
Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant in Thoracic surgery - Interview

During thoracic procedures it is likely to encounter problems with prolonged air leakage, which may lead to a significant delay of chest tube removal. This is not only a problem for the patient; it also adds cost to the overall treatment as the hospital stay is prolonged, and in effect increases the health care expenditure.

Dr. Jacobs, a General Thoracic surgeon from Germany, has now been using Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant in Thoracic surgery for more than 4 years and the experience has been positive. Dr. Jacobs has more than 12 years of surgical experience and holds a position as a senior physician in a German Thoracic Centre.



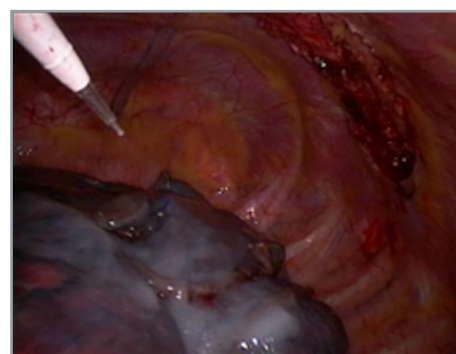
Dr. Jan Jacobs

He lists a number of reasons why he and his colleagues use Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant:

- Biophysical characteristics: Elasticity, adhesion and polymerization
- Minimizes post surgical air leakage
- Safety profile: Autologous, no thrombin and aprotinin
- Multiple types of application devices that ensure precise and effective application

Surgical sealants need to possess a number of biophysical properties in order to be efficient in thoracic surgery: Dr. Jacobs says: "The sealant must be very flexible, i.e. it must be possible to apply on a deflated or partially inflated lung without compromising lung function and adhesion when the lung is re-inflated. Furthermore, polymerization must be very quick to ensure that the sealant remains where it is applied".

In vitro experiments show that Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant possesses these biophysical characteristics, furthermore, studies show that Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant is able to minimize post surgical air leakage. Dr. Jacobs continues: "It is our experience that the use of Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant minimizes post surgical air leakage, shortens the time for chest tube removal and reduces the length of the hospital stay; even in high risk profile patients where extended resections, emphysema, silicosis and re-operations complicate matters further. Moreover, we see that surgical revisions are less frequent with Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant, which benefits both the patient and health care expenditure. Our experience is scientifically summarized in a Study of Feasibility including 100 patients, which will be presented early October at the 2010 DACH Congress in Vienna".



Application of Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant during lung resection

Dr. Jacobs also comments upon product safety: "The safety profile of Vivostat Fibrin Sealant is very strong- it requires little persuasion to use a product that is less likely to harm the patient". Dr. Jacobs argues that another advantage of Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant is the multiple different application devices. He says: "The Spraypen® allows the surgeon to apply Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant in a precise and effective manner. It may be applied intermittently throughout the entire procedure without experiencing a blockage that is common in conventional systems". Another relevant application device is the endoscopic handle: Dr. Jacobs mentions: "It allows surgeons to use Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant in Thoracoscopic surgery or in open procedures to reach every corner of the operated hemithorax".

Dr. Jacobs concludes the interview by saying: "Vivostat® Fibrin Sealant is a superior product; it has a number of benefits that clearly help minimize post surgical air leakage in a safe and effective way".

After the interview Dr. Jacobs changed position and is now Chief Surgeon at the Klinikum Ludwigshafen, Surgical Department A, Section for Thoracic Surgery.
