

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mediflex[®] launches the patented FlexGuard[™] Retractor

Blade Cushion to increase patient safety against injury caused by surgical retractor blades

ISLANDIA, New York (December 15, 2016) - Mediflex announces the official worldwide release of the patented



FlexGuard Retractor Blade Cushion. FlexGuard is a sterile, disposable accessory for standard surgical retractor blades (manual or self-retaining) designed to increase patient safety. FlexGuard is made from surgical grade Silicone having an open hexagonal cushion which serves as a shock absorber with two wings and has an adhesive strip on the back.

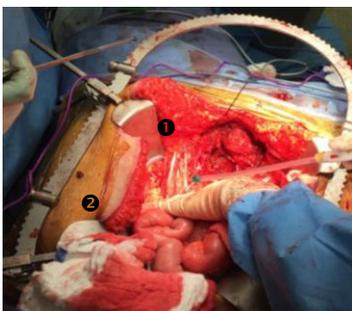
According to the clinical literature, most cases of post-operative neuropathy are caused by surgical retractors and can be injurious to the patient. The target audience for FlexGuard is gynecologic, colo-rectal, urologic and general surgeons.

Mediflex has been on the forefront of table mounted retractor systems since 1969.

“When gynecologic surgeon Theodore Hale came to Mediflex with his idea for FlexGuard, we immediately were interested to invest in a product which provided patient safety to one of our leading instrument lines”, stated Daniel Adler, Mediflex Vice President.



Surgeons who utilize either self-retaining or hand-held retractors understand the benefit of FlexGuard. Current standard operating procedure is to incorporate laparotomy sponges under or behind the blade in an effort to protect the anatomy however, the protection is inefficient as the sponges typically move during surgery. The Silicone hex design also works even better than sponges in reducing forces, which can lead to compression injury. Surgeons also understand that foreign debris associated with lap sponges can contribute to post-operative issues, such as adhesions.



FlexGuard adheres directly to any surgical retractor blade for immediate patient protection and is low-profile, therefore does not hinder field visualization. The clinical testing at beta sites was successful with staff indicating the FlexGuard was easily applied and remained on the blade throughout the procedure. Surgeons have commented that injury prevention is better than treatment.

(A) FlexGuard is low profile therefore maintains full surgical field view and, will not move when the blade is retracted or repositioned; (B) Lap sponges are bulky, they obstruct the surgical field and provide inefficient protection as they move.

About Mediflex

For 50 years, Mediflex Surgical Products, a division of Flexbar Machine Corp. has specialized in the design, development and USA production of innovative, high-quality surgical holding & positioning arms, retractor systems and laparoscopic instrumentation.

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