

October 13, 2017

Fill in Name

Title

Hospital address

Dear _____:

I am requesting that **SuperCable**[®] Polymer Cerclage Cables be made available for my use here at the hospital. The system offers important clinical benefits and safety features for patient, staff and surgeon because it is the only cerclage cable that is not made from metal.

- This device does not produce sharp, frayed wire ends when cut. Sharp metal cable ends can cause “wire stick” type injuries that pose a risk of disease transmission to surgeons and surgical staff. The CDC in its “*Sharps Injury Prevention Program*” identifies “Selection of Safer Devices” as a key element in such a program. The **SuperCable** is such a “Safer Device”.
- **SuperCable** will greatly reduce the incidence of glove tears, thereby reducing the risk of patient infection when the glove sterile barrier is torn. Not stopping a procedure to re-glove saves valuable O.R. time.
- Fretting and fraying metallic cerclage cables are a cause of premature total joint failure. Metallic debris from these devices migrates into the joint; causing massive wear and osteolysis (see attached journal article). The polymer **SuperCable** generates no such metallic wear debris.
- These released metal particles are also thought to have a cumulative effect on the body. When threshold levels of metal particulate are exceeded in an arthroplasty patient, hypersensitivity, “ALVAL” and other forms of toxicity can result. Since metal particles are generated from various implant interfaces (including braided metal cerclage cables), care should be taken to reduce or eliminate sources of debris generation wherever possible so that the overall metal particulate burden is minimized.
- The **SuperCable** system will be cost effective because the cables can be re-tensioned intraoperatively when multiple cables are applied. This reduces the need to cut off and discard metal cables that have become loose during the procedure. Over time, this feature will reduce the total number of cables consumed. Also, some metal cable systems require expenditure for ancillary interface components when utilizing cables with bone plates. For example, a cable “eyelet” is required with many systems. The cost of such ancillary components must be accounted for when calculating overall construct cost (see attached *Analysis of Cost Savings*).

In addition to addressing important safety issues, this product contributes to the hospital's mission to provide the highest standard of patient care. Please let me know when this product will be available for use in my operative procedures.

Respectfully,

_____, MD

_____, MD

_____, MD