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# RECENT TRENDS IN MANAGEMENT OF FAECAL INCONTINENCE

Essay

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Fecal incontinence is a common problem and can have a major impact on the quality of life of those affected. Various disease processes affecting stool consistency, rectal sensitivity, or the anal sphincters can cause fecal incontinence.

Obstetric trauma is now known to be a major cause of sphincter dysfunction. The evaluation of the patient with incontinence helps to determine the choice of therapy—medical or surgical.

The two most important tests are anorectal manometry, which provides information on sphincter pressures, and rectal sensation, and anal endosonography, which is currently the test of choice for defining the anatomy of the anal sphincters.

The choice of therapy depends on the etiology of incontinence, the anatomy of the sphincters, and also on the effect of incontinence on the quality of life of the patient. Control of diarrhea, regardless of the cause, should be attempted first. Biofeedback therapy is effective in the majority of patients and is particularly attractive because it is safe and well tolerated. Surgery is offered when medical therapy is unsuccessful or when the etiology is thought to respond best to surgery, such as in postobstetric trauma. Sphincter repair, for treatment of selective sphincter defects, is the best surgical option. Neoanal sphincters and implanted artificial sphincters are far less attractive because of technical difficulties and low success rate.

**Keywords:** Fecal incontinence, anorectal manometry, endosonography, Biofeedback, Sphincter repair, Neoanal sphincters.

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## **List of Abbreviations**

ABS	Artificial Bowel Sphincter	
ACE	Antegrade Continence	
	Enema	
ΑI	Anal Incontinence	
<b>AES</b>	Anal Endosonograghy	
ARA	Anorectal Angle	
<b>ARM</b>	Anorectal Manometry	
<b>ASA</b>	American Society Of	
	Anesthesiologists	
CCF-FI	Cleveland Clinic Florida	
	Fecal Incontinence Score	
<b>DGP</b>	Dynamic Graciloplasty	
<b>EAS</b>	External Anal Sphincter	
<b>EAUS</b>	Endoanal ultrasound	
<b>EMG</b>	Electromyograghy	
FI	Fecal Incontinence	
FIQL	Fecal Incontinence Quality	
	Of Life	
GAX	Glutaraldehyde Cross-	
	Linked	
<b>GASS</b>	German Artificial Sphincter	
	System	
<b>GMT</b>	Gluteus Maximus	
	Transposition	
HBO	Hyperbaric Oxygen	
HPZ	High Pressure Zone	
IAS	Internal Anal Sphincter	
LAM	Levator Ani Muscle	
LACE	Laparoscopic Antegrade	
LACE	Continence Enema	
	Commence Linema	
MACE	Malone Antegrade	
	Continence Enema	
MRI	Magnetic Resonance	

#### **Imaging**

Non-Adrenergic, **NANC** Non-Cholinergic Nitric Oxide NO Prosthetic anal sphincter **PAS PCL** Pubococcygeal Line Endoscopic **PEC** Percutaneous Cecostomy PNTML Pudendal Nerve Terminal Motor Latency Puborectalis Muscle **PRM** Silicone Biomaterial **PTQ** (Bioplastique) Quality Of Life **QOL RAIR** Rectoanal Inhibitory Reflex **RF** Radiofrequency **SNS** Sacral Nerve Stimulation

**STD** 

**TFF** 

Sexually transmitted disease

**Tetanic Fusion Frequency**