Novel use of Prolene suture for duct delineation during micro-ductectomy

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Classically, microductectomy is performed using a probe inserted via the offending duct to delineate and identify the responsible duct. We propose the use of a 1-0 Prolene (Polypropene blue monofilament non-absorbable) suture to cannulate the relevant duct. We believe that the use of 1-0 Prolene suture is favourable for duct identification because the blue suture is more apparent when dissecting via an infra-areolar incision and also we believe the malleability of a 1-0 Prolene suture is advantageous in delineating the duct with no distortion of duct anatomy. The use of a rigid probe alters the anatomy and also does not cannulate it to depths that can be achieved with a 1-0 Prolene suture.

Figure 1 shows a breast, which has two secreting ducts both cannulated with 1-0 Prolene suture. Figure 2 shows a Prolene suture delineating a duct and it can clearly be seen that the Prolene suture easily identifies the causative duct.

We propose the use of 1-0 Prolene suture to cannulate a duct during microductectomy because it is easier to use, cheaper and does not distort anatomy.

Figure 1. A breast with two secreting ducts both cannulated with 1-0 Prolene suture.

Figure 2. A Prolene suture delineating a duct.