

Trauma associated with vaginal delivery.  
Where are we circa 2017?

# How close are we to predicting trauma

**Professor Ian Milsom, M.B., Ch.B. Hons, Ph.D**

**Gothenburg Continence Research Center  
Sahlgrenska Academy at Gothenburg University,  
Gothenburg, Sweden**



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# Pelvic Floor Disorders (PFDs)

**Pelvic Organ Prolapse (5-10%)**  
**Urinary incontinence (30-60%)**  
**Anal incontinence (11-15%)**

**Any form of pelvic floor disorder 46%**

**Common problems affecting millions of women throughout the world**

**Negative effect on:**

**Quality of life and Working ability**  
**Sporting activities and Sexual activity**

**Global costs high**

Milsom I, Altman D, Cawwright R, Lapitan MC, Nelson R, Sillén U, Tikkanen K. Epidemiology of Urinary Incontinence (UI) and other Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms (LUTS), Pelvic Organ Prolapse (POP) and Anal (AI) Incontinence. *In: Incontinence*. Editors Abrams, Cardozo, Kouhry and Wein. Health Publications Ltd, Paris 2013



# Life-time risk of POP surgery

The lifetime risk of undergoing POP surgery alone has been reported to vary between 5 and 19%.<sup>1</sup> The highest life time risk for POP surgery, 19%, has been reported from Western Australia<sup>2</sup>

De Boer<sup>3</sup> et al. estimated that 20.2% of Dutch women would undergo POP or continence surgery before 85 years of age

Wu et al.<sup>4</sup> estimated a similar rate of intervention in the United States

1. Haya et al. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2015;212:755.e1-755.e27.
2. Smith et al. Obstet Gynecol 2010;116:1096-1100
3. de Boer et al. Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol 2011;158:343-349
4. Wu et al Obstet Gynecol 2014;123:1201-1216

# Numerous risk factors for PFDs have been identified

Age

Hereditary factors

Hysterectomy

Obesity

Irritable Bowel syndrome

Ethnicity

Dementia

Physical activity

Neurological illnesses

Parity

Pregnancy

Delivery mode

Anal sphincter rupture

Postmenopausal

Multiple sclerosis

Parkinsons illness

Urinary tract infections

Diabetes mellitus

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**For ethical and practical reasons, randomised controlled trials to evaluate the causal effects of vaginal and caesarean delivery on the pelvic floor will never be performed**

We therefore have to rely on:

Objective Pathophysiological data

Epidemiological data

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# Objective Pathophysiological data

Magnetic resonance imaging

Ultrasound

Electrophysiological data

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# MRI Levator ani injury postpartum

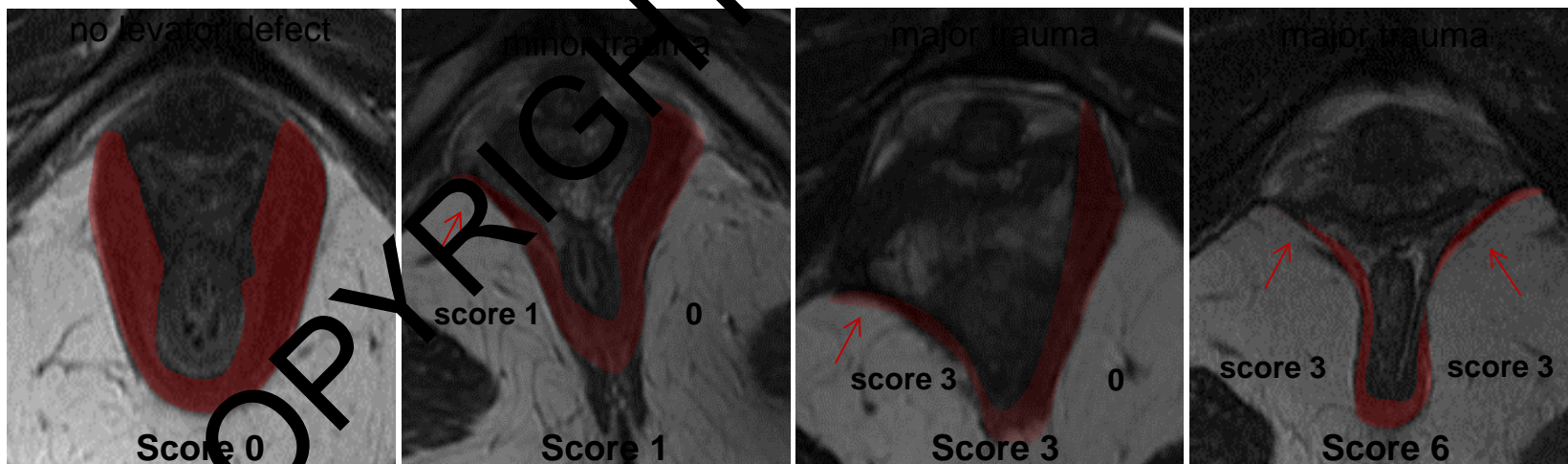
6-10% after spontaneous vaginal delivery

17-33% after vacuum extraction

67-71% after forceps delivery

but was not identified in nulliparous women or after caesarean section

Kearney R, Fitzpatrick M, Brennan S, Behan M, Miller J, Keane D, O'Herlihy C, DeLancey JO. Int J Gynaecol Obstet. 2015





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Epidemiological data

# Urinary Incontinence after Vaginal Delivery or Caesarean Section

Rortveit G et al. N Engl J Med 2003;348:900-907

**EPINCONT study - community based cohort (n = 15 307),  
younger than 35 years**

## **Prevalence of UI**

Nulliparous 10.1%

Vaginal delivery group 21.0%

Caesarean section group 15.9%

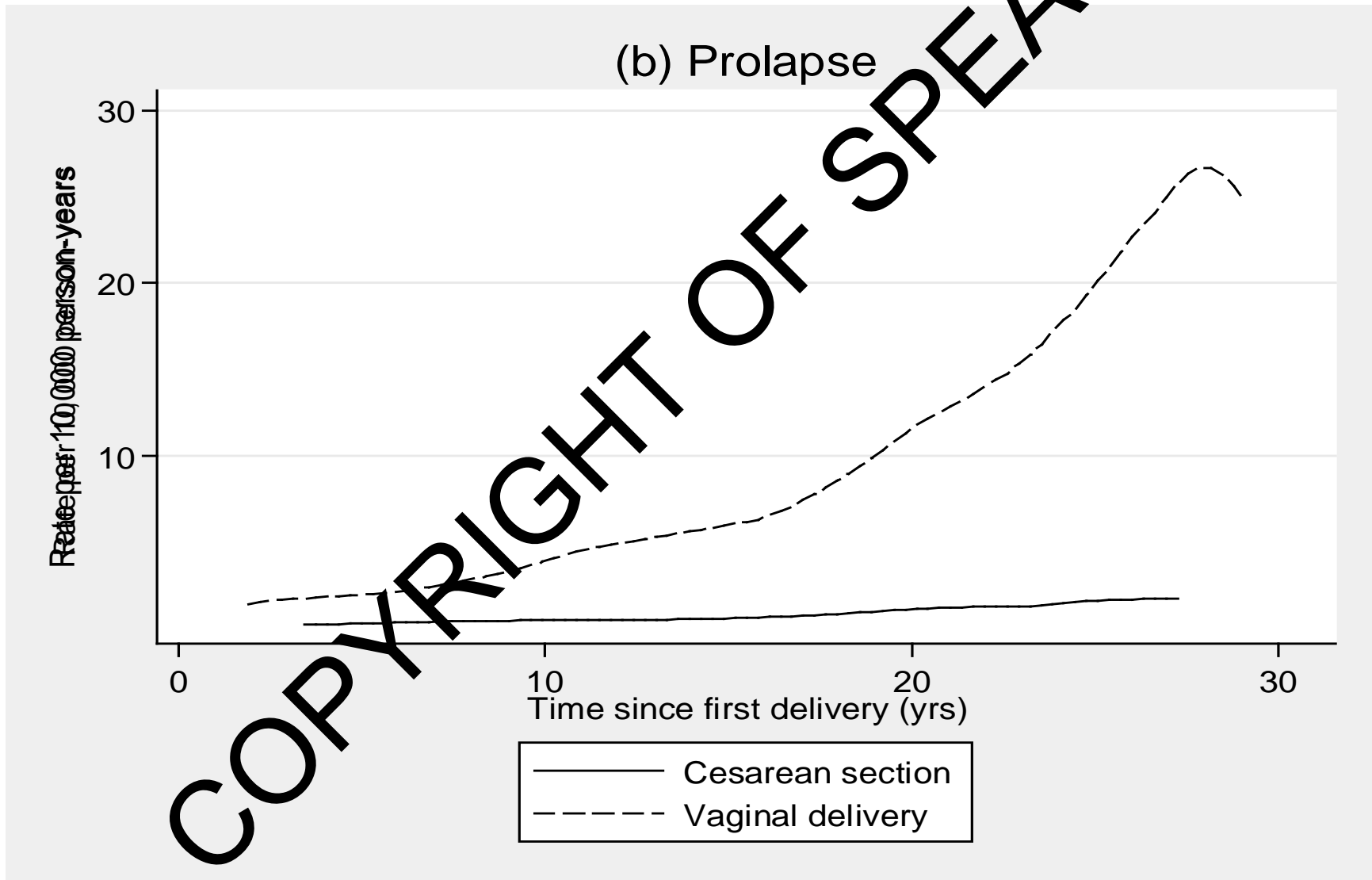
## **Odds ratio UI**

Nulliparous - CS 1.5 (95% CI 1.2-1.9)

VD - CS 1.7 (95% CI 1.3-2.1)

# Rate of pelvic organ prolapse surgery in relation to mode of delivery and time from first childbirth

(Leijonhufvud et al. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2011;204(1):70.e1-7)



## Effect of delivery history on pelvic organ prolapse

Mode of delivery (N)	% with prolapse $\geq$ 2b	OR [95% CI]	P value
Only SVD (343)	29%	Reference	
Only CS (53)	6%	0.12 [0.04 to 0.41]	0.001
SVD + CS (52)	21%	0.51 [0.25 to 1.05]	0.067

\* OR adjusted for age at first child, parity and BMI at index birth

# SWEPOP-study

## *SWEdish Pregnancy, Obesity and Pelvic floor study*

- **The risk increase after VD compared to CS was 67% for UI and 275% for UI>10 years**
- **The prevalence of sPOP was 14.6% after vaginal delivery and 6.3% after caesarean section and the risk increase associated with VD was 255% compared to CS**
- **Vaginally delivered women had a more than tripled prevalence and risk of having the combination sPOP and UI compared to CS**
- **The prevalence of UI, UI>10 years and sPOP did not differ between elective CS and acute CS**

# Prevalence of sPOP in relation to mode of delivery stratified for BMI and infant birth weight

	VD (%)	CS (%)	OR (95% CI)
<b>BMI</b>			
< 25	12.1	5.1	2.57 (1.73-3.83)
25-29	15.5	7.8	2.18 (1.44-3.30)
≥ 30	19.4	7.4	3.04 (1.82-5.08)
<b>Birth weight</b>			
<3000	11.8	7.9	1.57 (0.97-2.56)
3000-3499	14.2	5.0	3.17 (1.95-5.15)
3500-3999	14.6	5.9	2.73 (1.55-4.80)
4000-4499	15.8	3.7	4.85 (2.10-11.17)
≥ 4500	23.8	7.8	3.67 (1.22-11.03)

Adjusted for current BMI, maternal age, infant birth weight and head circumference.

# UR-CHOICE – Can we provide mothers-to-be with information about the risk of future pelvic floor dysfunction?

Don Wilson, James Dornan, Ian Milsom, Robert Freeman  
Int Urogynecol J 2014; 25: 1449 – 1452

A hypothesis was proposed that the following physical features of the Mother and the Baby can be scored and used to determine the most suitable route of delivery

**U - Presence or absence of antenatal UI**

**R - Race/Ethnicity**

**C - Childbearing started at what age**

**H - Height of mother**

**O - Overweight? (mothers BMI)**

**I - Inheritance (family history)**

**C - Children (number of children desired)**

**E - Estimated fetal weight**



# Predictive Modelling Cooperation

**SWEPOP Study Group**

**Sahlgrenska Academy, Gothenburg**

Maria Gyhagen, Jwan Othman, Ida Nilsson, Björn Areskoug, Ian Milsom

**PROLONG Study Group**

**Aberdeen, Glasgow and Otago**

Don Wilson, Suzanne Hagen, Andrew Elders

**CLEVELAND CLINIC Group**

**Cleveland**

Matt Barber, Eric Jelovsek, Michael Kattan, Kevin Chagin



# Study Populations

Data from 2 longitudinal, prospective cohorts

## 1. Swedish Pregnancy, Obesity and Pelvic Floor Study (SwePOP)

- Only Primiparous women delivered 1985-1988 (n = 9423)
- Swedish Medical Birth Register data
- Follow-up **20** years after delivery

## 2. ProLong study from UK/New Zealand

- All deliveries w/in 12 months (1993-94)
- 7883 participated 3 months after index birth
- Aberdeen (UK), Birmingham (UK), Dunedin (New Zealand)
- Followed up **12** years after delivery

# Hypotheses

- Models can be developed to predict the likelihood of developing PFDs (outcomes) 12-20 years after delivery that:
  - Discriminate better than chance (i.e. concordance index=0.5)
  - Reasonable to calibrate and are internally and externally validated
  - Can be used in an ***on-line calculator*** to permit prediction on an individual basis

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# Prediction modelling- methodology

The cohorts were split so that data during the first half of the cohort's time period were used to fit prediction models and validation was performed using data from the second half (temporal validation).

Multiple logistic models were fit to the data and reduced using backwards elimination.

Model internal validation was assessed using 1000 bootstrap samples generating a bias-corrected concordance index.

# Prediction modelling - Results

Models were able to discriminate between women who developed bothersome symptoms or received treatment, at 12 (PROLONG) and 20 years (SWEPOP) respectively, for:

- Pelvic organ prolapse (concordance indices 0.570, 0.627)
- Urinary incontinence (concordance indices 0.653, 0.689)
- Fecal incontinence (concordance indices 0.618, 0.676)
- One or more pelvic floor disorders (concordance indices 0.639, 0.675)
- Two or more pelvic floor disorders (concordance indices 0.635, 0.619)

28 year old primip, family history of POP  
Otherwise low risk

28 year old primip, family history of POP  
High risk

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Maternal Age at Delivery\*  

Number of Previous Births\*  

Family History of Pelvic Organ Prolapse\*  

Maternal Height (cm)\*  

Maternal Pre-Pregnancy Weight (kg)\*  

Estimated Fetal Head Circumference (cm)\*  

Estimated Fetal Weight (g)\*  

Planned Route of Delivery\*  

Maternal Age at Delivery\*  

Number of Previous Births\*  

Family History of Pelvic Organ Prolapse\*  

Maternal Height (cm)\*  

Maternal Pre-Pregnancy Weight (kg)\*  

Estimated Fetal Head Circumference (cm)\*  

Estimated Fetal Weight (g)\*  

Planned Route of Delivery\*  

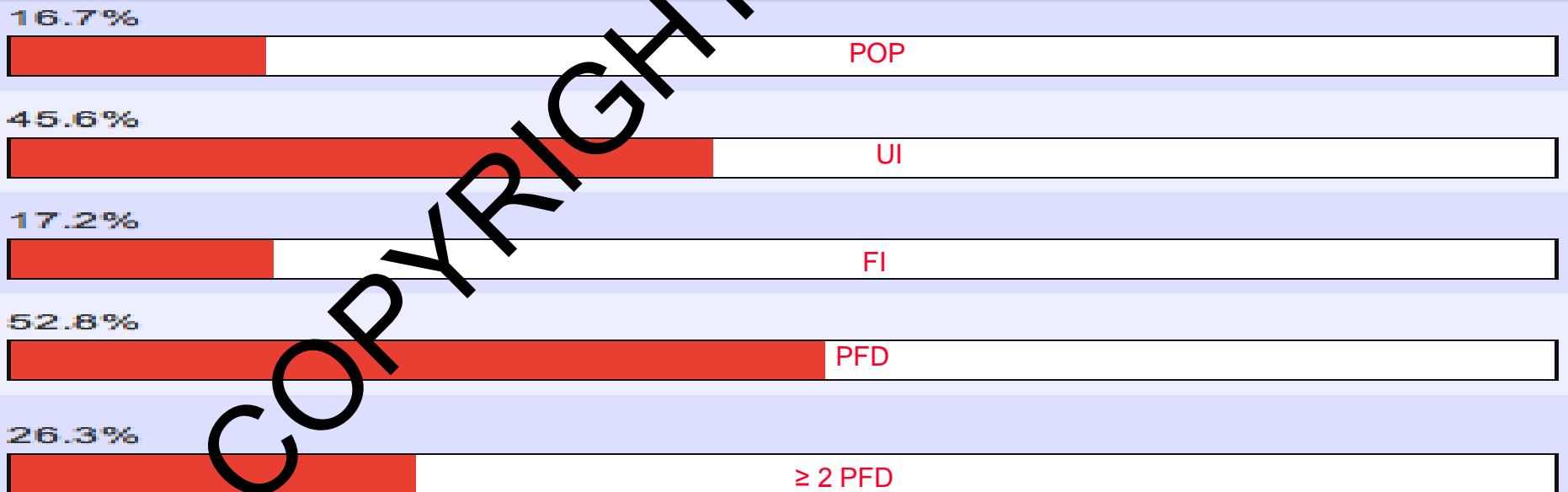
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28 year old primip, family history of POP, low risk



28 year old primip, family history of POP, high risk



# Conclusions

- Models provide individualized risk estimates for the development of PFDs 12-20 years after delivery.
- Models provide an opportunity before birth to identify women at low risk of developing pelvic floor disorders and institute prevention strategies for women at higher risk.
- These models provide similar discrimination to predictive models currently used in clinical practice such as the National Cancer Institute Gail model for prediction of Breast Cancer risk (concordance index 0.59) and the Framingham Cardiovascular Risk Model (concordance index 0.72).