

Why Choose Synthetic Absorbable Sutures?

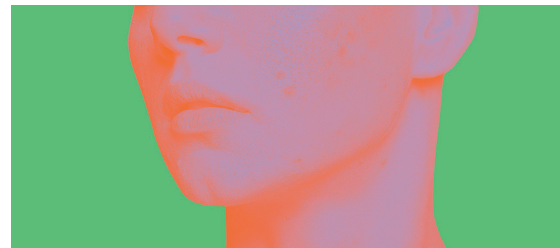
Real-world insights from seven plastic surgeons across two advisory boards*

*Also in attendance: two otorhinolaryngology surgeons, one urologic surgeon, one ear, nose and throat surgeon, and one head and neck surgeon (total surgeons in attendance across both advisory boards = 12)

Synthetic absorbable sutures have been widely adopted by plastic surgeons around the world.

In two advisory boards, seven plastic US surgeons revealed **real-world insights into the advantages of synthetic absorbable sutures in plastic surgery**, including where they can act as an alternative to gut sutures. Surgeons highlighted benefits including **ease of suture handling**, **predictable tensile strength retention time**, **reduced inflammation**, and a **potential reduction in risk of surgical site infections (SSIs)**.*

*Based on opinions of seven US plastic surgeons attending two advisory board meetings, held on September 29th 2025, and October 27th 2025.



1. Enhanced Surgeon Experience

- Gut sutures are **not true monofilaments**; they are formed from multiple twisted strips of gut that have been stretched, dried, and polished.¹
- Gut sutures contain **no lubrication**, so alcohol is present in their packaging to rehydrate the suture after the manufacturing process.¹
- Gut sutures must remain moist to be manageable during placement and knot tying. If they dry out, they become **brittle** and **are harder to pass through tissue**.²

- Braided synthetic absorbable sutures are available with a lubricant coating,¹ which may help to **reduce tissue drag**.³

*VICRYL™, VICRYL™ Plus, and Coated VICRYL RAPIDE™.

VICRYL RAPIDE™ (polyglactin 910) Suture for Plastic Surgery

- VICRYL RAPIDE™ demonstrated superior knot security compared to Fast Absorbing Plain Gut Suture.⁴
- VICRYL RAPIDE™ external sutures begin to “fall off” after 7-10 days;⁵ therefore, need for suture removal is eliminated.

*Size 5-0 VICRYL RAPIDE™

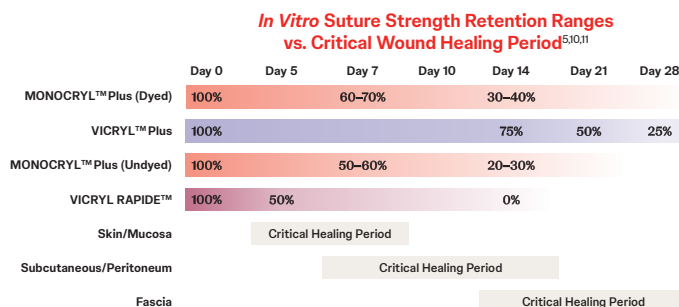


Five surgeons across both advisory boards agreed that synthetic absorbable sutures offer **predictability or ease of handling**,^{6,7} which may enhance the **overall surgical experience**.

2. Predictable Tensile Strength Retention

Degradation of gut sutures is driven by **enzymatic action**^{8,9} and can be impacted by factors such as infection and the condition of the tissue involved.³ Enzymatic breakdown may lead to **unpredictability in tensile strength retention time** and, consequently, **absorption time**.

Synthetic absorbable sutures are **degraded by hydrolysis**^{5,10,11} and therefore may demonstrate more **predictable tensile strength retention**.¹

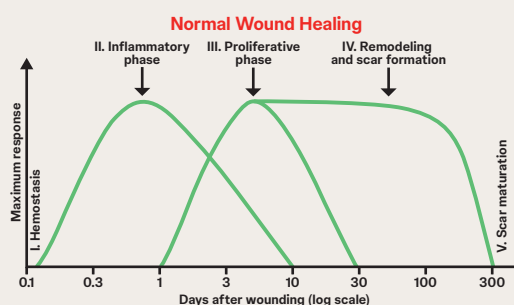


Four plastic surgeons across both advisory boards reported that synthetic absorbable sutures provide consistency and predictability.^{6,7}

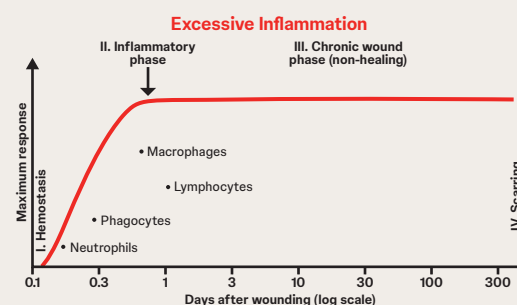
3. Improved Cosmesis via Reduced Inflammation

Inflammation is critical to wound healing; however, **excessive inflammation** at the suture site can lead to **worse scar and keloid formation**.¹²

Gut sutures have been shown to create **more tissue inflammation** than synthetic absorbable sutures.¹³



Adapted from Enoch and Menke^{4,15}





Three surgeons in the second advisory board reported that synthetic absorbable sutures are **less inflammatory** than gut sutures,⁷ potentially contributing to **optimal cosmesis outcomes**.

4. Reduced SSI Risk



Suture material is a **risk factor for SSI**,¹⁶ bacteria can colonize on the suture, developing a polymicrobial biofilm which **increases the likelihood of an SSI**.¹⁶

Synthetic absorbable sutures, unlike gut sutures, are available with Plus Antibacterial technology that contain triclosan, a broad spectrum antibacterial agent.^{10,11} Plus Antibacterial Sutures have been shown *in vitro* to **inhibit colonization** of the suture for 7 days or more.¹⁷⁻¹⁹



Triclosan-coated sutures are supported by the **highest level of clinical evidence** (1A) and by **health authorities** around the world.²⁰⁻²⁵

*CDC, WHO, ACS/SIS, NICE, and KRINKO guidelines on reducing the risk of surgical site infections are general to triclosan-coated sutures and are not specific to any one brand.



Triclosan-coated synthetic absorbable sutures may help reduce the **risk of SSIs**, bringing added **benefit to patients**.

Selecting an Appropriate Synthetic Absorbable Suture Alternative to Gut Sutures

If you use...

Fast Absorbing Plain Gut

Plain Gut Suture

Chronic Gut Suture

You could choose...

VICRYL RAPIDE™
(polyglactin 910) Suture

MONOCRYL™
Plus Antibacterial
(poliglecaprone 25) Suture

Coated VICRYL™
Plus Antibacterial
(polyglactin 910) Suture

MONOCRYL™
Plus Antibacterial
(poliglecaprone 25) Suture

*Subject to clinical preference.



Indications



Surgeons from the advisory boards reported using these synthetic absorbable sutures for...

VICRYL RAPIDE™
(polyglactin 910) Suture

Superficial soft tissue approximation of the skin and mucosa⁵

Ear closure^{7a}

Nipple grafts^{7a}

Skin grafts^{7b}

MONOCRYL™ Plus Antibacterial (poliglecaprone 25) Suture

General soft tissue approximation and/or ligation¹⁰

Cutaneous closures^{7a}

Deep dermals^{6a}

Breast free flaps^{7a}

Coated VICRYL™ Plus Antibacterial (polyglactin 910) Suture

General soft tissue approximation and/or ligation¹¹

Oral cavity^{7a}

Deep dermals^{6,7b}

Muscle flaps^{6a}

Labiaplasties^{6a}

PDS™ Plus Antibacterial (Polydioxanone) Suture

General soft tissue approximation²⁶

Soft tissue approximation^{7a}

STRATAFIX™ Knotless Tissue Control Devices*

Multiple; please consult relevant IFU

Abdominoplasties^{6,7b}

Fascia^{6a}

Deep dermals^{6a}

Cutaneous closures^{7a}

Nipple and areola^{7a}

*STRATAFIX™ Symmetric Plus Knotless Tissue Control Device is the only barbed suture appropriate for high-tension areas, such as fascia.
a: Insights from one surgeon; b: insights from two surgeons

Abbreviations

ACS: American College of Surgeons; **CDC:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; **KRINKO:** Commission for Hospital Hygiene and Infection Prevention (Krankenhaushygiene und Infektionsprävention) of the Robert Koch Institute; **NICE:** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; **SIS:** Surgical Infection Society; **SSI:** Surgical Site Infection; **US:** United States; **WHO:** World Health Organization.

For complete indications, contraindications, warnings, precautions, and adverse reactions, please reference full package insert.

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This content is partially based on information identified and discussed by 12 surgeons attending two advisory board meetings.

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