

Syringe as Suture Needle: Alternative but definitely not a substitute

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Abstract: Suturing is the one of the commonest and final procedure for any surgical techniques. A good closure is necessary to promote a good healing. Many times needles are not available in remote places or in emergency situations, one can make best use of syringe to make a suture needle. Here we present a simple way to make a suture needle from syringe needle. [Fareedi A NJIRM 2017; 8(5):96-97]

Key Words: Syringe, Needle, Suture

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Introduction: My Experience while working in rural parts of India, many times needles gets exhausted and not available in the small villages in emergency situations. Thus the use of syringe needle idea is given here.

Methods: Needle hub is removed using a wire cutter. (Fig. 1) Suture thread is passed through the rear end of the needle and pulled through the bevel. (Fig. 2) The portion of needle next to the needle hub is crushed/ clamped down on to the thread with a heavy needle holder or bone nibbler type of instrument. Now the needle can be bent to give a semi-circular shape. (Fig. 3 and 4) The needle is ready for the use in suturing. (Fig. 5)

Discussion: We had successfully used this needle after the alveoloplasty procedure. Eyeless suture needle is always atraumatic and has added advantages. The needle we used is similar to eyeless needle. It can be used when there is unavailability of suture needle. An alternative way to suture is by using this type of needles, but it is definitely not a substitute. The needle used for local Anesthesia can be used for making this type of needle and thus it is least expensive. This technique is already been published by Usgaocar RP et al (2007) and by Tammy LO et al (2010). We have not claimed that it's our original idea, but this type of suture needle can be used in emergency situation in intraoral conditions.

Fig. 1: Needle hub is removed using a wire cutter.

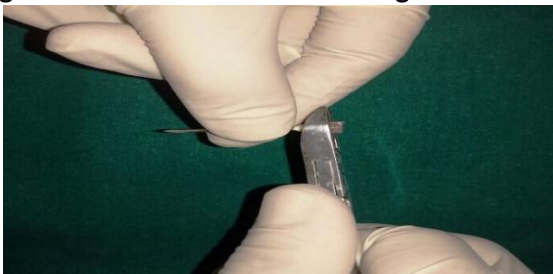


Fig. 2: Suture thread is passed through the rear end of the needle and pulled through the bevel.



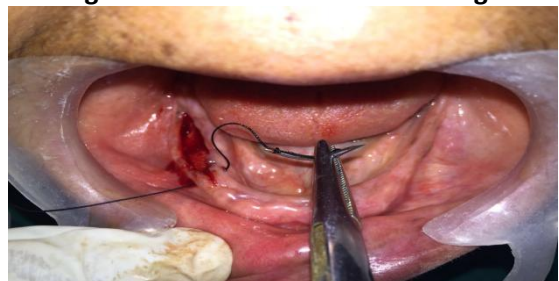
Fig. 3: The needle can be bent to give a semi-circular shape.



Fig. 4: The prepared suture needle.



Fig. 5: The needle is use in suturing.



Conclusion: This type of needles can only be used in emergencies when the regular suture needles have exhausted, it is definitely not a substitute, but can be a valuable clinical aid at a particular time.

References:

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