

# Theragenics

## PGCL SYNTHETIC ABSORBABLE SUTURES, U.S.P.

### DESCRIPTION

PGCL monofilament, synthetic, sterile, absorbable, surgical suture is composed of poly(glycolide-co-caprolactone). PGCL Sutures are available dyed (FD&C violet #2) or undyed (natural). PGCL suture meets all requirements established by the United States Pharmacopeia (U.S.P.), except for diameter, which complies with the European Pharmacopeia.

### INDICATIONS

PGCL sutures are indicated for use in soft tissue approximation and/or ligation, but not for use in cardiovascular or neurological surgery, microsurgery, or ophthalmic surgery.

### ACTIONS

PGCL sutures elicit a minimal acute inflammatory reaction in tissues, followed by gradual encapsulation of the suture by fibrous connective tissue. Progressive loss of tensile strength and eventual absorption of PGCL sutures occurs by means of hydrolysis. Absorption begins as a loss of tensile strength followed by a loss of mass. Implantation studies in animals indicate that PGCL suture retains approximately 70% of its original tensile strength at 7 days post implantation, approximately 40% of its original tensile strength at 14 days post implantation and 12% of its original tensile strength at 21 days post implantation. Absorption of PGCL suture is essentially complete between 91 and 120 days.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

PGCL monofilament is contraindicated for use in cardiovascular or neurological surgery, microsurgery, or ophthalmic surgery.

Because of the loss of tensile strength that may occur over prolonged periods in vivo, PGCL monofilament surgical sutures should not be used where permanent retention of tensile strength is required.

The use of this suture may be inappropriate in elderly, malnourished, or debilitated patients, or in patients suffering from conditions, which may delay wound healing.

### WARNINGS

Users should be familiar with surgical procedures and techniques involving nonabsorbable sutures before employing PGCL monofilament surgical sutures for wound closure, as a risk of wound dehiscence may vary with the site of application and the suture material used.

Do not use if package is open or damaged or if the expiration date has been exceeded. Discard open, unused suture.

Do not resterilize; resterilization may alter the physical properties of this suture, which will result in adverse patient reaction.

Users should exercise caution when handling surgical needles to avoid inadvertent needle sticks. Discard used needles in a "sharps" container.

Store in a cool dry environment.

As with any foreign body, prolonged contact of this or any other suture with salt solutions, such as those found in the urinary or biliary tracts, may result in calculus formation.

Acceptable surgical practice should be followed with respect to drainage and closure of contaminated or infected wounds.

### PRECAUTIONS

In handling this or any other surgical suture, care should be taken to avoid damage from handling. Avoid crushing or crimping damage during the use of surgical instruments such as forceps or needle holders.

PGCL suture knots must be properly placed to be secure. Adequate knot security requires the accepted surgical technique of flat, square ties, with additional throws as warranted by surgical circumstances and the experience of the surgeon.

Skin sutures, which must remain in place longer than 7 days may cause localized irritation and should be snipped off or removed as indicated. Subcuticular sutures should be placed as deeply as possible to minimize the erythema and induration normally associated with absorption.

The use of supplemental nonabsorbable sutures should be considered by the surgeon in the closure of sites subject to expansion, stretching or distention, or requiring additional support.

Consideration should be taken in the use of absorbable sutures in tissues with poor blood supply as suture extrusion and delayed absorption may occur.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse effects associated with the use of this device include wound dehiscence, failure to provide adequate wound support in sites where expansion, stretching, or distention occur, failure to provide adequate wound support in elderly, malnourished and debilitated patients or in patients suffering from conditions that may delay wound healing, infection, minimal acute inflammatory tissue reaction, localized irritation when skin sutures are left in place for greater than 7 days, suture extrusion and delayed absorption in tissue with poor blood supply, calculi formation when prolonged contact with salt solution occurs, enhanced bacterial infectivity and transitory local irritation.

Discuss the potential for allergic reaction in patients that are known to be sensitive to PGCL monofilament suture.

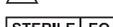
### HOW SUPPLIED

PGCL sutures are available in various USP sizes. PGCL sutures are supplied in a wide range of lengths affixed to a diverse assortment of needle types.

### CAUTION

Federal (USA) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a physician or other licensed practitioner.

### SYMBOL DEFINITIONS

	Lot Number
	Expiration Date
	Do Not Reuse
	Do Not Resterilize
	See Instructions For Use
	Sterilized By Ethylene Oxide
	Keep away from sunlight and heat
	Do not use if package is damaged
	Keep dry
	Manufacturer

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