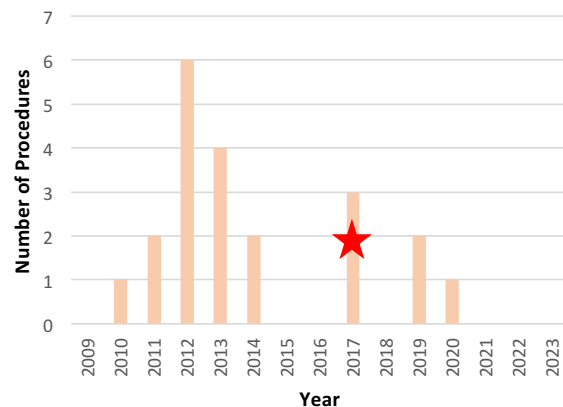
Retrospective review of case notes of all women who underwent a procedure utilising mesh for stress urinary incontinence from 2009 to 2023 performed by gynaecologists and urologists.

## Results

### Gynaecology



### Urology



## Discussion

These results show clear reduction in the number of mesh procedures performed, timed with the events of the class action and senate inquiry. It is very difficult to ascertain whether this impact is reflected in other regional centres. It would be interesting to determine the trends in tertiary units. Finally, we do not have any nation-wide management strategies or clear referral pathways for alternate management; such as, bulking agents, colposuspension or fascial slings.