



# Division of Suburethral Sling/ Trimming of Mesh

urogynaecology patient  
information

*Following your surgery for treatment of incontinence, you may have developed difficulty in passing urine, poor stream of urine, or erosion of the surgical mesh into your tissues. Division of sling or trimming of the vaginal mesh are procedures used to reverse these symptoms of voiding dysfunction. They are performed as day surgeries.*

## What is a division of suburethral sling?

Division of the tape is performed under a general anaesthesia in the operating theatre. This allows better view of the precise area that is to be divided or removed. It is usually a very small area of the tape being exposed or you have developed problems emptying your bladder and being on the anterior wall of the vagina it is very difficult to perform this in an outpatient setting.

## What does it involve?

There is a very small incision on the front wall of the vagina and once the tape is trimmed or divided 1 or 2 small stitches are used to close the incision. These will dissolve in usually 2 to 3 weeks. You may experience some vaginal bleeding during this period of time but it should only be spotting.

## What is trimming of vaginal mesh?

Trimming of the vaginal mesh is performed under a general anaesthesia in the operating theatre. This allows better access to the area of mesh that needs to be trimmed.

## What does it involve?

A small incision is made in the area of mesh rejection and the mesh is trimmed. 1 to 2 stitches are used depending on the incision. These will dissolve in usually 2 to 3 weeks. You may experience some vaginal bleeding during this period of time but it should only be spotting.

## After the Procedure

If this procedure is being performed within 6 weeks post operatively you need to continue with the normal post op recommendations.

If this procedure is being performed after 6 weeks you will be able to return to work in 1 to 2 days depending on your recovery from the anaesthetic. There are no restrictions on normal everyday activities but you should abstain from intercourse or the use of tampons for 2 weeks to allow the vaginal incision to heal and stitches to dissolve.

The mesh trimming procedure will not interfere with the result of your previous surgery while division of the sling has shown to not affect continence in over 95% cases. You will be reviewed in the clinic 4 to 6 weeks's after this procedure.

Your doctor will be happy to discuss any concerns that you may have regarding this operation.

I have read this information leaflet and understand its contents.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE BRING THIS DOCUMENT WITH YOU AT THE TIME OF ADMISSION FOR YOUR OPERATION**

\*It is important to check with your insurance company, re driving your car as each company has different policies on driving and surgery.