

INTERNATIONAL UROGYNECOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (IUGA)/ AMERICAN UROGYNECOLOGIC SOCIETY (AUGS)/ JOINT REPORT ON THE TERMINOLOGY FOR COSMETIC GYNECOLOGY- CALL FOR WRITING GROUP MEMBERS

We are seeking 5-6 volunteers (including a Chair) to serve on a Writing Group to help establish standardized terminology for cosmetic gynecological procedures and surgeries and to define good practice in the field. This will be a joint publication with AUGS.

At present, there are no universally agreed upon, evidence-based terms for the surgical procedures related to cosmetic gynecology. This paper will define terms and clearly and specifically describe each procedure including materials and instruments used. Each term must indicate to researchers, clinicians, and learners a specific and reliable set of steps.

Procedures to be included in the paper are aesthetic procedures of the mons pubis and vulva, aesthetic procedures of the labia minora and clitoral hood, and aesthetic procedures of the vagina. The paper will also address the importance of the assessment of patients motivation for treatment, the need to ensure realistic expectations, the opportunity to be referred for psychological evaluation, providing patient education on normal (range of) anatomy, the need for informed consent to be re-confirmed on day of procedure, and the need for a cooling off period between initial consultation & procedure. The paper will also focus on research outcomes by reviewing and listing current clinical outcome tools and developing psychometrically validated patient reported outcome tools.

Support from IUGA staff will be provided. The Writing Group may also develop companion pieces specifically written for patients to assist them with understanding the treatment they will be receiving. Individual contributors/writers/authors will be acknowledged in a dedicated Acknowledgement/ Contributors Section.

Background

There had been an increase in number of cosmetic gynecological surgical (sometimes also known as female cosmetic genital surgery - FGCS), procedures available to women. There was also a confusing array of terms and expectations associated with these procedures, purported to improve appearance/function of a women's genitalia or her sexual function. Evidence supporting the efficacy and safety of these procedures is lacking. In addition, standardized definitions of these procedures may help foster high quality research, standardization of technique and outcome measurement in this field, which is currently lacking.

Cosmetic medical and surgical procedures are lifestyle choices not driven by medical need, undertaken to enhance appearance to achieve what patients perceive to be more desirable and to boost self-esteem and confidence.

Applicants should fulfill the following criteria (note, not all are required):

- Have clinical expertise in performing cosmetic gynecological procedures and/or surgeries.
- Must be current members of IUGA (required)
- Must work in the field of urogynecology (required)
- Prior experience reviewing scientific literature and writing technical reports, reviews, or other scientific papers
- Commitment to teamwork, responsiveness, and dedication to complete assignments

Applications

The deadline for applications is Friday, October 4, 2019 at 11:59pm Central Daylight Time (CDT). To apply, please follow these two steps:

- 1) Submit a letter of interest stating your qualifications for the position and a brief CV to office@iuga.org,
- 2) Complete the online COI form available by clicking [here](#).