TECHNICAL TIPS

Use of saline in surgical wounds

CHRISTOPHER BROWN, VIPUL MANDALIA,
ILANA LANGDON

Department of Orthopaedics, Royal United Hospital Bath,
Bath, UK

CORRESPONDENCE TO

Christopher Brown, Department of Orthopaedics, Royal United
Hospital Bath, Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NG, UK
E: cnbrown@doctors.org.uk

Figure 1 Radiograph with (A) and without (B) normal saline.

We report a simple method to improve the quality of intra-operative fluoroscopy obtained using an image intensifier. The figures shown (Fig. 1A,B) were taken during the initial stages of open reduction and internal fixation of a distal radial fracture, through a Henry approach. In Figure 1A, the surgical wound has been filled with 10 ml of sterile saline. The patient and C-arm machine position are unchanged. The fluid has displaced the air within the wound and allowed a clearer image of the operative site by eliminating the air-fluid interface.

Removal of fibro-epithelial anal polyps

MICHAEL LAVELLE

Department of Surgery, The Nuffield Hospital Haywards
Heath, Haywards Heath, Sussex, UK

CORRESPONDENCE TO

Michael Lavelle, Consultant Surgeon, The Nuffield Hospital
Haywards Heath, Burrell Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex
RH16 1UD, UK
T: +44 (0)1444 456999; M: +44 (0)7710 409523;
E: malawbrook@aol.com

Fibro-epithelial anal polyps can sometimes become a nuisance if they become enlarged and repeatedly prolapse. Removal under general anaesthetic is easy, but under local anaesthetic it can be difficult to obtain haemostasis after the polyp has been removed. If the polyp is first infiltrated with local anaesthetic, two rubber bands can be applied to the polyp using suction banding equipment and an Eisenhammer retractor. The polyp is then cut off with scissors just beyond the bands, and no bleeding occurs. The bands slough off in due course. The procedure can be carried out in out-patients.

Methylene blue dye aids postoperative inflation of breast tissue expanders

NADIM GULAMHUSEINWALA, SIMON MACKEY, PETER
MEAGHER

Department of Plastic Surgery, St George's Hospital, London, UK

CORRESPONDENCE TO

Nadim Gulamhuseinwala, Department of Plastic Surgery, St
George's Hospital, Blackshaw Hospital, London SW17 0QT, UK
M: +44 (0)7866 360547; E: nadimgulam@gmail.com

The Becker Adjustable Breast Implant (Mentor; Santa Barbara, CA, USA) for breast augmentation has an inner lumen for saline allowing serial tissue expansion, and an outer lumen of silicone gel. The port is tunnelled beneath the skin, but can be difficult to orientate a needle into correctly, especially in the larger