



IUGA Image Library Policy

Purpose

The aim of this project is to create an image bank on the main pathologies sought by urogynecologists on imaging (both perineal and endorectal ultrasound and MRI) and photographs e.g., abnormal cystoscopic findings, abnormal urodynamic findings, perineal dermatological pathologies.

The goal of an IUGA image bank is to collect informative images of imaging examinations in urogynecology, to validate them by a group of experts, and then to make them available to the scientific community for the purposes of initial training and continuing education. The benefit of this library to IUGA members is to have access to accurate images validated by a group of experts.

There is no equivalent library in the field of urogynecology. This project is a collaborative initiative of the Education Committee and Terminology and Standardization Committee with input from the Pelvic Floor Imaging SIG.

Process

A specific subcommittee of the Education Committee will be created for review and organization of received images. The subcommittee will be chaired by a member of the Education Committee and will include 2 additional members of the Education Committee, 3 members of the Terminology & Standardization Committee, and 3 members from the Pelvic Floor Imaging Special Interest Group. Members will serve on the subcommittee for the duration of their term on their respective committee (3-year term for SIG members on the subcommittee).

An open request to members will be made to contribute images to the library. Use of data and images will require patient consent (form may need to be available in several languages). The image submitted will provide standardized information including a brief history/histology, etc. for background, including specific technical details such as type of machine and settings.

When submitting images, one agrees to transfer copyright of the work to IUGA. If the work has been published before, it is your responsibility to obtain permission to have the work published on the IUGA website.

Contents

Ultrasound (both perineal and endorectal) and MRI images, (possibly short video) on the main pathologies sought by urogynecologists - simple and complex/recurrent POPs, pelvic-perineal muscle pathologies, complications of surgery, abnormal cystoscopic findings, abnormal urodynamic findings, perineal dermatological pathologies.

Criteria for choosing images:

- urogynecological pathology (both frequent or rare)
- good quality
- adequate format
- image title / description according to the IUGA Terminology
- significant educational impact

Images should be available in digital format, such as JPEG, and short videos in MP4.

Images will be classified either by the type of imaging and the type of pathology.

Categories are:

- Cystogram obstetric vesico-vaginal fistula
- Cystoscopy
- Hunner's ulcers
- Incontinence
- Levator ani trauma
- Meshes, slings or other implants
- Obstetrics
- Prolapse
- Urethral/bladder/renal pathologies
- Urodynamics
- Vaginal Cystoscopy
- Vulval Pathology
- Other

Images to be reviewed by the subcommittee with approval by more than 50% of members at the review meeting required for acceptance. In the event of a tie, the chair will make the final decision. Opinion from other expert IUGA members may also be requested. We plan a simple search mechanism to access images.

Duration

The development of the image bank will be a continuous process to enable collection of images from innovative technologies. The complete bank will need to be reviewed for ongoing relevance every two years by the existing sub-committee.

Contributors and users

Contributors to image bank are IUGA members - urogynecologists, urologists or gynecologists, who do not need to be members of the subcommittee. Contributors will have to declare no copyright on each image sent and to declare if image has already been published in a peer review journal.

All IUGA members will be able to use images both for initial training and continuing education. Images could be used as an illustration in courses or lecture or included in scientific articles and textbooks provided acknowledgement is given to the IUGA Image Library.

The original contributor of the image is unable to use the particular image in presentations, articles etc. without acknowledgement to IUGA however any other images of the case or pathology can be used. When the submitter transfers images, he/she confirms to transfer copyright of the work to IUGA. If the work has been published before, it is your responsibility to obtain permission to have the work published on the IUGA website.