

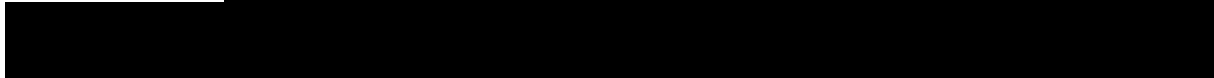
MAY 24 2018

Report of the External Examiner

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TRK NO.:

THESIS TITLE:



FOR THE DEGREE OF:



<p>I. General comments</p> <p>Is the presentation organized and clear? YES</p> <p>Is the study worthy of a Master's/PhD thesis? YES</p>	
<p>II. Specific comments</p> <p>1. Title (Does the title reflect the contents of the thesis?) YES</p> <p>2. Methodology (Is the methodology up-to-date? Is it sound?) YES</p> <p>3. Results (Are the results valid?) YES</p> <p>4. Conclusion (Are the conclusions supported by the data/results?) YES</p>	
<p>III. General/Specific recommendations</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>1. The manuscript is well written, easy to read and to the point. Very minor typographical and grammatical errors are still present however. The author needs to correct these errors.</p>	<p>Thank you for the comments, I've already edited and corrected the typographical and grammatical errors as seen following the recommendations of the reviewer.</p>
<p>2. The Objectives of the Study can be presented as a sub-section under the Introduction chapter for clarity of presentation.</p>	<p>This section has been revised as recommended. A sub-section (Objectives of the study in page 4) was placed following the format as seen in the sample manuscript. Thank you for the suggestion.</p>
<p>3. The methodology describes random assignment of suture material as a result of a lottery procedure, but the photos supplied always show that the multifilament suture material (MTP) was used on the cranial incision and the monofilament suture material (MNP) was used on the caudal incision. Are the photos taken serially from a single animal?</p>	<p>No, the photos were taken from several animals. As an initial recommendation that representative photos should be included, the author decided to use the photos showing the same orientation (with MTP on the cranial incision and MNP on the caudal incision). After the suggestions of the reviewer, we are adding photos of the other animals showing a different orientation. For figures 1a and 1b (page 57), 3a and 3b (page 59), 4a and 4b</p>

Ok for 3 copies 5.25.18

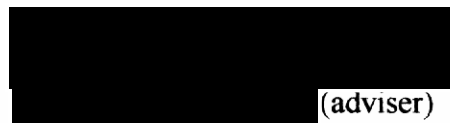
	(page 60), the figures on the right hand side are the ones with the MNP in the cranial incision. This was done to ensure consistency in the presentation of the figures. Thank you.
<p>4. What other reasons can be given to explain the isolation of a single type of microorganism in monofilaments and multiple types of microorganisms in multifilaments?</p>	<p>As for this study, another possible reason is the structure of the suture material and the possible role of its structure in the contamination of the suture materials before and during suturing. As such, this paragraph was added in the section (page 42, 2nd paragraph): “Another possible reason for having such results was the possibility of contamination of the suture materials before and during suturing. Such contamination may come from any of the members of the surgical team, the surgical environment, instruments and equipment and the patient itself. The simplicity of the gross appearance of the monofilament poliglecaprone ensures minimal contamination, as compared to that of the multifilament polyglactin. The complex structure and braided appearance of the multifilament polyglactin may present micro spaces and areas where microorganisms may proliferate. Further contamination of the suture materials was kept to a minimum since the suture pattern used in this study was intradermal, a pattern that ensures that the suture materials will have no contact to the external environment.”</p>
<p>IV. Over-all Recommendations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acceptable with no/minor revisions <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptable with major revisions</p>	

Prepared by:



(graduate student)

Noted by:



(adviser)