

FES of the pelvic organs

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Electrical stimulation to treat dysfunction of the pelvic organs (mainly lower urinary tract dysfunction) has been used for at least 60 years. Various different locations on the body are used for stimulation such as the ankle (tibial nerve) and the genitals (dorsal genital nerve). Stimulation systems also differ in invasiveness. At one end of the spectrum there are non-invasive systems which use stimulation electrodes placed on the skin while at the other end there are invasive systems which consist of fully implanted devices.

The aim of this workshop is to provide an overview of the available methods and systems to treat pelvic organ dysfunction using non-invasive and minimal invasive stimulation. Implantable devices will not be discussed. The discussion will include clinical effectiveness and mechanism of action. Approaches that will be discussed include: intravaginal stimulation, intra-anal stimulation, tibial nerve stimulation, dorsal genital nerve stimulation, and sacral dermatomes.

In the hands-on session there will be a number of stimulators and stimulation electrodes on display and there will be time for questions and discussion.