in hernia repair surgery within Europe. Agreement (consensus) with the statements was defined as high if  $\geq$  70% and very high if  $\geq$  90% of respondents agreed with a statement. After the initial survey round, some statements were revised and these were then reissued, 34 statements were included in the final analysis"

**Results:** "A total of 255 responses were received over the two rounds of survey. Respondents (n = 255) were all surgeons involved in hernia repair in Europe. Fourteen statements (41%) achieved very high consensus ( $\geq$  90%), 24 statements achieved consensus ( $\geq$ 70% to < 90%) while one statement (3%) fell short of consensus with an agreement score of 69%."

Conclusions: "Expert consensus opinion about the use of LTBA for hernia (Grades 2-3) as the standard of care was achieved. Based on the consensus scores, the steering group derived eleven key recommendations which, if implemented, should result in a clearer understanding of how and when a LTBA might be used in hernia repair, aiming for improvement in surgical and patient related outcomes"

## P020 ESTABLISHING PEER-CONSENSUS ABOUT THE USE OF LONG-TERM BIOSYNTHETIC ABSORBABLE MESH FOR VENTRAL HERNIA (GRADE 2-3) AS THE STANDARD OF CARE

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Aim: "This consensus project was initiated to provide insight into those situations where a long-term biosynthetic absorbable mesh (LTBA) might be considered the standard of care in repair of ventral hernia grades 2 and 3 (original Ventral Hernia Working Group Classification, 2010)."

Material and Methods: "A steering group of surgical experts developed 35 initial statements formed from six domains. These statements were used to develop an online survey which was sent to surgeons involved