

FAQs about tissue adhesives

Are all tissue adhesives the same?

There are different acrylate tissue adhesives which differ in polymerization and firmness. **EPIGLU**[®] is an ethyl-2-cyanoacrylate. This acrylate polymerizes very quickly and closes even wound edges which are under tension.

Are tissue adhesives more expensive than a traditional wound treatment with sutures?

The common opinion that tissue adhesives are always more expensive than sutures is not valid for **EPIGLU**[®]. This ethyl-2-cyanoacrylate tissue adhesive is available in 3g tubes which are re-usable. Because of each 3g tube is sufficient for at least 20 wound treatments the cost per treatment is lower than for traditional wound treatment with sutures. It also should be considered that no anesthetic is necessary and there is no need for a second appointment to remove the stitches.

Is there an infection risk because **EPIGLU[®] is re-usable?**

No, because the application of **EPIGLU**[®] is done with disposable pipettes. Besides of this, the well known Institute Fresenius has testified that "**EPIGLU**[®] provides no culture medium for germs and even has an inhibitive effect on existing germs".

Are subcutaneous sutures necessary with **EPIGLU[®]?**

Yes, because tissue adhesives are only designed to close the tissue surface. If because of the situation subcutaneous sutures are necessary, they have to be done.

Which kind of wounds can be treated with **EPIGLU[®]?**

Irrespective of the length, all cuts, lacerations and surgical incisions can be closed with **EPIGLU**[®] if they do not bleed any more, are not infected and not older than 6 hours. **EPIGLU**[®] is particularly suitable for the treatment of wounds after removal of skin lesions or excisions (basaliomas, nevi, senile freckles, keratosis, xanthelasma, warts, and many others more). **EPIGLU**[®] can also be applied onto the oral mucosa. Avoid the treatment of big skin abrasions with tissue adhesives!

Why should **EPIGLU[®] be applied in several layers?**

Because all tissue adhesives peel off easier from the healthy skin which surrounds the wound, it is safer to apply 2 to 3 thin layers, each overlapping the other, after the primary wound treatment.

How fast does EPIGLU® polymerize?

The first layer which was directly applied onto the wound hardens in approx. 10 seconds. The wound edges are now fixated already safely. Other layers harden in 2 – 3 minutes – depending on the thickness. After the primary wound treatment through a doctor, the other layers can be applied by the medical staff.

What to do if the wound was infected and the patient has an unpleasant "throbbing" feeling?

Once EPIGLU® has set, it can be peeled off.

Does EPIGLU® have to be removed after the wound healing is completed?

No, with the formation of new skin lamellae (after 6 to 10 days) EPIGLU® detaches itself from the skin like scab.

Why do wounds heal faster after adhesion?

Wounds closed with ethyl-2-cyanoacrylate tissue adhesive are protected from further infection. Also the wound edges are closely laying side by side for the whole length of the wound and therefore the healing process is accelerated. Ugly scars are avoided and according to our experience keloids develop rarely. In a study 33% of the patients have rated the scar formation better after adhesion than with sutures.

Why does the patient feels better after a wound treatment with EPIGLU®?

The patients are much more painless because there are no stitch channels and no tensile strength pain. 28% of the patients have judged that they had less pain than after sutures.

To what should the patient pay attention after he was treated with EPIGLU®?

The patient can immediately resume the daily personal hygiene (washing/showering) and is able to work or play again. Never the less we recommend for children or nervous patients to put a band-aid over the treated wound, to avoid that the patient peels off the adhesive layers.



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