

# Sexual status in women with pelvic floor disorders

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## **HYPOTHESIS / AIMS OF STUDY**

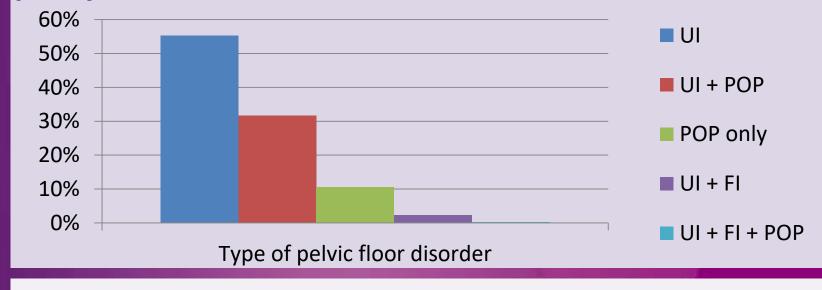
Pelvic floor disorders (PFD) may affect the sexual function of women. The study aims at evaluating the sexual activity status of women who presented for pelvic floor disorders.

### STUDY DESIGN, MATERIALS AND METHODS:

This is retrospective analysis of a prospective study, namely Chinese validation of Pelvic Floor Distress **Inventory (PFDI) and Pelvic Floor Impact Questionnaire** (PFIQ). All Chinese women presented to the **Urogynaecology clinic for PFD were recruited. Written** consent was obtained. Demographic data including their sexual activity status, being sexually active or inactive, and co-morbidity of diabetes mellitus and hypertension, were collected. They filled in the Chinese PFDI and PFIQ to determine their symptoms and bothersome of PFD. **Gynaecological examination was performed and stage** of pelvic organ prolapse (POP) was assessed by pelvic organ prolapse quantification (POP-Q). Ethics approval was obtained. (CREC-2007.437)

#### **RESULTS:**

In all, 597 women were recruited; 529 (88.6%) provided the information on sexual status. The mean age of these women was 54.5±11.1 years (range 23-87 years) and parity was 2.6±1.4.



The characteristics of the women were listed in table 1. Table 2 showed the factors associated with the sexual status of women. Higher age, being menopause, hypertension, symptoms of POP and more advanced stage of POP were factors predicting women who were sexually inactive. Urinary incontinence and coital incontinence did not predict women being sexually inactive. PFDI scores and having diabetes mellitus were not associated with the sexual status.

After multivariate analysis, only higher age was an independent factors for women being sexually inactive (OR 0.9, 95% CI 0.87-0.93, P<0.005), while women who had a higher parity was an independent factor for being sexually active (OR 1.3, 95% CI 1.04-1.62, P=0.02).

#### **INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:**

Although higher age, symptoms of POP, more advanced stage of POP, menopausal status and comorbidity of hypertension were associated with sexually inactivity of women, only higher age was an independent factor (OR 0.9). Having coital incontinence did not affect women being sexually inactive. PFDI scores were not associated with sexual activity of women.

#### **CONCLUDING MESSAGE:**

Symptoms of pelvic floor disorders, stage of POP, PFDI scores were not independent factors for sexual status of women. Higher age is an independent factor for women being sexually inactive (OR 0.9)

### **DISCLOSURE:**

None.

Table 1. The characteristics and symptoms of women with pelvic floor disorders

	All	UI or urinary	UI and POP	POP only	UI and FI	UI, FI and POP
		symptoms only	group		group	group
	N = 529	(n=292)	(n=167)	(n=56)	(n=12)	(n=2)
Age (years)	54.5±11.1	50.2±9.7	60.0±10.0	61.0±11.5	54.0±9.4	60.0±1.4
Menopause	297 (56.1%)	129 (44.2%)	119 (71.3%)	41 (73.2%)	6 (50%)	2 (100%)
Parity	2.6±1.4	2.2±1.2	3.0±1.4	3.4±1.8	2.5±1.2	3.0
No. of vaginal birth	2.6±1.4	2.2±1.2	2.9±1.5	3.4±1.6	2.4±1.1	3.0
Coital incontinence	26 (4.9%)	23 (7.9%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (1.8%)	0	1 (50%)
Sexually active	265 (50.1%)	176 (60.3%)	64 (38.3%)	20 (35.7%)	5 (41.7%)	0

Table 2. Factors predicting the women being sexually active											
Sexually	Sexually	P	Univariate analysis			Multivariate analysis					
active	inactive										
n = 265	n = 264		OR	95% CI	Р	OR	95% CI	Р			
49.7±8.8	59.4±11.1	< 0.005	0.91	0.87-0.93	< 0.005	0.90	0.87-0.93	< 0.005			
2.3±1.2	2.8±1.6	< 0.005	0.76	0.66-0.86	<0.005	1.3	1.04-1.62	0.02			
107 (40.4%)	190 (72.0%)	< 0.005	0.26	0.18-0.38	< 0.005	0.64	0.41-1.01	0.055			
28 (10.6%)	45 (17.0%)	0.03	0.46	0.16-1.38	0.17	-	-	-			
60 (22.6%)	92 (34.8%)	0.002	0.55	0.37-0.80	0.002	1.61	0.99-2.61	0.054			
245 (92.5%)	228 (86.4%)	0.023	1.93	1.1-3.4	0.025	0.99	0.48-2.02	0.969			
84 (31.7%)	141 (53.4%)	< 0.005	0.41	0.28-0.58	< 0.005	0.96	0.60-1.54	0.863			
5 (1.9%)	9 (3.4%)	0.28	-	-	_	-	-	-			
22 (8.3%)	4 (1.5%)	< 0.005	3.66	1.1-12.7	0.04	2.86	0.27-30.3	0.384			
		< 0.005	0.27	0.14-0.52	<0.005	0.47	0.22-1.02	0.057			
252 (95.1%)	222 (84.1%)										
13 (4.9%)	42 (15.9%)										
81.8±46.8	79.1±56.7	0.55	-	-	-	-	-	-			
80.2±50.0	82.5±64.6	0.64	-	-	-	-	-	-			
78.6±61.9	80.1±72.9	0.81	-	-	-	-	-	-			
	Sexually active n = 265 49.7±8.8 2.3±1.2 107 (40.4%) 28 (10.6%) 60 (22.6%) 245 (92.5%) 84 (31.7%) 5 (1.9%) 22 (8.3%)  252 (95.1%) 13 (4.9%)  81.8±46.8 80.2±50.0	Sexually active       Sexually inactive         n = 265       n = 264         49.7±8.8       59.4±11.1         2.3±1.2       2.8±1.6         107 (40.4%)       190 (72.0%)         28 (10.6%)       45 (17.0%)         60 (22.6%)       92 (34.8%)         245 (92.5%)       228 (86.4%)         84 (31.7%)       141 (53.4%)         5 (1.9%)       9 (3.4%)         22 (8.3%)       4 (1.5%)         252 (95.1%)       222 (84.1%)         13 (4.9%)       42 (15.9%)         81.8±46.8       79.1±56.7         80.2±50.0       82.5±64.6	Sexually active         Sexually inactive           n = 265         n = 264           49.7±8.8         59.4±11.1         <0.005           2.3±1.2         2.8±1.6         <0.005           107 (40.4%)         190 (72.0%)         <0.005           28 (10.6%)         45 (17.0%)         0.03           60 (22.6%)         92 (34.8%)         0.002           245 (92.5%)         228 (86.4%)         0.023           84 (31.7%)         141 (53.4%)         <0.005           5 (1.9%)         9 (3.4%)         0.28           22 (8.3%)         4 (1.5%)         <0.005           252 (95.1%)         222 (84.1%)         <0.005           252 (95.1%)         222 (84.1%)         <0.005           81.8±46.8         79.1±56.7         0.55           80.2±50.0         82.5±64.6         0.64	Sexually active         Sexually inactive         P         Understand           n = 265         n = 264         OR           49.7±8.8         59.4±11.1         <0.005         0.91           2.3±1.2         2.8±1.6         <0.005         0.76           107 (40.4%)         190 (72.0%)         <0.005         0.26           28 (10.6%)         45 (17.0%)         0.03         0.46           60 (22.6%)         92 (34.8%)         0.002         0.55           245 (92.5%)         228 (86.4%)         0.023         1.93           84 (31.7%)         141 (53.4%)         <0.005         0.41           5 (1.9%)         9 (3.4%)         0.28         -           22 (8.3%)         4 (1.5%)         <0.005         3.66           <0.005         0.27           252 (95.1%)         222 (84.1%)          <0.005         0.27           81.8±46.8         79.1±56.7         0.55             80.2±50.0         82.5±64.6         0.64         -	Sexually active         Sexually inactive         P         Univariate and u	Sexually active         Sexually inactive         P         Univariate analysis           n = 265         n = 264         OR         95% CI         P           49.7±8.8         59.4±11.1         <0.005         0.91         0.87-0.93         <0.005           2.3±1.2         2.8±1.6         <0.005         0.76         0.66-0.86         <0.005           107 (40.4%)         190 (72.0%)         <0.005         0.26         0.18-0.38         <0.005           28 (10.6%)         45 (17.0%)         0.03         0.46         0.16-1.38         0.17           60 (22.6%)         92 (34.8%)         0.002         0.55         0.37-0.80         0.002           245 (92.5%)         228 (86.4%)         0.023         1.93         1.1-3.4         0.025           84 (31.7%)         141 (53.4%)         <0.005         0.41         0.28-0.58         <0.005           5 (1.9%)         9 (3.4%)         0.28         -         -         -           22 (8.3%)         4 (1.5%)         <0.005         3.66         1.1-12.7         0.04           <0.005         0.27         0.14-0.52         <0.005           252 (95.1%)         222 (84.1%)          -         -         -	Sexually active         Sexually inactive         P         Univariate analysis         Mu           n = 265         n = 264         OR         95% Cl         P         OR           49.7±8.8         59.4±11.1         <0.005         0.91         0.87-0.93         <0.005         0.90           2.3±1.2         2.8±1.6         <0.005         0.76         0.66-0.86         <0.005         1.3           107 (40.4%)         190 (72.0%)         <0.005         0.26         0.18-0.38         <0.005         0.64           28 (10.6%)         45 (17.0%)         0.03         0.46         0.16-1.38         0.17         -           60 (22.6%)         92 (34.8%)         0.002         0.55         0.37-0.80         0.002         1.61           245 (92.5%)         228 (86.4%)         0.023         1.93         1.1-3.4         0.025         0.99           84 (31.7%)         141 (53.4%)         <0.005         0.41         0.28-0.58         <0.005         0.96           5 (1.9%)         9 (3.4%)         0.28         -         -         -         -         -           22 (8.3%)         4 (1.5%)         <0.005         3.66         1.1-12.7         0.04         2.86	Sexually active         Sexually inactive         P         Univariate analysis         Multivariate analysis           n = 265         n = 264         OR         95% CI         P         OR         95% CI           49.7±8.8         59.4±11.1         <0.005         0.91         0.87-0.93         <0.005         0.90         0.87-0.93           2.3±1.2         2.8±1.6         <0.005         0.76         0.66-0.86         <0.005         1.3         1.04-1.62           107 (40.4%)         190 (72.0%)         <0.005         0.26         0.18-0.38         <0.005         0.64         0.41-1.01           28 (10.6%)         45 (17.0%)         0.03         0.46         0.16-1.38         0.17         -         -           60 (22.6%)         92 (34.8%)         0.002         0.55         0.37-0.80         0.002         1.61         0.99-2.61           245 (92.5%)         228 (86.4%)         0.023         1.93         1.1-3.4         0.025         0.99         0.48-2.02           84 (31.7%)         141 (53.4%)         <0.005         0.41         0.28-0.58         <0.005         0.96         0.60-1.54           5 (1.9%)         9 (3.4%)         0.28         -         -         -         -			

Data are presented in mean±standard deviation or number (percentage)

CRADI Colorectal Distress Inventory, FI faecal incontinence, PFDI Pelvic Floor Distress Inventory, POP pelvic organ prolapse, POPDI Pelvic Organ Prolapse Distress Inventory, UDI Urinary Distress Inventory