AUTHOR RESPONSE (INVITATION)



Response to commentary

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We thank Drs. Azarkish and Janghorban for their interest in our recently published article [1]. The main objective of this study was to help clinicians determine the appropriate interval for office-based pessary care, in an attempt to provide a recommendation on best practice. Patients who perform their own pessary care at home were not included, as their management is completely different and would not provide us with any useful information regarding the objective of this study. To all intents and purposes, our study would be considered a "pilot study," demonstrating that a randomized trial design for this particular question is not feasible. It was neither the questionnaire nor the set interval for pessary follow-up (3 months versus 6 months) that contributed to the poor patient recruitment. It was the fact that patients who require office-based

pessary care need individualized scheduling based on personal preferences and objective needs to reduce adverse events.

Reference

Anglim B, Zhao ZI, Lovatsis D, McDermott CD. The extended pessary interval for care (EPIC) study: a failed randomized clinical trial. Int Urogynecol J. 2021;32:937-44

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