Skin Grafts - From Macro to Minor

A comprehensive range of Skin Graft products designed specifically for debridement to harvesting of skin.

The Skin Graft range is used in the surgical removal of a patch of healthy skin from one area of the patient’s body which is then transplanted to another area where there has been extensive tissue loss. Skin grafts may be recommended for burns, specific surgeries that may require skin grafts for healing to occur and for areas of prior infection with extensive skin loss. They may also be used for cosmetic reasons during reconstructive surgeries.
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With three models to choose from, namely the Braithwaite, Cobbett and Watson, the Stainless Steel Knife Handles are used in conjunction with the sterile 158mm Skin Graft Blades for harvesting "Macro" or "Major" Skin Grafts. The blades have an in-built adjustable guard which can limit the maximal thickness of the graft harvested depending on the properties of the skin at the donor site. This can vary in thickness due to multiple factors including the age of the patient. The exact thickness of the graft can also depend upon:

1) The contact angle between the blade and skin whilst harvesting
2) The pressure applied by the operator onto the knife whilst harvesting

These are important aspects of skin grafting technique that need to be mastered to enable reproducibly consistent harvesting of high quality split thickness skin grafts.

The smaller Silvers stainless steel "miniature" Skin Graft Handle is available with either a distinctive blue autoclavable handle or a solid stainless steel handle and was originally developed by H.L. Silver in Toronto, Canada.

The "new" custom designed surgical stainless steel Silver's blade has a 1½ inch (4 cm) postage stamp size cutting edge. The steel thickness now mirrors that of other skin graft blades such as the 9940 - 158 mm providing more stability for the user and preventing the occurrence of skin tear or roll up during harvesting. They are ideal for harvesting small intracutaneous grafts from areas which would not be accessible with the larger standard knives such as the ear, dorsa of the hands or scalp. Although used mainly within Plastic, Reconstructive and Oral surgery the Silvers can also be used for the debridement of wounds.

The Dermatome blade range is used in the surgical removal of damaged tissue and harvesting of "borrowed" tissue from a donor site. The blades are fitted into a handheld instrument which resembles an electric razor.

The blade oscillates and the movement back and forth will "evenly" skin off the surface layers of skin. Electric Dermatomes are preferable for cutting thinner and longer strips of skin with a more homogeneous thickness. Available in three sizes, a 25mm single segment (9943), a 50mm two segmental (9944) and a 75mm three segmental (9945), the blades are individually sealed in foil packets and boxed in units of 10 pieces. The blades are compatible with most leading brands of Dermatome knives.

The sterile SG3 minor skin graft blade can be conveniently fitted onto a standard No. 3 fitment surgical handle and was designed to assist with the debridement of burn related wounds at the site of major accidents and disasters.

It has been used on the hands and feet of small children given its practical size advantage compared to a standard skin grafting knife and also within Histology departments for the fine sectioning of the pathology blocks. It has a standard No. 3 fitment so is compatible with handles 3 Graduated, 3L, 5B, 7, 9, B3 and B3L.

The latest addition to the burns and reconstructive surgery range is the SGD sterile single use Disposable scalpel.

This double edged minor skin graft blade, attached to a plastic handle for convenience, was originally introduced to assist in reducing the occurrence of post procedure infections amongst infants having undergone circumcision and has since become an essential component of procedure kits available at local pharmacy level. The scalpels are provided individually sealed in a tray and boxed in units of 10.

Following the popularity of the SGD sterile single use Disposable Scalpel a demand has arisen for the supply of the double edged stainless steel SGD blade to be used in conjunction with the standard Stainless Steel No. 3 fillet surgical handle.

The SGD blades are provided sterile, individually sealed in foil packs and boxed in units of 20.

More information on the Swann-Morton Skin Graft Range can be found in the product section of our website at www.swann-morton.com.