

NEW

(Polydioxanone) **SUTURE**

**The first
MONOFILAMENT
synthetic absorbable suture;
the only
synthetic absorbable
to provide
LONGER WOUND SUPPORT.**

ETHICON

ETHICON Ltd., P.O. Box 408, Bankhead Avenue,
Edinburgh EH11 4HE, Scotland.

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Product Licence Nos PL 0508/0011 (dyed) PL 0508/0012 (clear)

Technical Data Overleaf

DATA SHEET

PDS* (Polydioxanone) Sterilised Absorbable Synthetic Suture

Presentation

PDS (Polydioxanone) Monofilament Synthetic Absorbable Suture is prepared from the polyester poly (p-dioxanone). The empirical molecular formula of the polymer is $(C_8H_{12}O_3)_n$. PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures are coloured by adding D & C violet No 2 during polymerisation. These sutures may also be manufactured undyed (clear).

PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures are relatively inert, non-antigenic, non-pyrogenic and elicit only a mild tissue reaction during absorption.

Action

Two important characteristics describe the in vivo behaviour of absorbable sutures. The first of these is tensile strength retention and the second absorption rate or loss of mass.

Data obtained from implantation studies in rats show that, at two weeks post implantation, approximately 70% of the suture strength is retained whilst at four weeks the strength retention is approximately 50%. At eight weeks approximately 14% of the original strength remains. *This indicates a significantly longer period of wound support than previously available with an absorbable suture.*

The absorption or loss of mass is minimal until about the 90th post implantation day and is essentially complete within six months.

Uses

PDS (Polydioxanone) monofilament sutures are intended for use where an absorbable suture or ligature is indicated. They may have particular application where longer wound support is required. See strength retention data above.

Dosage and Administration

By implantation.

Contraindications, Warnings, etc

These sutures, being absorbable, should not be used where extended approximation of tissues under stress is required.

As with all monofilament synthetic sutures, care should be taken to ensure proper knot security.

Conjunctival, cuticular and vaginal mucosal sutures could cause localised irritation if left in place for longer than 10 days and should be removed as indicated.

The safety and effectiveness of PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures in neural and cardiovascular tissue have not yet been established. The use of this material in the renal tract is currently under investigation.

Pharmaceutical Precautions

Do not resterilise.

Legal Category P

Pharmacy medicine sold to surgeons and hospitals through surgical dealers.

Package Quantities

The gauge range initially available will be 0.7 metric (6/0) to 4 metric (1). Various lengths of material attached to non traumatic stainless steel needles are packaged in sealed aluminium foil sachets.

This primary pack is contained in a peel-apart secondary pack. The unit of sale is 24 packs contained in a film wrapped drawer style carton.

Further Information

No suture related adverse reactions were reported during clinical trials, although a number of minor reactions were classified as being of unknown cause.

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Br Pat No 1 540 053.

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NEW DRUGS

In the past few years the number of important new drugs and our understanding of pharmacology have continued to increase. Reliable and unbiased information on the therapeutic use of these agents is, however, not always readily available. Articles recently published in the *BMJ* on entirely new groups of drugs – H₂ receptor antagonists, calcium antagonists, captopril – and on new members of groups of drugs already available – beta-blockers, tranquillisers, hypnotics, diuretics – fill this gap and are now collected together in book form. Busy practitioners will find that this comprehensive review allows them to make a more rational choice of treatment.

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