

SURGICAL TECHNIQUE FOR SUTURED FIXATION OF GORE® PRECLUDE® VESSEL GUARD

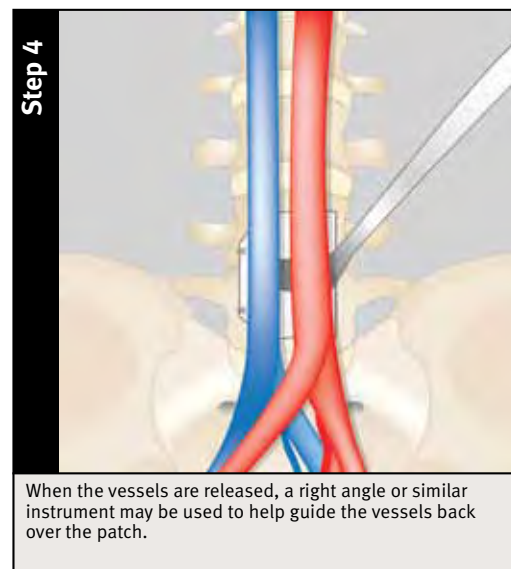
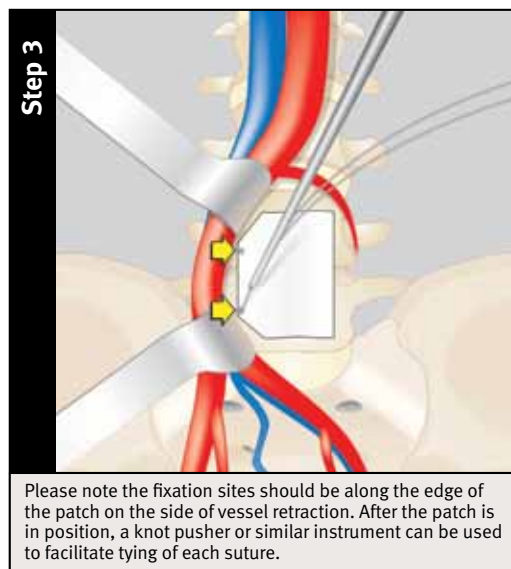
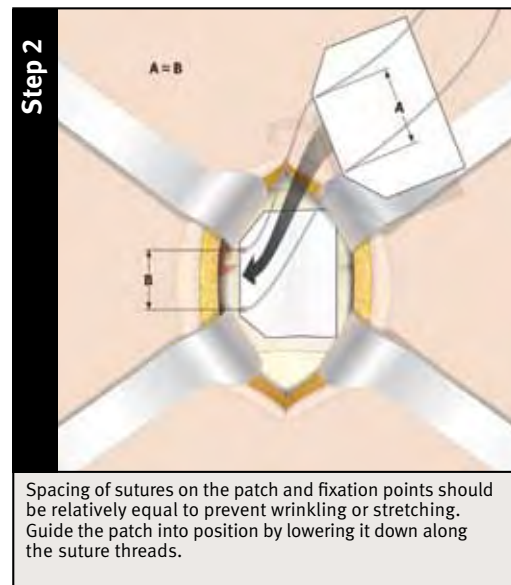
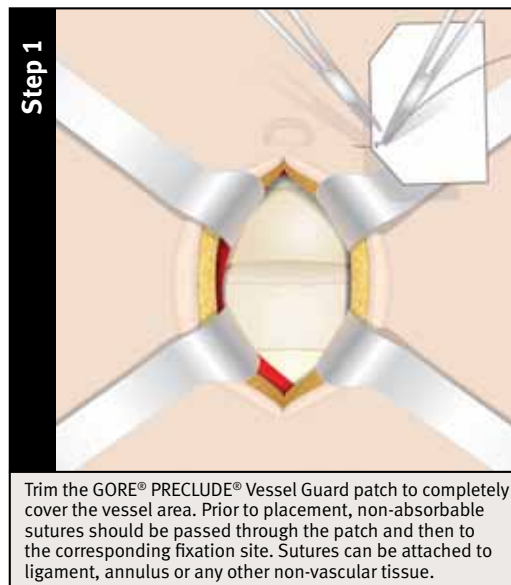
Contributing Surgeon: Doru Georgescu, MD, FACS, General & Vascular Surgeon, Thornton, Colorado

GORE® PRECLUDE® Vessel Guard is indicated as a cover for vessels following anterior vertebral surgery to reduce the risk of potential vessel damage during a revision surgery by providing a plane of dissection.

The following surgical techniques utilize suture fixation on the side of vessel retraction to allow the vessels to move smoothly over GORE® PRECLUDE® Vessel Guard. While the below techniques are illustrated utilizing two sutures, the minimal number of sutures should be used to prevent internal migration.*

Gore recommends using non-absorbable sutures, such as GORE-TEX® Suture, with a non-cutting needle (such as taper or piercing point) of suitable size to anchor the material. Final suture selection should be determined by surgeon preference and the nature of the procedure, but typically a 4-0 suture with a taper point needle is appropriate.

Levels L4/L5 and Above

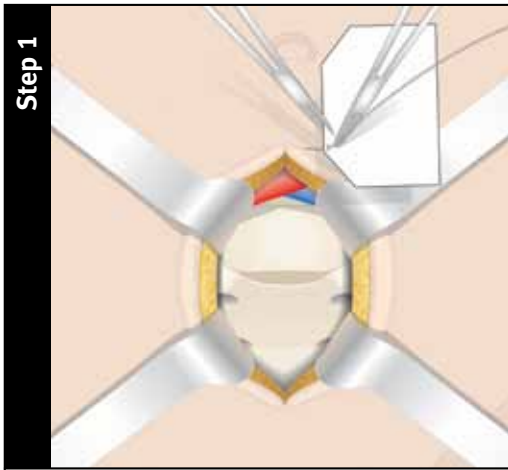


*As the number of sutures needed is affected by multiple factors, including, but not limited to, the nature of the procedure, the number of operative levels, or the orthopedic hardware implanted, the final number of sutures should be determined by the surgeon's judgment. In addition, suture placement may not be limited to the side of vessel retraction.

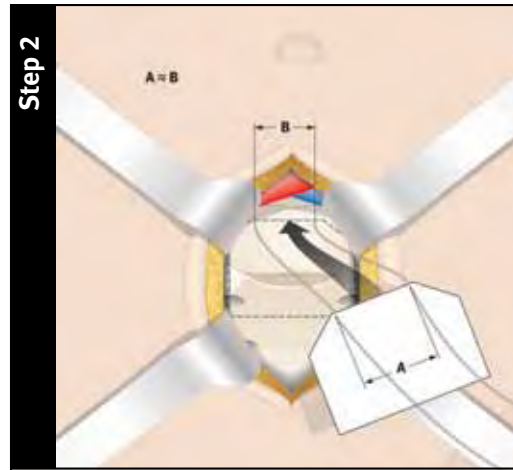
Surgical Technique for Sutured Fixation of GORE® PRECLUDE® Vessel Guard

Contributing Surgeon: Doru Georgescu, MD, FACS,
General & Vascular Surgeon, Thornton, Colorado

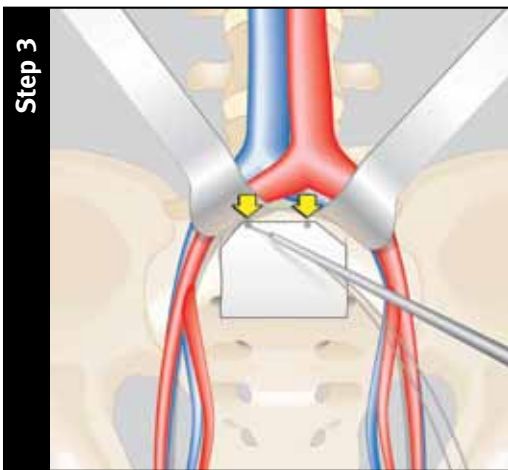
Level L5/S1



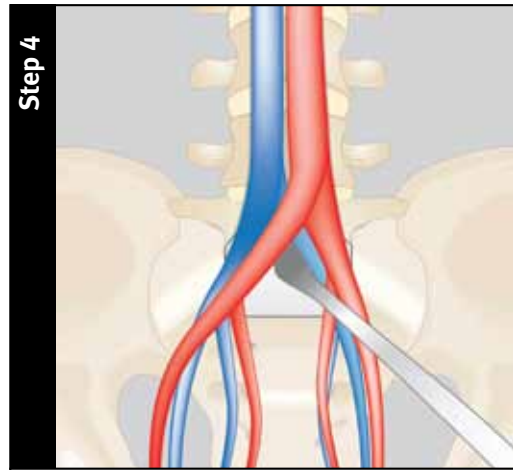
Step 1
Trim the GORE PRECLUDE Vessel Guard patch to completely cover the vessel area. Prior to placement, non-absorbable sutures should be passed through the patch and then to the corresponding fixation site. Sutures can be attached to ligament, annulus or any other non-vascular tissue.



Step 2
Spacing of sutures on the patch and fixation points should be relatively equal to prevent wrinkling or stretching. Guide the patch into position by lowering it down along the suture threads.



Step 3
Please note the fixation sites should be along the cephalad edge of the patch. After the patch is in position, a knot pusher or similar instrument can be used to facilitate tying of each suture.



Step 4
When the vessel retraction is released, a right angle or similar instrument may be used to help guide the vessels back over the patch.

 **Attention,**
See Instructions for Use

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