**ORIGINAL RESEARCH** 

# **Evaluation of effectiveness of preperitoneal** meshplasty in incisional hernia cases

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### ABSTRACT

Background: Incisional hernia is defined as a diffuse extrusion of peritoneum and abdominal contents through a weak scar after an operation or accidental wound. The present study evaluated effectiveness of preperitoneal meshplasty in incisional hernia cases.

Materials & Methods: 80 patients of incisional hernia of both genders underwent preperitoneal meshplasty. Parameters such as mode of presentation, type, type of incision used, time of onset after the previous surgeries and complications were recorded.

Results: Out of 80 patients, males were 46 and females were 34. Swelling was reducible in 35 and irreducible swelling in 45 cases. Mode of presentation was abdominal swelling in 38 and abdominal swelling & pain in 42. Type of incision used was upper midline in 28, lower midline in 30, paramedian in 10 and umbilical port site in 12 patients. Time of onset after the previous surgeries was 0-6 months in 34, 6 months- 1 year in 16, 1-3 years in 15 and >3 years in 25 cases. The difference was significant (P< 0.05). Common risks factors were diabetes mellitus in 10, anemia in 4, obesity in 2, post-operative cough in 2 and wound infection/dehiscence in 3 cases. The difference was significant (P < 0.05).

Conclusion: Preperitoneal meshplasty has been demonstrated to be a successful procedure for repairing incisional hernias with fewer post-operative problems. Preperitoneal mesh repair is convincingly and ideal surgical technique for management of incisional hernias.

Key words: Incisional hernia, Preperitoneal meshplasty, dehiscence

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# Introduction

Incisional hernia is defined as a diffuse extrusion of peritoneum and abdominal contents through a weak scar after an operation or accidental wound.<sup>1</sup>Although the precise incidence of incisional hernias has not been clearly characterized, several papers in the literature opine that it is most likely between 10% and 20%.<sup>2</sup> According to research, roughly two thirds manifest during the first five years, and at least another third does so between five and ten years following the procedure. More women, obese people, and older age groups are affected by it.<sup>3</sup>

Preperitoneal meshplasty, also known as preperitoneal mesh repair, is a surgical technique used to repair incisional hernias.<sup>4</sup>The preperitoneal meshplasty technique involves placing a synthetic mesh in the preperitoneal space, which is the area between the peritoneum (the inner lining of the abdominal cavity) and the abdominal wall muscles. The purpose of the mesh is to reinforce and strengthen the weakened abdominal wall, preventing the hernia from recurring

and providing support to the area.<sup>5</sup>Due to the graft's location in the preperitoneal plane between the posterior rectus sheath and the peritoneum, which bowel obstruction. prevents adhesions, enterocutaneous fistula, and mesh erosion, pre peritoneal mesh repair has fewer side effects and a shorter hospital stay than other methods.<sup>6</sup> The present study evaluated effectiveness of preperitoneal meshplasty in incisional hernia cases.

# Materials & Methods

The present study comprised of 80adult patients of incisional hernia of both genders. All agreed to participate in the study with their written consent. Data such as name, age, gender etc. was recorded. All preperitoneal patients underwent meshplasty. Parameters such as mode of presentation, type, type of incision used, time of onset after the previous surgeries and complications were recorded. Data thus obtained were statistically analysed. P value less than 0.05 was considered significant.

# Results

# Table I: Distribution of patients

Total- 80				
Gender	Males	Females		
Number	46	34		

Table I shows that out of 80 patients, males were 46and females were 34.

# Table II: Assessment of parameters

Parameters	Variables	Number	P value
Type of swelling	Reducible swelling	35	0.05
	Irreducible swelling	45	
Mode of presentation	Abdominal swelling	38	0.91
	Abdominal swelling & pain	42	
Incision type	Upper midline	28	0.57
	Lower midline	30	
	paramedian	10	
	Umbilical port site	12	
Time of onset after	0-6 months	34	0.05
the previous surgeries	6 months- 1 year	16	
	1-3 years	15	
	>3 years	25	

Table II shows that swelling was reducible in 35 and irreducible swelling in 45 cases. Mode of presentation was abdominal swelling in 38 and abdominal swelling & pain in 42. Type of incision used was upper midline in 28, lower midline in 30, paramedian in 10 and umbilical port site in 12 patients. Time of onset after the previous surgeries was 0-6 months in 34, 6 months- 1 year in 16, 1-3 years in 15 and >3 years in 25 cases. The difference was significant (P< 0.05).

Table III:	Risk factors and	complications
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<b>Risk factorsand complications</b>	Number	P value
Diabetes mellitus	10	0.05
Anemia	4	
Obesity	2	
Post-operative cough	5	
Wound infection/dehiscence	3	

Table III, graph I shows that common risks factors were diabetes mellitus in 10, anemia in 4, obesity in 2, post-operative cough in 2 and wound infection/dehiscence in 3 cases. The difference was significant (P < 0.05).



Graph 1

# Discussion

Several surgical procedures, including open tissue repair, double breasting, darning, open, and laparoscopic meshplasty, have been used to treat incisional hernias.<sup>7,8</sup> Although ventral hernia repairs are often carried out, the best repair method is still up for debate. The most frequent laparotomy complication requiring reoperation is an incisional hernia.<sup>9</sup>According to recent data, the overall incidence is close to 10%.<sup>10,11</sup> Hernia formation for stoma site hernias may occur up to 30% of the time, and the frequency is thought to double for surgical site infections. Incisional hernia repair procedures are extremely expensive.<sup>12,13</sup>The present study evaluated effectiveness of preperitoneal meshplasty in incisional hernia cases. We found that out of 80 patients, males were 46 and females were 34. In the study by Patel et al<sup>14</sup>, 77 cases of ventral hernia were collected from the On-lay and pre-peritoneal groups. Pre-peritoneal meshplasty is in group (B) while on-lay meshplasty is in group (A). The On-lay group's average age is 47.96 years. The average age in the pre-peritoneal group is 48.66 years. Results indicate that from the sixth day following surgery, discomfort does not differ between the two procedures. The average length of the hospital stay was 3.51 days for On-lay patients and 3.9 days for pre-peritoneal patients. It demonstrated that the pre-peritoneal approach took longer than the On-lay method. In this study, seroma occurs in 6/33 patients using the on-lay method and in 1/44 individuals using the preperitoneal procedure in the postoperative phase. We observed that swelling was reducible in 35 and irreducible swelling in 45 cases. Mode of presentation was abdominal swelling in 38 and abdominal swelling & pain in 42. Type of incision used was upper midline in 28, lower midline in 30, paramedian in 10 and umbilical port site in 12 patients. 40 patients with incisional hernias underwent open preperitoneal polypropylene mesh surgery as part of Dhanasekaran et al's study.<sup>15</sup> Out of 40 patients, 10 had defects less than 2 cm, 28 had defects between 2.1-4 cm, 1 had a defect between 4.1-6 cm, and 1 had a defect between 6.1-8 cm. There were 32 patients with an infraumbilical hernia and 8 individuals with a supraumbilical hernia, depending on the type. Three patients had seroma as a postoperative complication, one patient had edge necrosis, one patient had post-operative ileus, and one patient had chronic pain. According to follow-up, 4 patients had followed up after 6 months, 10 after 9 months, and 26 after a full year. We found that time of onset after the previous surgeries was 0-6 months in 34, 6 months-1 year in 16, 1-3 years in 15 and >3 years in 25 cases. Common risks factors were diabetes mellitus in 10, anemia in 4, obesity in 2, postoperative cough in 2 and wound infection/dehiscence in 3 cases. The outcomes of 272 incisional hernia surgeries were assessed by Schumpelick VC et al.<sup>16</sup> In 69.9 and 30.1% of cases, conventional methods and alloplastic repairs were carried out, respectively. Early complications (seroma, hematoma) were more common than with traditional hernia repair. However, the recurrence incidence in this group following mesh repair was much lower (6.8%) than in individuals without alloplastic augmentation (32.6%). While preperitoneal mesh repair is unquestionably the best surgical approach, alloplastic material optimization by lowering the amount of foreign material and increasing elasticity and biocompatibility is required.

### Conclusion

Preperitoneal meshplasty has been demonstrated to be a successful procedure for repairing incisional hernias with fewer post-operative problems. Preperitoneal mesh repair is convincingly and ideal surgical technique for management of incisional hernias.

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