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# SphinKeeper

Initiative Type

Technology

Status

Deliver

Added

01 February 2018

Last updated

16 September 2021

URL

<https://clinicalexcellence.qld.gov.au/improvement-exchange/sphinkeeper>

## Summary

SphinKeeper is a novel treatment for faecal incontinence (FI). The minimally invasive procedure involves the implantation of specifically designed self-expandable prostheses into the intersphincteric space (anus) under ultrasound guidance. During the procedure, 10 prostheses are implanted under a general anaesthetic. Once implanted, the prostheses expand to create a shape memory doughnut which acts like a sphincter. The procedure is particularly useful for those with passive faecal

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incontinence and/or those with internal anal sphincter defects.

Key dates

Sep 2017

Sep 2019

Implementation sites

QEII Jubilee Hospital

Partnerships

Healthcare Improvement Unit

## Key Contacts

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## Aim

Provides an opportunity to pilot and evaluate new technologies within 'real world' clinical settings in the Queensland context.

## Benefits

The potential benefits of this technology include:

- SphinKeeper provides a treatment option for people with passive faecal incontinence.
- The number of episodes and severity of faecal incontinence will be reduced.
- The follow up requirements of patients post SphinKeeper implantation are minimal.
- Improvement in patient's quality of life.
- SphinKeeper can be used after other treatments, including sacral nerve stimulation, have been unsuccessful.
- The surgery has minimal risks.

## Background

This technology was funded through the New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program (NTFEP). The NTFEP funds the introduction and evaluation of new technologies that:

- Are safe and effective
- Provide better health outcomes
- Provide value for money
- Provide greater access to care.

The evaluation findings will inform recommendations regarding the future use and/or investment of the technology within Queensland.

## Evaluation and Results

Key findings will be published at the end of the evaluation period.

## Resources

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[Technology evaluation summary](#)

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