

SURGIMESH® Non-woven Mesh Technology Embraced at 5th International Hernia Congress in New York City by Leading Surgeons Worldwide

Date: April 6, 2012. – BG Medical, Chicago, IL/PR Newswire



Chicago, IL, Date: April 6, 2012 SURGIMESH® Non-woven Mesh Technology Embraced at 5th International Hernia Congress in New York City by Leading Surgeons Worldwide

At the joint meeting of the American, European and Asia Pacific Hernia societies - SURGIMESH Non-woven Mesh Technology was greeted with strong enthusiasm by hernia surgeons attending from around the world. During the three venues of surgeon podium presentations, surgeon Breakfast & Learn presentations and exhibiting attending surgeons learned of the outcome improving benefits of the Non-woven, Monofilament Microfiber Polypropylene construction of SURGIMESH products.

For one of the plenary session presentations the first day of the meeting, Maciej Smietanski, MD of the Medical University of Gdansk and the Polish Hernia Study Group delivered a presentation on a **“Systematic review and meta-analysis on heavy and Lightweight polypropylene mesh in Lichtenstein inguinal hernioplasty”**. His presentation concluded that lighter weight meshes do improve patient outcome, that outcomes are primarily improved in the early post operative period and that it is necessary to carefully select lighter weight mesh to maintain low recurrence and complication rates long term. SURGIMESH WN was specifically identified as their lighter weight mesh of choice in Lichtenstein inguinal hernia repair.

Three surgeon presentations on SURGIMESH Non-woven Technology Mesh were delivered during an early morning Breakfast & Learn session to further educate surgeons on the outcome benefits in hernia repair. The presentations were:

- a) **Optimizing Lichtenstein Hernioplasty Outcomes** by Maciej Smietanski, MD, PhD
- b) **Groin Hernia Repair: Minimal Open Preperitoneal Approach Using a New Composite Mesh** by Marc Soler, MD and
- c) **Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia Repair – Achieving Superior Long Term Success** by Jonathan Yunis, MD, FACS.

All three surgeons reported that the soft and flexible nature of SURGIMESH combined with its strong integration into surrounding tissues resulted in more comfortable hernia repairs which were proving durable long term. The greater than 11 years of combined clinical experience provided a convincing testament to the superior patient outcomes being provided by SURGIMESH Non-woven Technology.

Surgeons visiting the exhibit jointly sponsored by BG Medical and Aspide Medical were consistently impressed by the superior characteristics of SURGIMESH WN and XB product lines and the first significant change in mesh design and construction for hernia repair since the 1980's. Numerous surgeon requests were received for subsequent clinical use and evaluation of WN non-barrier mesh and XB barrier mesh. The surgical community repairing hernias continues to pursue the ideal solution for long term mesh support of abdominal cavity defects despite the competitive “differences on a theme” efforts with knitted and woven technologies that have been introduced in the recent past attempting to address this market need. SURGIMESH Non-woven Technology based upon the clinical experience of using surgeons is meeting this market need head on. For additional information on SURGIMESH hernia repair configurations visit the www.surgimesh.com website.

About BG Medical

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BG Medical is the exclusive US distributor for SURGIMESH and other advanced medical device technologies.

About Aspide Medical

Aspide Medical of St. Etienne, France, celebrating 15 years of healthcare innovation, manufactures thousands of medical devices each year which are distributed worldwide. Aspide Medical's vast expertise in developing medical device technologies for the treatment of digestive, urologic, gynecologic, and aesthetic surgeries has brought a number of breakthrough advances in these and other diversified healthcare markets. Maintaining a commitment to the latest ISO Quality Standards, state-of-the-art manufacturing and automation, Aspide Medical continues to excel in several specialty healthcare markets requiring surgical intervention. For more information, visit Aspide Medical's website at www.aspide.com

ML-SM-032, Rev 1