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Guideline Proposal

Empty pelvis syndrome: PelvEx Collaborative guideline proposal

PelvEx Collaborative

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Members of the PelvEx Collaborative are co-authors of this study and are listed under the heading Collaborators.

Empty pelvis syndrome is a complex challenge resulting from the dead space generated by exenteration. A systematic review of reconstructive techniques to prevent empty pelvis syndrome cited inconsistent definitions and heterogeneous outcome reporting, and was therefore unable to make strong conclusions in favour of a particular strategy[1]. The severity of complications escalates with more radical surgery as boundaries are pushed[2,3]. The guidelines proposed here will establish standardized definitions, outcomes, descriptors, patient perspectives, and unmet needs.

The study will be conducted on behalf of the PelvEx Collaborative, an international group of 140 units from around the world; see the Collaborators section. Diverse patient representation will be sought in liaison with Bowel Research UK, CommunitiesFirst, and the World Federation of Incontinence and Pelvic Problems. The design is a three-stage consensus study design using Core Outcome Measures in Effectiveness Trials (COMET) and COnsensus-based Standards for the selection of health Measurement INstruments (COSMIN) guidance.

Collaborators

PelvEx Collaborative

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Data availability

Not applicable.

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