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Title (type in CAPITAL LETTERS): COMPARISON OF CADAVERIC FASCIA LATA

Aims of Study: Pubovaginal slings are the procedure of choice to correct stress urinary incontinence (SUI). There, however, is not a consensus on which sling material to use. In recent times, there is much interest in using cadaveric fascia lata. We compared the biomechanical properties of four different sling materials

Methods: Two of the samples used underwent patented processing (PP) by their production company while the other two samples did not. These samples were specifically tested for load to failure (LTF) and displacement at maximum load (elongation). The samples were all approximately 2 X 5 CM. The testing was performed after 5 minutes of hydration in normal saline at 73 F. Statistical analysis was performed using the student's t-test, and $P \leq 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Results:

Type of sling material	# tested	Avg. LTF (kN) ± std dev	Avg. elongation (mm) ± std dev
A (Lifenet)	4	0.25 ± 0.18	6.11 ± 1.7
B (PP) (Faslata by Bard)	3	0.26 ± 0.01	5.23 ± 0.19
C (MTF)	2	0.32 ± 0.03	5.24 ± 0.76
D (PP) (Tutoplast by Mentor)	4	0.33 ± 0.07	4.92 ± 0.74

All slings were compared with sample "D" which is the only specially treated cadaveric fascia on the market at the time of this study, and there was no statistically significant difference noted in LTF or displacement at maximum load. The cadaveric fascia designate "A" had a greater standard deviation in both LTF and displacement than some of the samples undergoing more stringent processing and selection.

Conclusion: Contrary to previous reports, all cadaveric fascia lata, whether treated with patented processing or not, had similar load to failure values as well as similar displacement at maximum load values.