

ORAL PRESENTATION

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“Drain Dance” technique for thoracoscopic application of Tissuepatch to reduce post-operative air-leak saves time and cost

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Background

Tissuepatch™ is an effective adjunct to reduce post-operative air-leak particularly after lung volume reduction surgery. However, thoracoscopic application of Tissuepatch™ can be time-consuming and challenging despite several modifications to the manufacturer’s delivery kit. Wastage of Tissuepatch™ during its application remains a problem due to the accidental contamination and activation of the Tissuepatch™ at the tip of the delivery kit when it comes in contact with blood or tissue. We describe a new “Drain Dance” technique to apply Tissuepatch™ effectively and quickly.

Method

In brief, we had protected the tip of the delivery kit using a chest drain. This also facilitated the introduction of the delivery kit into the thorax. The chest drain cover was then removed, to allow the elegant unrolling of the Tissuepatch™ inside the chest.

Results

Using this technique in 10 patients to-date (9 unilateral and 1 bilateral procedures), the Tissuepatch™ could be applied successfully in less than 5 minutes per application. It also reduced the accidental wastage of at least one Tissuepatch™ per case.

Conclusion

The “Drain Dance” technique therefore ensures the effective thoracoscopic application of Tissuepatch™, avoiding wastage and saving time.

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