

11 June 2025

Mesh Operations

Question 1

In relation to the stipulation, "All data will be entered onto either the BSUG or BAUS database", please state

- (i) In which years data has been submitted, and indicate the database(s) which have received the submissions
- (ii) The number of operations entered per specialist in each of the three areas of expertise, in total and per year
- (iii) If no data has been submitted, please provide an explanation in plain English for the justification of non-submission
- (iv) If data has been submitted relating to the relevant operations but on the basis of individual surgeon submissions rather than the Belfast Trust, please provide that data and an explanation
- (v) Please provide a blank copy of the data entry form and any guidance provided on how to enter the data for (a) BSUG and (b) BAUS database

Since the NHSE Commissioning of MESH Centres by the Department of Health in Northern Ireland in March 2020 registration has not been operational .

There has been no data entered into British Society for Urogynaecology (BSUG) or British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) database as Belfast Trust await the regional introduction of the MESH Registry.

Question 2 - Adverse incident reports

In relation to the "report all adverse incidents to MHRA" stipulation, please state:

- (i) The number of adverse incidents reported as a total, and a breakdown year/number.

Originally Belfast Trust aligned all MESH related cases to one adverse incident report due to the commonality of the clinical cases.

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Patients with MESH insertion in other Trusts have been treated in Belfast and were initially included in listed cases, however many patients self-referred or were referred by their GPs.

There have been no direct MHRA reports from Belfast Trust on the subject of MESH.

Question 3 - De minimis MDT discussion

In relation to stipulation on the de minimis framework for MDT discussion, please confirm that the de minimum is met and where this information is entered in the patient records.

All patients are discussed at the Regional Mesh Multidisciplinary Meeting (MDM) and this discussion is recorded in the individual patients' medical records on Northern Ireland Electronic Care Record and now in the digital medical record (encompass) for each patient.

Question 4 - Patient Information leaflets

In December 2019 the Trust informed that at that time there was no standardised information leaflets for full transobturator mesh removal with groin dissections.

The indication was that information leaflets were 'in development'

Please provide:

(i) The printed patient information leaflets provided to patients as part of the informed consent procedures prior to mesh related surgeries

(ii) The date of publication of each of these leaflets if it is not evident on the leaflet.

Belfast Trust gynaecology service use a standard Trust pre-operative consent process. In addition a patient is provided with a relevant leaflet pertinent to their clinical condition, each of these leaflets are agreed and published by the BSUG for the NHS.

1. Title: Removal of Abdominal mesh for Pelvic organ prolapse and rectal prolapse
2. Title: Removal of a retro pubic mesh sling
3. Title: Removal of vaginal mesh for prolapse
4. Title: Removal of a trans-obturator mesh sling or single incision mini-sling