

NHS England Innovation and Technology Payment

Reducing the risk of surgical site infections in patients through the use of antimicrobial suture packs

32% of hospital acquired infections are actually surgical site related, most of which can be prevented.

A new type of surgical suture containing the antiseptic Triclosan could help to reduce surgical site infections (SSIs), such as MRSA.

Patients with an SSI are twice as likely to spend time in an intensive care unit and are five times more likely to be readmitted after discharge. They are also twice as likely to die. 50% of healthcare infections are associated with devices that are fixed in a person's body for a sustained period of time (Leaper 2010) and sutures are often the overlooked cause.

Ethicon Plus Antibacterial Sutures contain a coating of the antiseptic Triclosan (IRGACARE® MP), shown in-vitro to inhibit bacterial colonisation of the suture for seven days or more.

Plus Sutures have been clinically evaluated in multiple independent studies, published in peer reviewed journals including 25 randomised controlled trials (RCTs); 10 non RCTs; and eight meta-analyses.

All eight of the meta analyses published since 2012 show a reduction in SSIs and all but the first show a statistically significant reduction in SSIs when they are used.



Patient benefit	Reduces a patient's length of stay in hospital and the need for antibiotics to treat an SSI.
Effective	Effective against the most common organisms associated with SSIs.
Reimbursement	Available at 30% discount to designated sites (as eligible trusts can reclaim the difference between this product and regular sutures). They are available on the Innovation and Technology Payment until March 2019.

This is one of four innovations funded through the NHS England Innovation and Technology Payment (ITP). To find out more, go to: www.ahsnnetwork.com/innovation-technology-payment-itp

TheAHSNNetwork

The NHS Innovation and Technology Payment (ITP) is an NHS England programme, supported by Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs), which aims to remove financial barriers to the uptake of innovative products into the NHS to improve care for patients. There are three innovations on the programme available at zero cost and one innovation available at no additional cost to health and care providers from April 2018 until March 2019, after which the support will be reviewed.

Criteria apply. Please see NHS ITP technical notes for more information:

www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/innovation-technology-payment-2018-19-technical-notes.pdf

Plus Sutures FAQs

Q: Are all trusts eligible for Ethicon Plus Sutures on the ITP?

A: No, trusts with surgical site infection rates over 4% are eligible - calculated from Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data.

Q: How does the ITP cost model work for Ethicon Plus Sutures?

A: Ethicon Plus Sutures are 30% above standard sutures provided by Johnson and Johnson. The 30% uplift is reimbursed by NHS England once they are ordered using the relevant product codes. Once the ITP ends the 30% reclaim offer will not be offered.

Q: Are there different sizes available?

A: Yes, all sizes for different types of surgery are available. Please contact Chloe Symes - Wound Closure Platform Manager, UK - csymes1@its.jnj.com for more information.

Q: Is the hospital required to report any information?

A: Yes, minimum data-set reporting is required. For more information and to obtain a copy of the reporting template, please contact Arden GEM CSU FinanceQueries@ardengemcsu.nhs.uk.

Contact:

Chloe Symes, Wound Closure Platform Manager, UK csymes1@its.jnj.com

Website: www.ethicon.com/na/choose-plus-suture

Reference:

Surgical-site Infection. 2010. Leaper, D. J. British J Surgery. 97(11). 1601-1602.