



## Scope of Practice for Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery

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This document defines the Scope of Practice for Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery (FPMRS). It serves as a Policy Statement for the American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS).

FPMRS is a subspecialty of either Obstetrics & Gynecology or Urology that provides comprehensive care for Pelvic Floor Disorders and related conditions. Physicians can be certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) as FPMRS if they complete an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited residency in either Obstetrics & Gynecology or Urology followed by completion of an ACGME-accredited fellowship in FPMRS. Once these training requirements have been met, a physician can then become board certified in FPMRS, by completing and passing a board examination.

The FPMRS subspecialists are trained in the evaluation, diagnosis, management and treatment of female pelvic floor disorders. They are trained in the performance and interpretation of a wide range of laboratory, radiographic and interventional studies to aid in formulating individualized plans that utilize medical, behavioral, non-surgical or surgical treatment options for patients with a variety of genitourinary disorders. They can function independently but frequently work with Pelvic Floor Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy as well as with Gynecology, Urology, Gastroenterology, and Colorectal Surgery in a multi-disciplinary group both in ambulatory or in-patient care settings. As experts in the female genitourinary system they are also the ideal physician to actively promote women's pelvic floor health through research and education.

Areas of expertise include:

- Pelvic floor anatomy and physiology
- Pathophysiology of pelvic floor disorders
  - Urinary Incontinence
  - Dysfunctional bladder control
  - Bladder pain disorders
  - Recurrent urinary tract infections
  - Congenital anomalies of the pelvic floor
  - Fecal incontinence and defecatory dysfunction
  - Pelvic organ prolapse
  - Vesico-vaginal and Recto-vaginal fistulae
  - Complications of pelvic floor surgeries
  - Urethral diverticula
  - Mesh complications
  - Voiding dysfunction
  - Neurogenic bladder

*Disclaimer: These recommendations are designed primarily as an educational resource for healthcare providers to help them provide quality medical care. These recommendations should not be considered inclusive of all procedures and tests or exclusive of other procedures and tests that are reasonably directed to obtaining the same results.*