Objectives: Urinary incontinence in women is a frequently infradiagnosed dysfunction, related in most cases to obstetrical trauma. It is estimated that one third of women have urinary incontinence up to 6 months after delivery. The aim of this study is to relate obstetrical risk factors with incidence of urinary incontinence.

Materials and methods: A prospective cohort of 243 women that gave birth in Hospital del Mar between October 2007 and January 2008 were requested to answer the ICIQ-SF validated questionnaire just before delivery. Six months later, they were asked to answer it again in order to evaluate obstetrical trauma risk factors with urinary incontinence development. Data regarding lifestyle and type of delivery were collected.

Results: The descriptive analysis showed that 32 patients (13.1%) improved the ICIQ-SF questionnaire, 19 (7.8%) got worse and 192 (78.4%) remained asymptomatic. No statistically significant differences were found between a worsening on quality of life (measured by ICIQ-SF) and age, BMI (body mass index), ethnicity, parity, gestational age, type of delivery, birth weight, foetal presentation nor anesthesia.

Even though, in the multifactorial analysis there was observed a non-significant trend of increasing ICIQ-SF punctuation directly related with age (r=0.29, p=0.083, 95% CI: -0.04; 0.63).

Conclusions: No differences were found between obstetrical risk factors evaluated and urinary incontinence development. These results may be due to patients’ difficulties in accepting their problem and communicating it to their physician/interviewer. Concluding, larger prospective studies need to be performed in order to identify obstetrical risk factors for urinary incontinence.