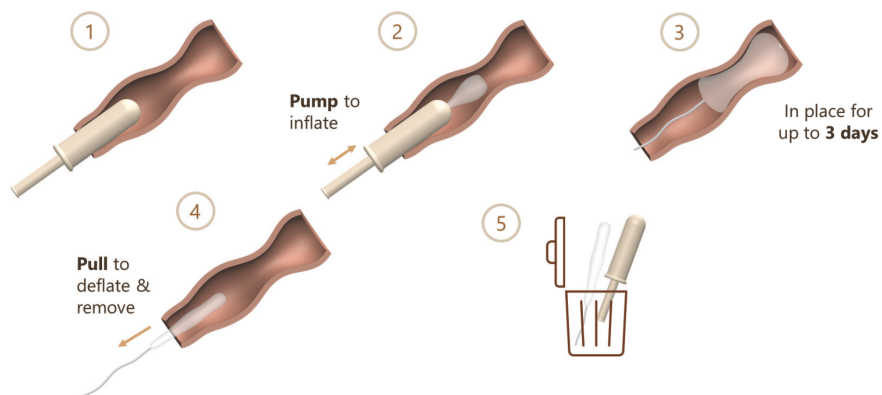


# Self-conforming, Easy-to-use Pelvic Organ Prolapse Support

Pelvic organ prolapse affects 3-6% of US women, with 50% lifetime risk, especially following vaginal childbirth. Traditional pessaries provide mechanical support but can be uncomfortable, can compromise vaginal tissues, and require professional sizing, fitting, insertion and removal for periodic cleaning.

Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign researchers have developed an inflatable, space-filling pelvic organ prolapse support system that addresses challenges of traditional pessaries, including placement, removal, and customized fit. The system (figure 1) consists of an applicator with built-in pump, a biocompatible inflatable chamber made of medical-grade silicone, and a string-like component for inflation/deflation and easy removal. The device customizes upon inflation to accommodate anatomical variations and various prolapse types (cystocele, rectocele, uterine/vaginal vault) and potentially incontinence. Designed as disposable for hygienic temporary use, it can be self-applied or placed with assistance in home, public, or clinical settings. This personalized prolapse management system provides a comfortable solution and user independence.



# **Pelvic Organ Prolapse Support System**

Image courtesy of Elevance

## **Stage of Development**

Prototype

## **Applications**

- Pelvic organ prolapse support
- Potential urinary incontinence treatment

## **Advantages**

- Adapts to the patient's anatomy for comfortable, hygienic support of prolapsed organs while maintaining tissue health
- Disposable, hygienic, temporary
- Easy, self-administered placement and removal - can be removed for sex and menstruation
- Versatile - treats various prolapse types with a single design

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