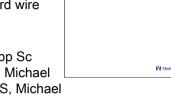
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Prospective randomized controlled trial of polymer cable ties versus standard wire closure of midline sternotomy

Silvana F. Marasco, MBBS (Hons) MSurg PhD FRACS, Louise Fuller, B. App Sc MAPA, Adam Zimmet, MBBS FRACS, David McGiffin, MBBS PhD FRACS, Michael Seitz, MBBS, Stephanie Ch'ng, MBBS, Shivanand Gangahanumaiah, MBBS, Michael Bailey, PhD MSc (statistics) BSc (Hons)



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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1 Prospective randomized controlled trial of polymer cable ties versus standard wire closure of 2 midline sternotomy 3 Silvana F Marasco^{1,2} MBBS (Hons) MSurg PhD FRACS, Louise Fuller³ B. App Sc MAPA, Adam 4 Zimmet¹ MBBS FRACS, David McGiffin^{1,2} MBBS PhD FRACS, Michael Seitz¹ MBBS, Stephanie 5 Ch'ng¹ MBBS, Shivanand Gangahanumaiah¹ MBBS, Michael Bailey PhD MSc (statistics) BSc 6 7 $(Hons)^4$ 8 ¹CJOB Cardiothoracic Surgery Department, The Alfred Hospital, Australia 9 ²Department of Surgery, The Alfred Hospital, Monash University, Australia 10 ³Physiotherapy Department, The Alfred Hospital, Australia 11 ⁴Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Research Centre, Monash University, Australia 12 13 Corresponding Author: 14 Prof. Silvana Marasco 15 CJOB Cardiothoracic Department 16 The Alfred Hospital 17 Commercial Rd, Prahran 3181 18 Australia 19 s.marasco@alfred.org.au 20 21 Conflict of Interest Statement: SM declares the following competing interest; Fees received on 22 behalf of Synthes (device manufacturer) for conference participation (lectures). The authors have no 23 further Conflict of interest to declare. 24 Funding: This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, 25 commercial, or not-for-profit sectors. 26 27 Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry number: ACTRN12615000852550 28 Alfred Hospital Ethics Committee (EC00315) Approved 06 February 2016, Project 385-15

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