

Gelatin Sponge



see [Spongostan](#).

see [Gelfoam](#).

see also [Hemostat](#).

Expanding the range of medical [sponges](#) and researching new excipients for their manufacture are a promising area of modern medicine and pharmacy ¹⁾.

[Gelatin sponge](#) is a non-antigenic [protein](#) that can absorb 45 times its weight in [blood](#), and, when wet, is plastered to the irregularities of the bleeding surface. It enables the repair of torn [veins](#), such as the [superior sagittal sinus](#), without compromising the patency of the vessel ²⁾.

Many [ablative procedures](#) are effective for [hemifacial spasm](#) (HFS) (including sectioning of divisions of the [facial nerve](#)), however, this leaves the patient with some degree of facial paresis. The current procedure of choice for HFS is [microvascular decompression](#) (MVD) wherein the offending vessel is physically moved off of the nerve, and a [sponge](#) (e.g. Ivalon®, polyvinyl formyl alcohol foam) is interposed as a cushion.

For Chang et al. from the Department of Neurosurgery [Xinhua Hospital](#) in [hemifacial spasm](#) (HFS) patients undergoing [microvascular decompression](#) (MVD) , using [Teflon](#) plus [gelatin sponge](#) can remarkably reduce the incidence of recurrence, [facial palsy](#), and [hearing loss](#) compared with those using Teflon alone ³⁾.

A study proves that, during the dural closure, placing a thin layer of gelatin sponge in the subdural space is a safe and effective method for preventing meningocerebral adhesions ⁴⁾

1)

Pavliuk B, Chubka M, Hroshovyi T, Stechyshyn I. Characteristics of structured medical hemostatic sponges as a medical devices for stop bleeding and for close the wound. Pol Merkur Lekarski. 2020 Dec 22;48(288):422-426. PMID: 33387430.

2)

Signorelli F, Montano N. Use and Efficacy of Hemostats in Neurosurgery. Surg Technol Int. 2020 Nov 28;37:414-419. PMID: 32944921.

3)

Chang B, Tang Y, Wei X, Li S. A New Application of Gelatin Sponge in the Treatment of Hemifacial Spasm by Microvascular Decompression: A Technical Note. J Neurol Surg A Cent Eur Neurosurg. 2021 May 19. doi: 10.1055/s-0040-1720994. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 34010981.

4)

Gonzalez-Lopez P, Harput MV, Türe H, Atalay B, Türe U. Efficacy of placing a thin layer of gelatin sponge over the subdural space during dural closure in preventing meningo-cerebral adhesion. World Neurosurg. 2015 Jan;83(1):93-101. doi: 10.1016/j.wneu.2014.02.032. Epub 2014 Feb 19. PubMed PMID: 24560706.

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