## ACOS General Surgeons Benefit From 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Seminar on Surgical Mesh Failure Modes and Healing Focused On Optimizing Hernia Patient Outcomes

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In the interest of improving hernia patient outcomes, the ACOS surgical community repairing hernias has continued to pursue the ideal solution for long term synthetic mesh reinforcement of abdominal wall defects despite the competitive influence of a "differences on a theme" strategy espoused by legacy knitted and woven technology mesh manufacturers. In support of this effort BG Medical has annually pursued seminar events with the ACOS General Surgical community to highlight the demonstrated failure modes of synthetic knitted and woven surgical meshes and advanced technologies that have emerged in overcoming these failure modes.

This year's seminar outlined the published clinical reports calling for caution when using lightweight knitted mesh constructions which have demonstrated central mesh failures in abdominal wall reconstructions. Associated with this, experimental results were presented showing significantly different tissue healing patterns between knitted, expanded and non-woven constructions of surgical mesh. Knitted meshes have demonstrated significant levels of interfiber fat infiltration, which can weaken the long term healed strength of a knitted mesh abdominal wall reconstruction. This potentially explains the mechanism for knitted central mesh failures. Expanded surgical mesh configurations have demonstrated only surface fibrous connective tissue healing with the bulk of the mesh devoid of any tissue integration. Expanded mesh abdominal wall reconstructions are primarily dependent on their permanent fixation for repair integrity. Conversely, in contrast to knitted and expanded mesh constructions, non-woven surgical mesh consistently demonstrates complete fibrous connective tissue integration throughout the mesh thickness, fully strengthening an abdominal wall reconstruction with both the non-woven mesh tensile strength and the strength of the fibrous connective tissue incorporation.

Following this seminar, surgeons consistently demonstrated a very positive response to this highly differentiated surgical mesh performance with significant clinical implications, submitting numerous requests for subsequent clinical use and evaluation of SURGIMESH® WN non-barrier and SURGIMESH® XB barrier meshes. Many longer term users of SURGIMESH Non-woven Technology reinforced the clinical importance of this highly differentiating long term healing response in helping explain their very positive historical clinical outcomes. For additional information on SURGIMESH Non-woven hernia repair configurations visit the www.surgimesh.com website.

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BG Medical's core competencies include General and Laparoscopic Specialty Surgery, Thoracic, Urogynecologic, Colorectal and other emerging minimally invasive surgical platform applications. For additional information visit

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Aspide Medical of St. Etienne, France, celebrating 20 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 numerous specialty healthcare markets requiring surgical intervention. For more information, visit Aspide Medical's website at www.aspide.com.

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