

# Absorbable Subcuticular Skin Closure Technique

## BASIC TECHNIQUE



### GRASP 5mm & LIFT

Using one Adson forceps

- **GRASP** 5 mm of the tissue at an apex or directly above a previously placed staple (above the 'dimple')
- **LIFT** to present tissue to the stapler



### MATE & FIRE

- **MATE**: While maintaining the lift, place the nose of the stapler into the wound to firmly mate the stapler with the Adson forceps directly below the arrow
- **FIRE** the stapler with a smooth squeeze until audible click, then release. Lift straight up to remove the stapler – do not pull backwards



### TIPS

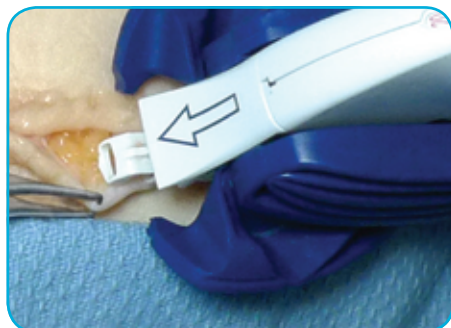
**Relieve excessive tension** with deep stitches placed at least 1 cm from wound edges

**Keep stapler level** with plane of skin

**Avoid placing staples too deep or too far apart:**

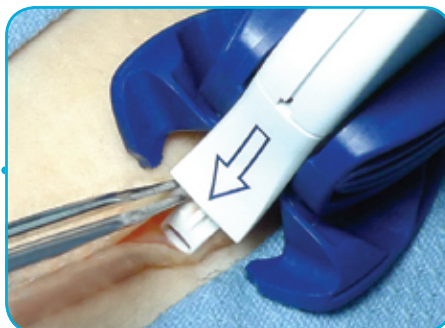
- Don't grasp more than 5 mm of tissue
- Ensure stapler and forceps are firmly mated before firing
- Don't place staples at intervals greater than 7 mm

## FINAL STAPLE PLACEMENT



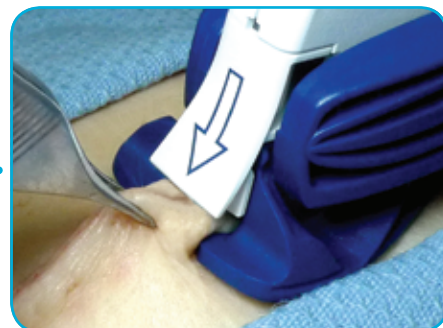
Reverse direction of stapler.

Grasp one tissue edge and open wound sufficiently to introduce nose of stapler into incision.



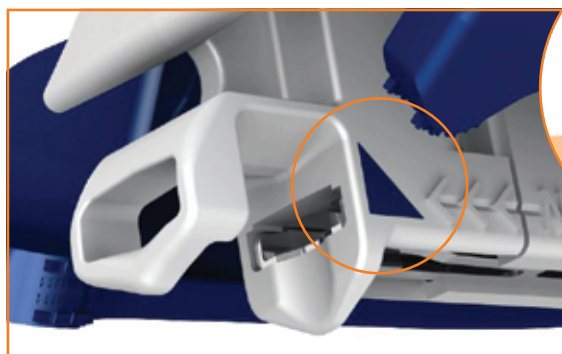
Introduce nose of stapler into incision.

Grasp opposed edge of tissue and lift tissue over nose of stapler.

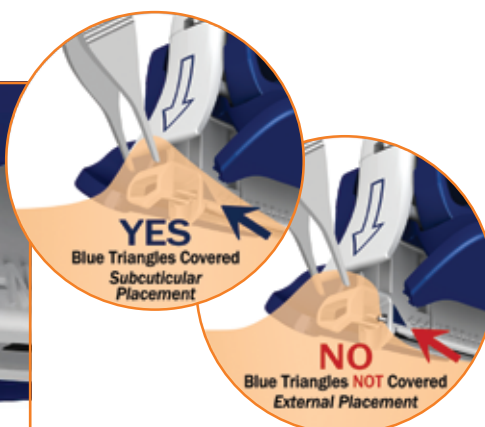


Re-grasp both edges of tissue at nose of stapler. Lift, then rock stapler from side to side to cover both blue triangles. Mate stapler & forceps and fire.

## AVOIDING EXTERNALLY-PLACED STAPLES



Note blue triangles located on either side of the stapler.



Align tissue by **ensuring both blue triangles are covered by skin.**

### 3 KEY TIPS

- 1 LIFT tissue to introduce stapler
- 2 Keep stapler **LEVEL** with plane of skin
- 3 **ROCK** stapler side to side to **ROLL** the tissue over the blue triangles, ensuring proper staple placement