

About the American Urogynecologic Society

WHO WE ARE

The American Urogynecologic Society (AUGS) is the premier non-profit organization representing professionals dedicated to treating female pelvic floor disorders. Founded in 1979, AUGS represents a community of over 2,000 **physicians, researchers, and nurse practitioners, physical therapists, and advanced practice providers** committed to improving outcomes for pelvic floor disorders. AUGS bridges clinical care, training, advocacy, and research to address conditions that profoundly affect the quality of life of women across the lifespan.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Pelvic floor disorders (PFDs)—including urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, fecal incontinence, recurrent urinary tract infections, bladder pain, and sexual dysfunction—affect millions of women across the lifespan, with prevalence increasing with age. In fact, one out of four women (25%) 20 years or older suffer with PFDs.

These disorders have a negative and often debilitating impact on a woman's mobility, physical function, mental health, caregiving capacity, and workforce participation.

Despite the high prevalence and significant impact, research funding for urogynecologic conditions is disproportionately low relative to other chronic conditions. AUGS developed the National Urogynecology Research Agenda to highlight critical research gaps and opportunities for advancing the treatment of these disorders.

KEY RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

AUGS National Urogynecology Research Agenda identifies the following **research priorities based on funding gaps**:

- **Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms & Urinary Incontinence** - Focus on understanding pathophysiology, improving diagnostics, and developing safer, more effective treatments.
- **Pelvic Organ Prolapse** - Advance mechanistic understanding, prevention strategies, and long-term outcomes for both surgical and nonsurgical interventions.
- **Fecal Incontinence** - Clarify neural, muscular, and behavioral contributors to fecal incontinence and optimize treatment pathways.
- **Recurrent Urinary Tract Infections (rUTIs)** - Improve understanding of risk factors, microbial dynamics, and prevention strategies in recurrent UTIs.
- **Sexual Health in Women with Pelvic Floor Disorders** - Define how pelvic floor disorders affect sexual function and identify interventions that enhance quality of life.
- **Female Bladder Pain Syndrome / Interstitial Cystitis & Myofascial Pelvic Pain** - Elucidate mechanisms and effective management approaches for chronic pelvic pain syndromes.

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

In addition to condition-specific areas, the agenda emphasizes:

- **Health Disparities**
- **Multidisciplinary & Translational Research**
- **Training Future Scientists**

Learn more about the AUGS National Urogynecology Research Agenda

