The SIMS Trial - Single incision mini-slings for Stress Urinary incontinence in Women

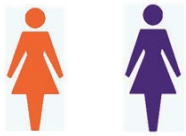
600 participants were randomly allocated to

Adjustable anchored single-incision mini-slings **(SIMS**) (298 participants) (2 participants were post-randomisation exclusions)

Standard tension-free mid urethral slings (**SMUS**) (298 participants) (2 participants were post-randomisation exclusions)

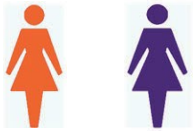
3 years post-surgery most women in both groups reported their incontinence symptoms were very much/much improved

SIMS - 72% - very much/much improved



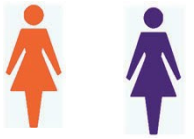
SMUS - 67% - very much/much improved

11% - improved



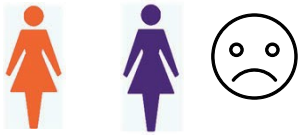
15% - improved

9% - same



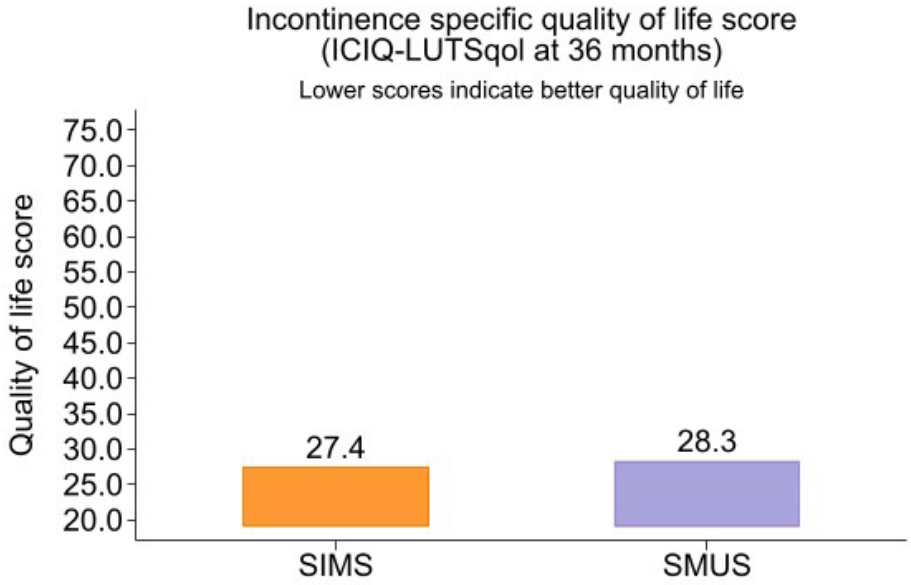
8% - same

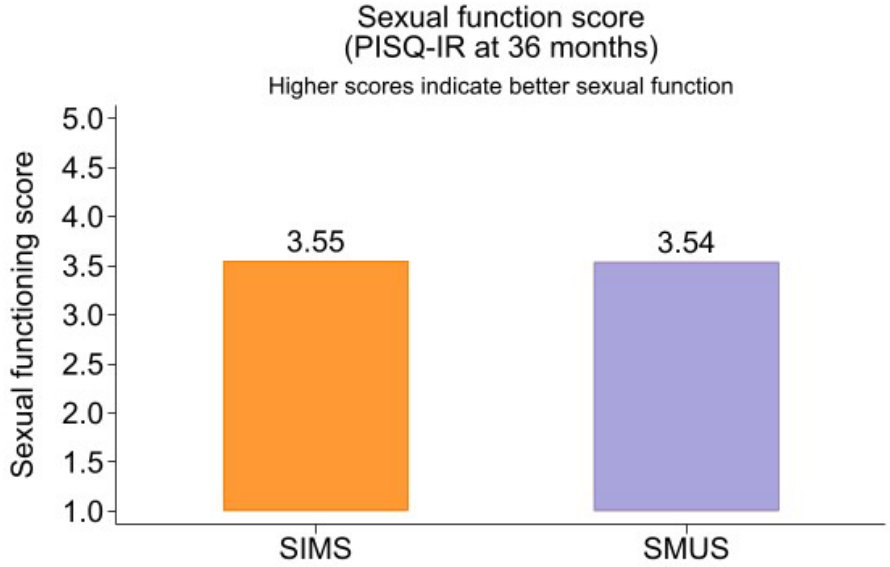
SIMS - 8% - worse/much worse/very much worse



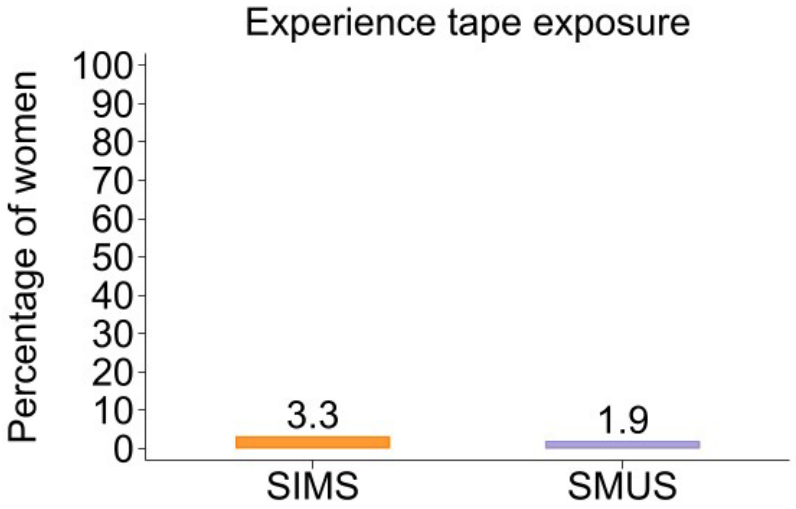
SMUS - 10% - worse/much worse/very much worse

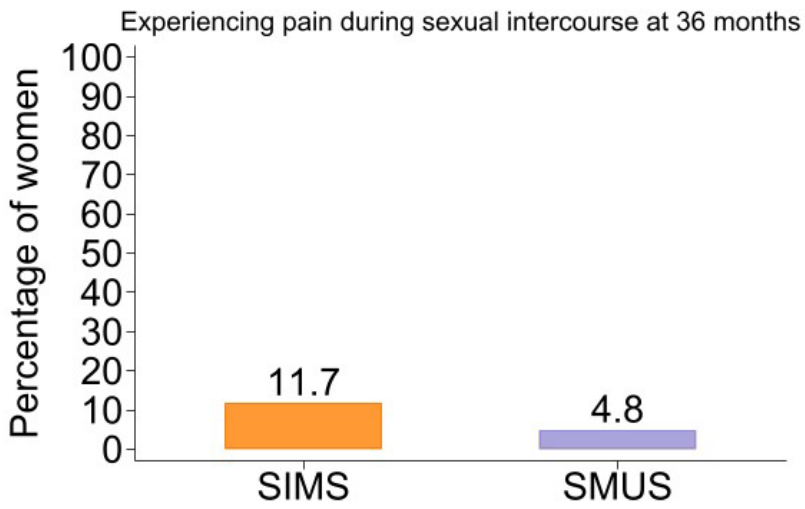
Women allocated to both treatment groups (SIMS & SMUS) reported similar success rates for quality of life and sexual function at 3 years



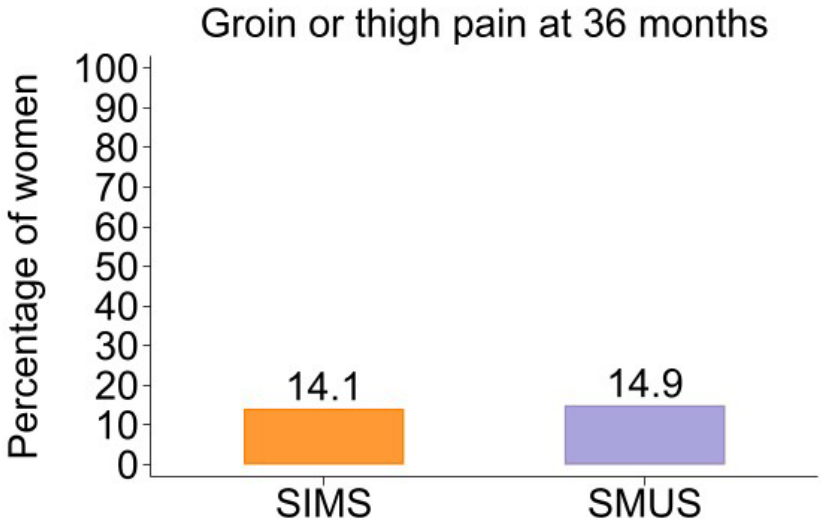


Women who received SIMS reported slightly more mesh exposures and were more likely to report pain during intercourse (dyspareunia)

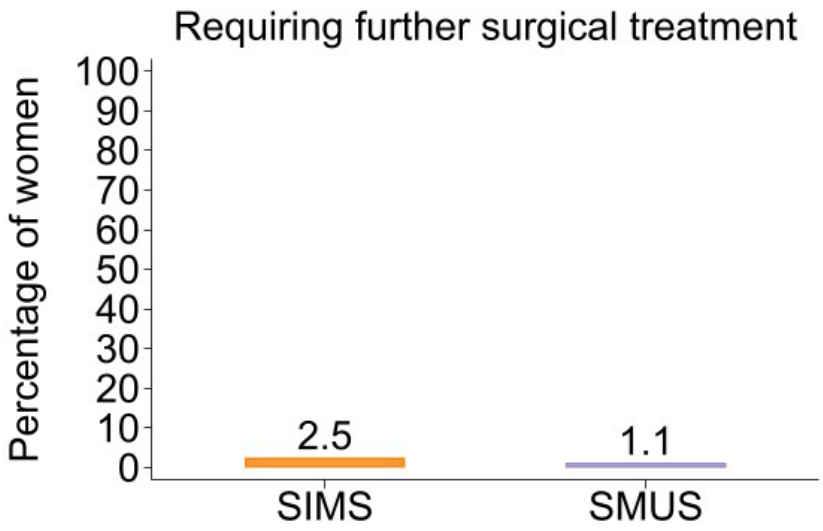


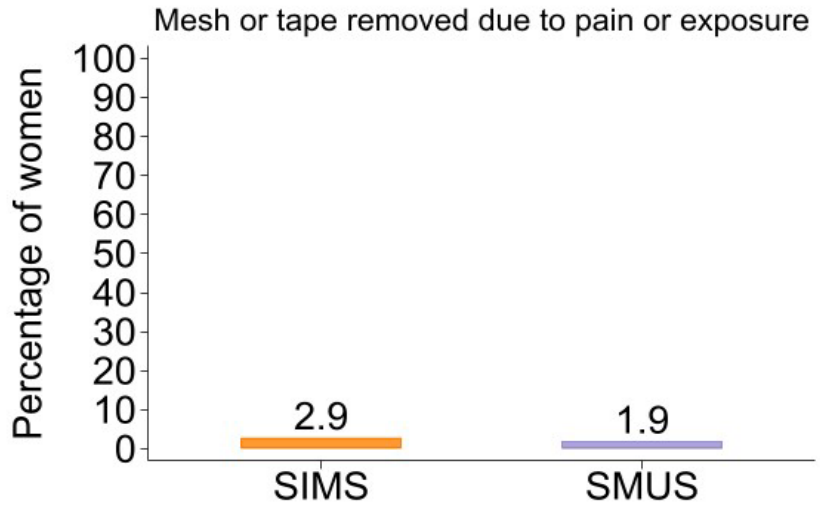


Groin/thigh pain rates were almost similar between both groups though marginally higher for SMUS group participants



More participants who had the SIMS procedure required further treatment for ongoing symptoms





……

WHAT DO THE RESULTS MEAN and WHAT NEXT?

There was no difference in patient reported success rates at 3 years between those participants receiving the SIMS or SMUS procedures. Follow-up up to ten-years is under way to establish the long-term benefits and disadvantages.

This study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment Programme (Grant Reference Number 12/127/157). The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.

FUNDED BY NIHR | National Institute for Health Research

IRAS Number: 139199 ISRCTN93264234