

Introduction

- The Urethral Stricture Symptoms and Impact Measure (USSIM) is a urethral stricture-specific questionnaire for men
- Items in the USSIM are separated into three domains - *impact*, *symptom*, and *function*
- All *impact* items in the SSIM were analyzed pre/post urethroplasty via psychometric testing

Methods

- Patient data was obtained from the Trauma and Urologic Reconstructive Network of Surgeons (TURN) collaborative database from 2016-18
- 238 men were administered the USSIM preoperatively and 3-9 month following surgery
- All items of the initial USSIM (31 items) showed predictable correlations before item reduction to a shorter version (13 items)
- 14 urinary impact, 2 sexual impact, and 1 quality of life impact item from the 31-item USSIM were analyzed pre/post urethroplasty (Table 1)

Table 1: Impact items in the 31 item USSIM*

If you were to spend the rest of your life urinating the way it is now, how would you feel about that?

I worried about being unable to pee

I dribbled in my underwear after peeing

I had to sit down to pee

I had to plan my day ahead of time

I was worried about getting urinary tract infections

I was frustrated because my activities were reduced

I worried about my bladder health

I peed the bed

I did not get enough sleep/rest

I used special positions to help me pee

I worried about peeing in my pants (having an accident)

I had to watch what or how much I drank

I felt anxious because of my lack of control over urination

I felt embarrassed because it took my so long to pee in public

My ejaculation or orgasm was not satisfying

I worried that if I ejaculated I would get completely plugged up

*USSIM items in shorter/item reduced form bolded

Results

- Reliability of the impact index was strong (0.92)
- Mean impact level (0-100% scale) pre-urethroplasty was 41.6% and post-urethroplasty was 25.5% (Figure 1), $p < 0.0001$

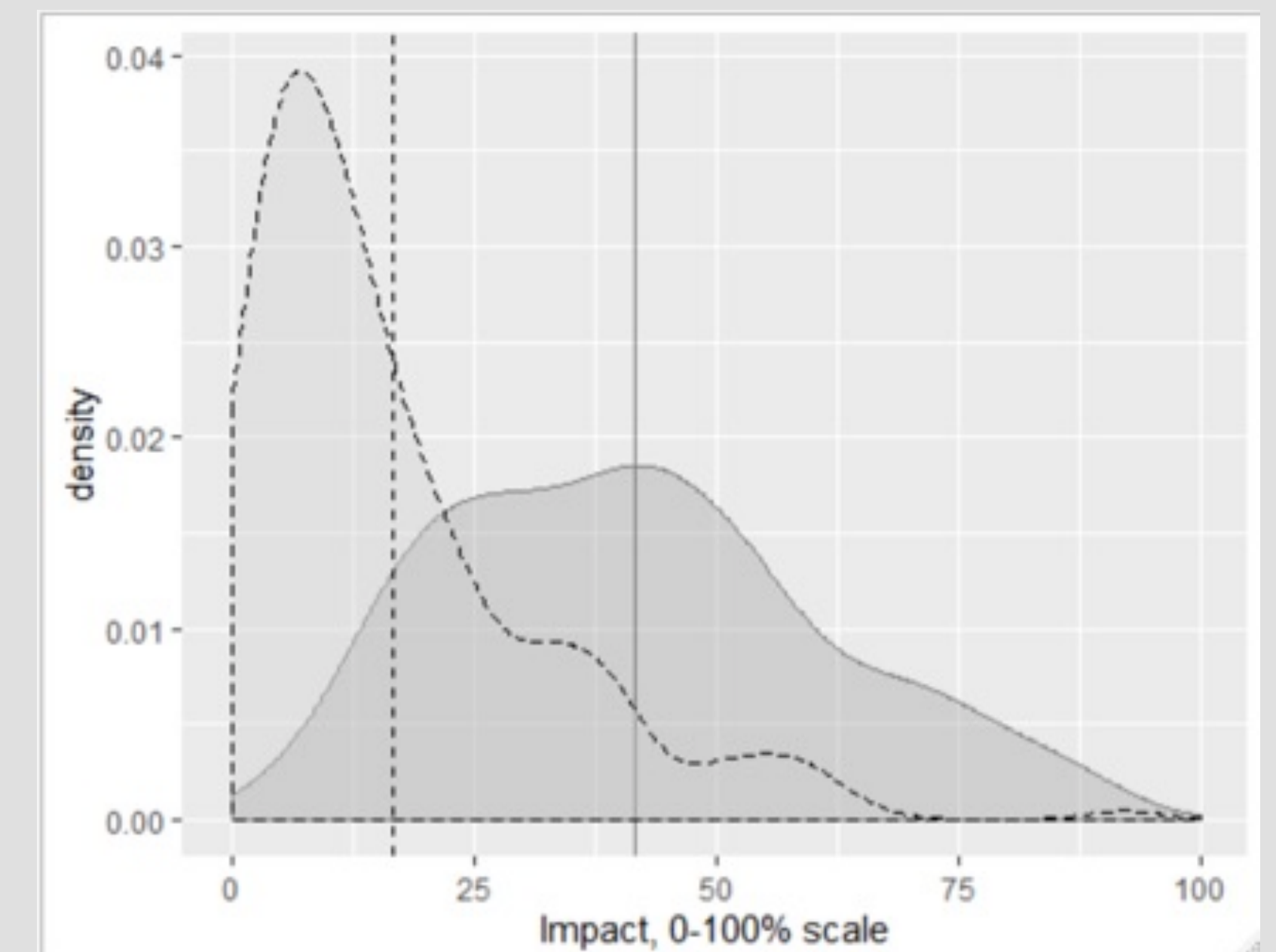


Figure 1: USSIM impact before (solid gray) and after urethroplasty (dashed black)

Conclusions

- Impact of a urethral stricture can be alleviated with urethral reconstruction surgery