Figure 1 The 'Tubiglove'.

because of the elasticity in the material, it is particularly helpful in allowing controlled mobilisation of the injured digits.

Haemostasis of paravertebral venous plexus bleeding during ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm repair using epiphyseal staples

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During ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, haemorrhage from the paravertebral venous plexus whilst suturing the graft to the aortic neck can be a fatal complication. Two patients presented with this complication during emergency repair of a leaking aneurysm. Control of bleeding was transiently achieved by direct digital compression against the vertebral body. We opted to insert epiphyseal staples (Fig. 1) to transfix the veins against the lumbar spine. In both cases, the staples were hammered directly against the

Figure 1 Picture of epiphyseal staples and insertion pliers

Figure 2 Epiphyseal staples shown in position against lumbar spine

vertebral bodies controlling the haemorrhage (Figs 2 and 3). This technique can be rapid and easily used for successful control of this type of haemorrhage.

Figure 3 Epiphyseal staples shown in position against lumbar spine