

Hemostatic plug: Novel technique for closure of percutaneous nephrostomy tract.

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Publication Date: 2015

Abstract:

Percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL) is a standard treatment for patients with large or complex kidney stones. The procedure has traditionally included postoperative placement of a nephrostomy tube to allow for drainage and possible reentry. This practice was first implemented after complications incurred after tubeless PCNL in a small patient population. Recently, tubeless PCNL has reemerged as a viable option for selected patients, resulting in decreased pain and analgesic use, shorter hospitalization, quicker return to normal activity, and decreased urine extravasation. Gelatin matrix sealants are occasionally used in nephrostomy tract closure. Techniques for delivery of these agents have been ill described, and placement may be performed with varying results. We present a literature review comparing tubeless PCNL to its traditional variant with indications for use of each, as well as a comparison of agents used in closure. Finally, we outline a novel, reproducible technique for closure of the dilated percutaneous renal access tract.

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