

Intrinsic Superiority of Non-woven Polypropylene Hernia Mesh Supported By Long Term Clinical Results and Healing Differences Identified Through Quantitative Histopathologic Analysis

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Accumulating clinical experience with non-woven microfiber polypropylene matrix mesh structures has begun to show superior clinical outcomes for surgeons and their patients. During the Annual Clinical Assembly of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons in Chicago, invited general surgeons were exposed to the latest clinical and experimental results when using Non-woven SURGIMESH® MatrixMesh™ Hernia Implants in soft tissue reconstruction.

Recent presentations by J. Yunis, MD, FACS and B. Ramshaw, MD, FACS found extremely low, long term post-operative complication rates approaching those associated with laparoscopic ventral hernia repair without mesh. Dr. Yunis reported a 2.5% major long term complication rate and a 1.5% recurrence rate for 204 laparoscopic ventral hernia repair patients over a 4.2 year period. In a Continuous Quality Improvement study accumulating 52 patients over the past 24 months, Dr. Ramshaw found no major complications, shortened LOS and no recurrences in the group that had on average 2.7 prior abdominal surgical procedures.

Associated with the superior clinical results, a key difference in the healing of non-woven vs. knitted hernia mesh structures was also reviewed. From quantitative histopathologic analysis of tissue from animal and clinical specimens, non-woven polypropylene mesh is found to heal consistently with a confluent layer of fibrous connective tissue throughout all intramesh space. In contrast knitted structures (polypropylene and polyester) do not. Knitted mesh structures heal with a combination of adipose and fibrous connective tissue which on average is composed of 17% adipose or low strength tissue. This improvement in tissue compatibility is considered by some clinicians to support the improvement in clinical results with non-woven polypropylene mesh structures. Many in attendance expressed strong interest in gaining clinical experience with the non-woven type mesh in upcoming hernia repair cases. Additional information on SURGIMESH® MatrixMesh™ Hernia Implant configurations can be found by visiting the www.surgimesh.com web site.

References:

- 1) Yunis, J., Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair with Non-Woven Polypropylene Barrier Mesh, Hernia, vol. 19 Supp. 1, pg. PO:83, April 2015
- 2) Ramshaw, B., Clinical Quality Improvement Using Non-Woven Matrix Mesh in Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair, 1st World Conference of Abdominal Wall Hernia Surgery, "Meet The Experts Session", April 2015

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