



and Other Interventional Techniques

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Adverse effects of porcine small intestine submucosa (SIS) implants in experimental ventral hernia repair

I read with interest the original article by Petter-Puchner et al. [1]. In it, the authors evaluated 20 Sprague-Dawley rats to study porcine small intestine submucosa implants randomizing sealant or sutures. Abscedation, encapsulation, and putrid seroma were observed in all samples; SIS was not detectable after 17 days.

I wish to point out the following considerations:

- Porcine small intestine submucosa has a wide literature [2] with many experimental and clinical data and these adverse effects are not reported.
- The study was based only on a limited sample of 20 rats.
- Experiments were not repeated.
- There was not a control group (it is not possible to have one of the two randomized group serving as control).
- All samples had extensive infectious problems (in scientific models, 100% value is sometimes caused by methodological errors).
- SIS is reabsorbed after 8–10 months [3, 4].
- There are too many results totally discordant from the rest of the literature.

In summary, I think this study should be redone with a control group with polypropylene because there is a basic methodology problem.

References

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