# Abstract Title: **EzStitch Port Site Closure System**

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INNOVATION OF THE YEAR

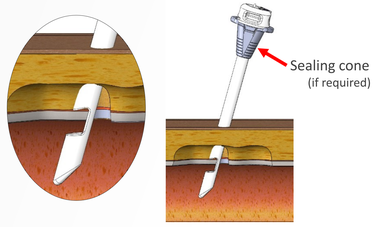
**DEVICE DESCRIPTION:**

The EzStitch Port Site Closure System is a set instruments primarily intended for the use of closing the soft tissue layers (fascia, muscle and peritoneum) resulting from trocar access in laparoscopic surgery. The EzStitch system has three basic components: 1) a suture passer, 2) a guide, and 3) a sealing cone for use in larger defects.

The guide is equipped with a distal chamber that protects the needle sharp from being exposed in the abdominal cavity, thus significantly minimizing the risk of injuring abdominal viscera. The notch feature near the distal end of the guide allows for precise positioning on the fascial edge while reducing adipose tissue entrapment in the stitch. Of great significance, the notch design enables a consistent bite of fascia. The guide's distal chamber is equipped with a trap door mechanism used to automatically secure and retrieve the free ends of suture passed by the suture passer. The tedious task of "fishing" for suture is eliminated. The extended length shaft of the guide allows proper guide placement in even the largest of patients, making the technology ideal for bariatric procedures. The optional Sealing Cone can be utilized with the guide for the purpose of adapting the sealing capability to maintain pneumoperitoneum for defects up to 23mm diameter.

## Procedure Sequence

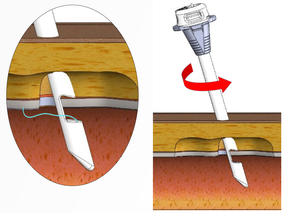
**1** Position guide – sliding notch onto anterior fascial edge



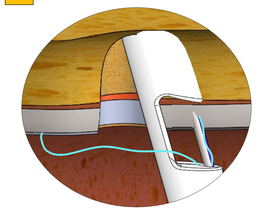

**2** Drop off 1st suture tail, needle aligned



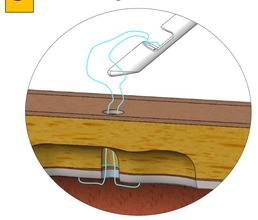

**3** Rotate guide 180°, sliding notch against opposite fascial edge



**4** Drop off 2nd suture tail, needle aligned



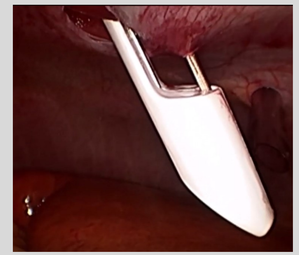
**5** Remove guide, release suture





EzStitch™

*Port Site Closure System*



# Clinical Study

**INTRODUCTION**

Port site closure after laparoscopic surgery is performed to mitigate the risk of post operative hernia. This closure is currently achieved by one of two methods: 1) simple suturing which is time consuming and not always effective, or 2) utilizing a closure device requiring a surgeon plus an assistant to "fish" for sutures. Exacerbating the challenges with current methods is the continually increasing number of overweight and obese patients. When a device was developed to address these challenges, a user preference study gauged surgeons' response to its safety, efficacy, and ease of use.

**METHODS**

The study included forty-two 42 patients involving nineteen (19) surgeons, from sixteen facilities in different regions of the county (Alabama, Northern CA, Southern CA, and Hawaii). The surgical procedures included robotic & laparoscopic hysterectomy, gastric bypass, lap chole, gastric band, myomectomy, robotic hernia repair, endometriosis exploratory, and sleeve gastrectomy. Each procedure was evaluated in terms of safety, efficacy, and ease of use.

**RESULTS**

Product revisions were implemented as valuable feedback was obtained after the initial 17 cases. The enhancements resulted in a robust, reliable, versatile, and optimally safe device. This recently released technology is gaining strong traction with leading clinicians, especially in bariatric and robotic surgery.

**CONCLUSION**

The EzStitch Port Site Closure system combines valuable product features to offer safety, simplicity, and security of closure for even the most demanding trocar defects.

Suture ease

**Booth 200**