

Observational multicentered study shows that two thirds of women with stress urinary incontinence choose Bulkamid® when offered a choice

December 2019: Results of the “Voice your choice” study, which evaluated women’s choice of surgery for primary stress urinary incontinence (SUI) were published in the International Urogynecological Journal last month. This was part of the wider ongoing Latitude Study which is a multi-centre observational study in the UK to investigate the long-term effectiveness of the urethral bulking agent, Bulkamid, as a primary treatment for SUI.

The “Voice your choice” study was conducted before the pause on the use of tapes was introduced in England. It found when women, in a real clinical situation, across 12 hospitals were offered a choice of four treatments for primary SUI, namely Bulkamid, mid-urethral slings (MUS), autologous fascial slings and colposuspension, Bulkamid was the most popular choice (64%). More details on the study can be found at: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00192-019-04202-6>

Commenting on the results, Ieva Ankorina Stark, Chief Scientific Officer of Contura said: ***“This is the first study to investigate under a real-life clinical setting, the factors women consider important when choosing an operation for primary SUI. The study found that although success was important, this was balanced against the perceived “invasiveness” and “risk” of the procedure.”***

The study also found that women expressed a hierarchical framework in their approach to the treatment for SUI. These women first wished to try Bulkamid, being a low-risk simple procedure with a short recovery. They accepted that if that treatment were to fail, they may need further treatment at a later date. Such hierarchical approaches to treatment are common in other areas of medicine.

Rakesh Tailor, Director of Contura commented: ***“The importance of this publication is that it begins to suggest that Bulkamid should be offered as part of a hierarchical treatment pathway for women with SUI before the mid-urethral sling, in the spirit of primum non nocere.”***

About Bulkamid

Bulkamid is a soft hydrogel that consists of 2.5% polyacrylamide and 97.5% water. Once injected, Bulkamid provides additional volume to the urethra and acts as a scaffold for cells to grow through, helping to provide long lasting relief of SUI symptoms.

About Female Stress Urinary Incontinence

SUI is very common among women of all ages and increases with age. Other contributing factors include childbirth, obesity or some form of a pelvic floor disorder. SUI is caused by a weakness in the pelvic floor, preventing the urethra (the tube that urine comes out of) from closing fully when sudden pressure is put on the bladder. This can allow urine to leak out during normal daily activities for example when coughing, laughing, walking or exercising.

About Contura

Contura is headquartered in London and has its manufacturing facility in Copenhagen, Denmark. It specialises in the distribution and sale of healthcare products, both pharmaceuticals and medical devices, focused primarily in women's health. Its lead products are Bulkamid[®], Aquamid[®], Regurin[®] XL and Cystistat[®]. It also has a number of ongoing development programmes focused upon additional uses of its proprietary hydrogel technology, such as Arthrosamid[®] for the treatment of osteoarthritis in the knee. Contura has an established sales and marketing infrastructure in the leading European and worldwide markets, either through its own sales force or through distribution partners. It has its own offices in the UK, Denmark, Germany, France and Italy, currently employing around 50 staff worldwide.

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