Fibrin sealant for the management of genitourinary injuries, fistulas

and surgical complications.

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Abstract:

Purpose: We report our preliminary experience with the use of fibrin sealant to manage iatrogenic

urinary tract injuries, complex urinary fistulas, and urological surgical complications. Materials and

Methods: Topical fibrin sealant was used in 19 patients for iatrogenic urinary tract injury during

gynecological or general surgical procedures (7), complex urinary fistulas (5) or urological surgical

complications (7). Results: Successful resolution of the injury, fistula or complication was attained

after a single application of fibrin sealant in the 18 patients (94.7%) in whom a direct injection

technique was used. The only failure (formation of a vesicovaginal fistula) occurred with the air

driven sprayed sealant delivery technique after sutured closure of iatrogenic cystotomy during

vaginal hysterectomy. Conclusions: Liquid fibrin sealant appears to be safe and prudent for use in

urological "damage control" from trauma, fistulas or surgical complications. Direct injection over a

sutured urinary anastomosis appears to be highly effective in preventing urinary drainage. Additional

study is needed to define further the role and best use of tissue adhesives in urology.