

Suturing Basics

Curriculum

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Lesson One – Suturing Basics

FOCUS: Knowing Terminology

15-20 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn proper terminology for basic suturing tools and procedures.

Materials:

- *Suturing Basics* slide presentation
- *Suture Information Sheet*
- *Types of Sutures – Vocabulary Sheet*
- *Types of Sutures – Activity Sheet*
- *Types of Sutures – Activity Sheet (Answer Key)*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Go over the objectives in slide 3 and the focus on technique for suturing in slides 4 and 5.
2. Once you have gone over the slides, hand out *Types of Sutures – Vocabulary Sheet* and *Types of Sutures – Activity Sheet* to each participant.
3. Give participants 5-10 minutes to fill out the *Activity Sheet* using the *Vocabulary Sheet*.
4. Collect and correct or go over in class (instructor's choice).

Name: _____ Class: _____

Types of Sutures – Activity Sheet

Using the *Types of Sutures – Vocabulary Sheet*, add the missing information on each type of Suture.

ABSORBABLE:

1. Absorbable sutures are designed to do what?
2. What absorbs the suture?
3. Absorbable sutures are used when temporary support is required and healing tissue will eventually _____.

NON-ABSORBABLE:

1. Non-Absorbable sutures are designed to be left in permanently in the body or removed after _____.
2. When used to close skin, what is the average number of days before nonabsorbable sutures can be removed?
3. Permanently-placed sutures are used where new tissue may never have _____.

NATURAL SUTURE MATERIALS:

1. What are natural sutures made from?
2. What can their protein composition elicit or bring forth more what than any other suture?
3. How long can plain catgut suture strength last?

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4. How long can silk suture strength last?

SYNTHETIC SUTURE MATERIAL:

1. Synthetic materials are better than natural fibers in what way?
2. What is the difference in strength and absorption rate for synthetic sutures compared to natural sutures?

BRAIDED (MULTIFILAMENT)

1. Why is this suture called “braided?”
2. What are some of the results of this material?
3. What is the issue called when these sutures pass less easily through the tissue?
4. Why is this issue bad? What can it cause?
5. Which tissue surface can cause more trauma, rough or smooth?
6. In principle, which tissue surface is most likely to have knots slip, rough or smooth?

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MONOFILAMENT

1. How many strands or filaments are in a monofilament suture?
2. The surface can be smooth and easy to pass through tissue, but what is one difficulty of this type of suture?
3. What is memory in monofilament?

SUTURE SIZE:

1. What is considered the heaviest suture size?
2. What is considered the finest suture size?
3. What does tensile strength mean for sutures?
4. Finer strands have some good qualities. Name two of them.
5. What is less likely to happen due to the passage of the suture as the gauge becomes finer?