

Labiaplasty Literature Review

Institute of Psychosexual Medicine

Annual Scientific Meeting 22/03/24

A.

Introduction

- Labiaplasty, involving altering the labia for aesthetics or functional purposes, is gaining popularity among women today (Creighton & Liao, 2019).
- **Significance:** Labia play a valuable role in sexual function, labiaplasty's rise is partly attributed to the influence of pornography and sociocultural beauty norms like 'Brazilian Wax' (Müllerová & Weiss, 2018).
- **Concerns:** This trend raises ethical concerns, especially due to its resemblance to female genital mutilation (FGM) and potential impacts on vulnerable groups (Bewley, 2012).
- **Project Aims:** This review focuses on the unclear and unregulated preoperative psychosexual assessments and advocates for standardised practices in labiaplasty, addressing both psychosocial risks and stark educational gaps among healthcare providers who carry out the procedure.

B.

Methodology

- **Approach:** The approach taken was a comprehensive literature review, covering academic journals, textbooks, historical texts, and medical policies.
- **Scope & Limitation:** The review was restricted to specific criteria UK literature, not including commentaries such as response letters, and aimed to shed light on labiaplasty's technical and ethical complexities, contributing to the current medical discourse.

C.

Results

- **Patient Demographics & Motivations:** Contrary to popular belief, most of the women seeking labiaplasty are not sex workers; they often have 'white-collar' jobs like law. Motivations range from past sexual trauma and body dysmorphia to perceptions influenced by the media and opinions of their prospective partners (Müllerová & Weiss, 2018).
- **Ethico-legal Implications:** The little anatomical difference between labiaplasty and FGM highlights the ethical dilemmas and the real issue of exploiting vulnerable patient groups (Bewley, 2012).
- **Authorship Bias in Literature:** There is a noticeable division in the position on labiaplasty between surgical (mostly supportive, often male authors) and psychosexual literature (mostly critical, often female authors).

D.


Discussion

- **Standardisation Need:** There is an urgent requirement for standard protocols in labiaplasty, crucial for patient and physician safety and outcome consistency (Garcia et al., 2022).
- **Psychosexual Considerations:** The debate on who should address labiaplasty's psychological motivations and psychosexual implications underscores the need for informed consent processes with standardised preoperative guidelines (Barbara et al., 2015).
- **Ethical Marketing & Patient Perceptions:** The impact of media portrayal on women's perception of genital variability calls for ethical marketing practices in the field where private practitioners often minimise risks while hyperbolising alleged benefits (see section E: advertisements) (Barbara et al., 2015).

E.

Advertisements

Do You Want To Be Attractive
Down There?

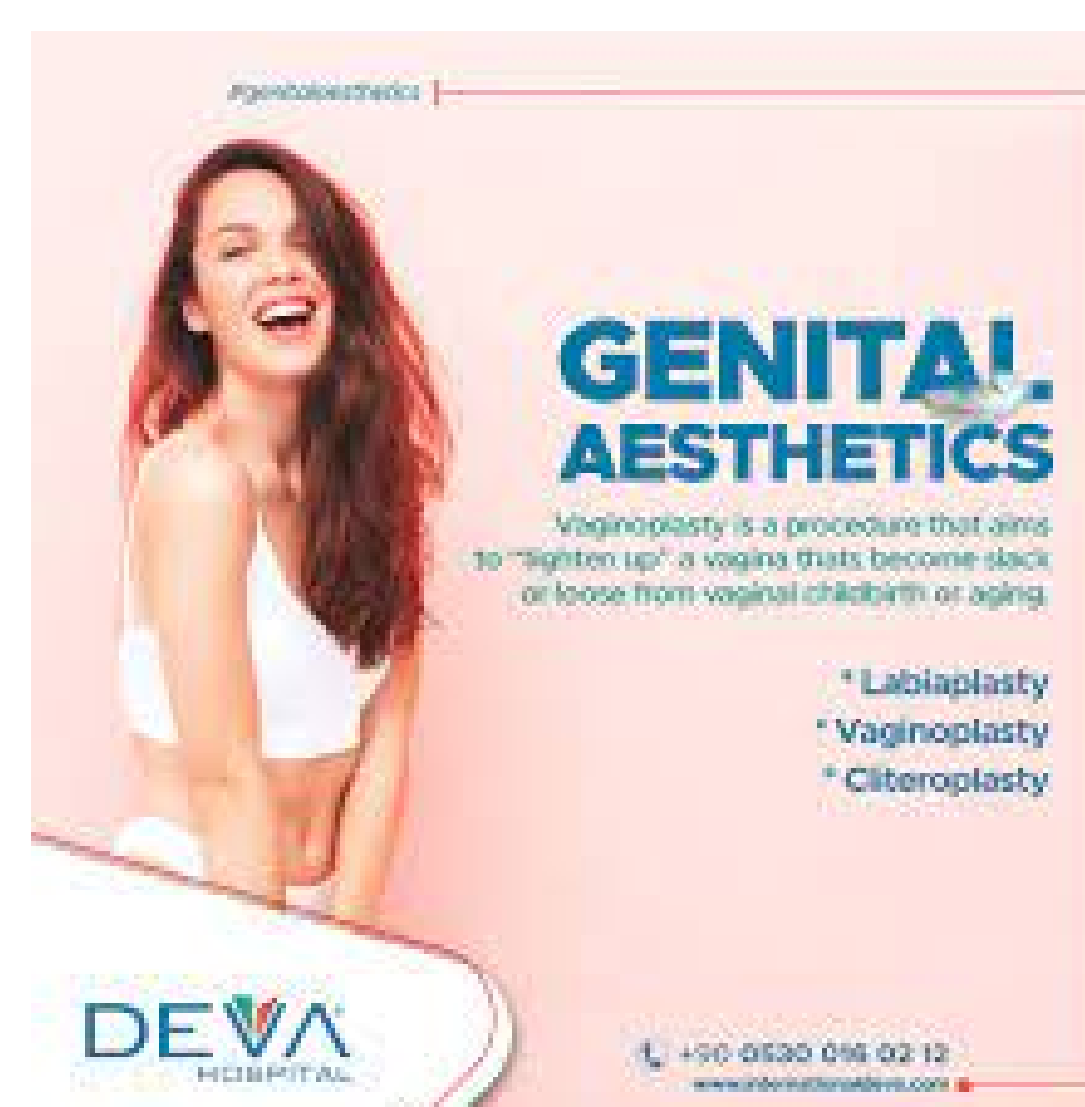


APOLLOMEDICS
COSMETIC GYNECOLOGY
Empowering Women's Confidence and Well-being

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
+91-8429021960

lucknow.apollohospitals.com | LDA Colony, Lucknow - 226012 | Follow Us: [social media icons]

Labiaplasty = BONDO #limitednotmutilated
SiA Magazine Fall Issue 2016




GENITAL AESTHETICS

Vaginoplasty is a procedure that aims to "tighten up" a vagina that has become loose or loose from vaginal childbirth or aging.

- * Labiaplasty
- * Vaginoplasty
- * Clitoroplasty

DEVA HOSPITAL | +91-0520-015 02 12 | www.devahospital.com



Regain Your Self-confidence with Labiaplasty

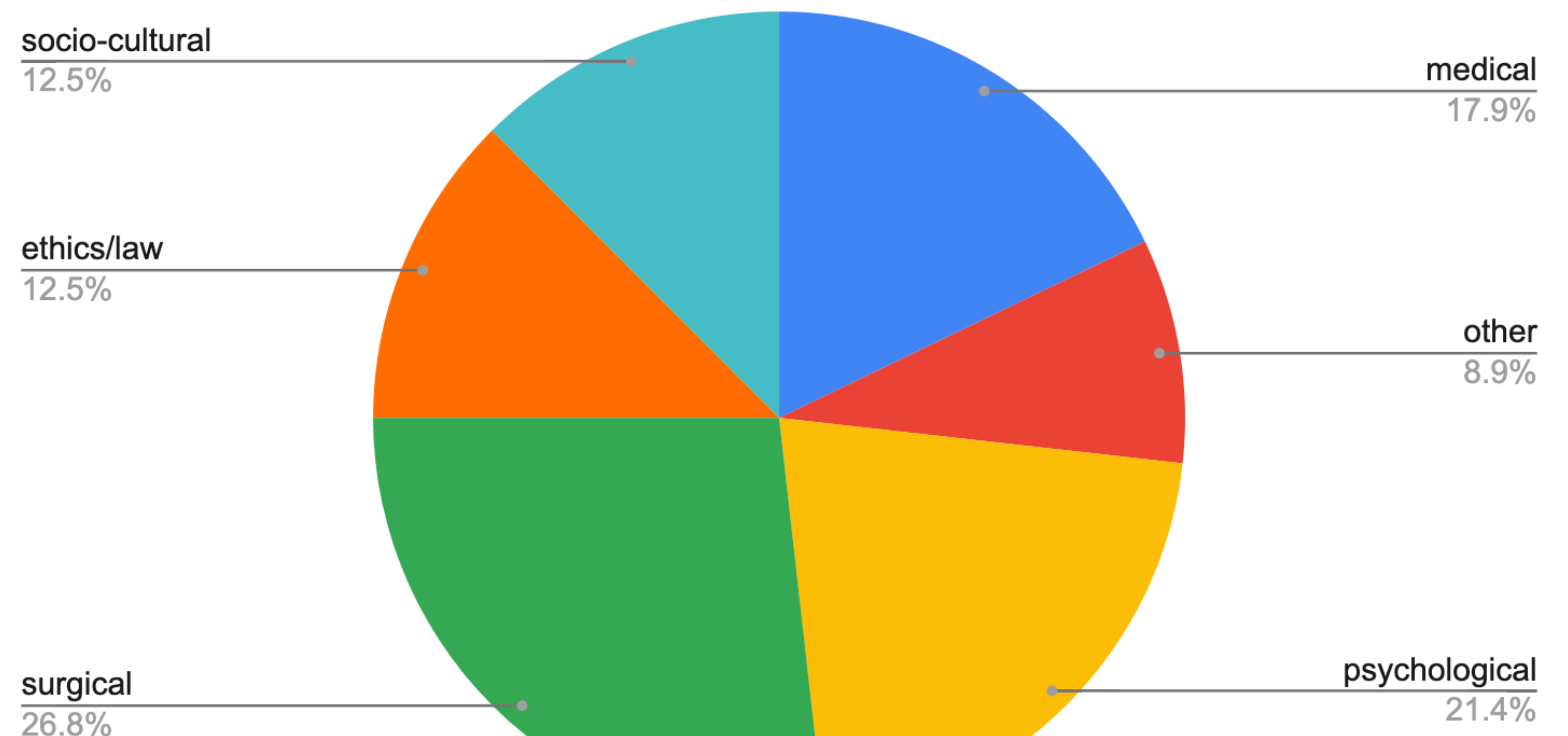
Are you ready to improve your quality of life?

GÖZDE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALS
Gynecology and Obstetrics

F.

Analysis

Topics From 55 Papers



G.

Conclusion

- **Future Policy Directions:** Developing appropriate psychosexual management guidelines with relevant practitioners is vital for ensuring patient safety and proper informed consent.
- **Future Research Directions:** Longitudinal studies are imperative to evaluate the long-term psychological and sexual effects of labiaplasty given the minimisation of adverse effects.
- **Acknowledgements:** Special thanks to Dr. Leila Frodsham for her guidance and Dr. Ronke Awe for proofreading. Your support made this poster possible.

By Anjolaoluwa Awe

References

- Barbara, G. et al. (2015b) "The first cut is the deepest": A psychological, sexological and gynecological perspective on female genital cosmetic surgery', *Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica*, 94(9), pp. 915–920. doi:10.1111/aogs.12660.
- Bewley, S. (2012) "Should a psychiatrist give legal advice on cosmetic genital surgery?", *Archives of Sexual Behavior*, 42(3), pp. 323–323. doi:10.1007/s10508-012-0044-2.
- Creighton, S.M. and Liao, L.-M. (2019) *Female genital cosmetic surgery: Solution to what problem?* Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
- Garcia, B., Cartwright, R., Iglesia, C.B., Conde, S., Gold, D., Novikova, N., Jose, J., Burkett, L., Dieter, A.A., Dubinskaya, A. and Heisler, C.A. (2022). Joint Report on Terminology for Cosmetic Gynecology. *International Urogynecology Journal*, 33(6), pp.1367–1386. doi:https://doi.org/10.1007/s00192-021-05010-7.
- Müllerová, J. and Weiss, P. (2018) 'Plastic surgery in gynaecology: Factors affecting women's decision to undergo labiaplasty. mind the risk of body dysmorphic disorder: A Review', *Journal of Women & Aging*, 32(3), pp. 241–258. doi:10.1080/08952841.2018.1529474.