

Pelvic floor muscle function in women with and without breast cancer: a cross-sectional study



• The question

Do people with breast cancer have impaired pelvic floor muscle function compared to those without breast cancer?



• The study

This cross-sectional study measured pelvic floor muscle strength and relaxation ability in women with and without breast cancer using intravaginal pressure manometry and other pelvic floor muscle measurement techniques.



• The results

In the study, the women with breast cancer had weaker pelvic floor muscles and poorer pelvic floor relaxation ability when compared to the women without breast cancer.

• Clinical implications

- Further studies from this research team have since shown that pelvic floor muscle training is feasible and potentially beneficial in treating urinary incontinence in women with breast cancer.
- Physiotherapists treating people who have or have had treatment for breast cancer should be aware of the prevalence of incontinence in these patients and of the treatment pathways available.



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