

## **Instructions for Use – ANIVET® Woundfix System**

For use in traumatic wounds, tension sutures, and skin loss

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### **Preparation prior to application**

- Evaluate the expected skin tension and determine:
  - o the required number of base units
  - o the type of application: invasive (with sutures)
- Trim the base units if necessary to match the wound size.
- Avoid shearing forces – the skin must not be tilted or twisted under tension.
- Approximate the tissue gradually and gently using the tension strap.

### **Important note – Contraindications:**

Do not use the ANIVET® Woundfix System in the following cases:

- Known allergy to adhesives or adhesive tapes
  - Very thin or sensitive skin
  - Uncooperative patients (e.g., without sedation or restraint)
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### **Step-by-step application**

#### **1. Prepare the wound area**

- Clip the surrounding area, clean with disinfectant, and dry thoroughly.

#### **2. Apply the base units**

- **Removal of protective film (depending on the environment):**
  - o In moist environments: Leave the protective film on the back of the base unit.
  - o In dry environments: Remove the protective film and apply the base unit directly to the skin.
- Attach the base units on both sides of the wound – approximately 2–4 cm from the wound edges.
- The elongated hole (for the tension strap) should be placed as close to the wound as possible, especially in cases of high skin tension.
- Additional fixation can be achieved using cruciate single sutures (e.g., simple interrupted sutures placed across the slot and into the skin).

#### **3. Place tension sutures (for invasive use)**

- Use a monofilament suture (2 USP) with a cutting needle.
- Pass the needle through the designated hole in the base unit, through the deep subcutaneous tissue, and exit through the base unit on the opposite side.
- Repeat this process: through base unit → through wound → through opposite base unit.
- Choose an appropriate tension-relieving suture technique (e.g., horizontal or vertical mattress suture).
- Securely tie the suture.

#### **4. Wound closure and dressing**

- Close the wound using interrupted sutures or an intradermal suture (2-0 USP or 0 USP, monofilament, cutting needle).
- Apply a sterile wound dressing over the closed wound.

#### **5. Apply the tension strap**

- Guide the tension strap through the slot of one base unit and then to the opposite side.
- Tighten the strap evenly to achieve gradual and controlled approximation of the wound edges via skin stretching.
- Trim the strap as needed.

#### **6. System protection (optional)**

- To stabilize the system, it may be loosely wrapped with an elastic bandage.
- **Caution:** Do not wrap too tightly, as this may cause skin necrosis under the base units.

#### **7. Removal of the system**

- Typically, the system should be removed after 4–8 days.
- For wounds under significant tension, the system may remain in place for up to 10–12 days.

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**Note:** The ANIVET® Woundfix System is intended for single use only. Always maintain aseptic conditions during application and when changing the dressing.