Each sterile package contains one (1) 5mm RD180® suturing device (FIG. 1). 5mm RD180® is used for the placement of surgical suture as supplied. A short length of modified surgical stainless steel tubing, called a ferrule, is attached to one end of the suture. The ferrule is loaded into the ferrule compartment in the distal end of the device tip. Suture Placement and Suture Reset (FIG. 2) are each achieved by sequentially squeezing and releasing the pink lever. During Suture Placement, the initial squeeze of the pink lever advances the retracted needle forward through the selected tissue placed in the jaw of the device tip. The full squeeze advances the needle into the ferrule attached to its suture held in the device tip’s distal end. Release of the pink lever retracts the needle, which pulls the now engaged ferrule and suture back through the tissue. Next, with the device tip oriented for Suture Reset, a second squeeze of the pink lever advances the needle with its now engaged ferrule and suture forward through the empty jaw into the device tip’s distal end, where a latch feature retains the ferrule and suture. Release of the lever returns the needle alone back to its retracted position in the distal shaft ready for repeat suture placement.
**CAUTION:**
To avoid accidental needle exposure, **DO NOT** squeeze lever during suture loading.

**INDICATIONS**
RD® QUICK LOAD® surgical suture is indicated for use in general soft tissue approximation, but not for use in cardiovascular and neurological procedures.

**DESCRIPTION**
Each LSI SOLUTIONS® RD® QUICK LOAD® sterile surgical suture is held in a customized tray [1] with a suture release feature [2], designed to enable the rapid, easy and reliable loading of suture into RD® and RD180® devices. RD® QUICK LOAD® products are available in excellent quality non-absorbable or absorbable suture materials in both braided and monofilament configurations (FIG. 11). A short length of modified surgical stainless steel tubing, called a “ferrule” [3], is attached to the end of the suture [4]. The RD® QUICK LOAD® suture also includes a detachable clear suture tube [5] to keep the suture from tangling. Each sterile RD® QUICK LOAD® suture is individually packaged for single patient use.
LOADING SUTURE

CAUTION: To avoid accidental needle exposure, DO NOT squeeze lever during suture loading.

1 REMOVE Suture And Suture Tube From Ferrule Holder Or Tray

REMOVE & DISCARD ferrule holder before loading suture into RD180®. OR REMOVE suture and suture tube from tray by grasping suture tube at suture release feature and pulling suture tube completely out of tray.

2 INSERT Suture Into Suture Track

INSERT suture into the suture track as shown; may require pulling ferrule and suture further out of suture tube.

3 PULL Ferrule Into Compartment

PULL suture to seat ferrule into ferrule compartment in the distal end of the device tip. It may help to guide the ferrule with a finger. Make sure ferrule is fully seated behind latch.

4 REMOVE Suture Tube

REMOVE suture tube.

5 FIRE & RESET Orient Suture As Shown, Squeeze And Release Lever To Ensure Suture Is Ready In Distal End Of Device Tip

FIRE & RESET to ensure suture is loaded properly. To avoid jamming the ferrule into the ferrule compartment, orient the suture directly away from the jaw as shown. Squeeze the lever to advance the needle through the jaw and into the newly loaded ferrule. Release the lever to pick up and retract the ferrule with attached suture back on the needle into the shaft. While continuing to orient the suture as shown, squeeze the lever to advance the needle, ferrule, and suture forward through the jaw to reset the ferrule into its compartment. Release the lever again and retract back the now-empty needle, leaving the ferrule and suture ready for patient use.
UNLOADING FERRULE AND REMAINING SUTURE FROM THE 5mm RD180®

There are three simple and convenient options for removal of used ferrules from the needle prior to reloading 5mm RD180®. The easiest method is the AUTO-RELEASE Technique as illustrated below (FIG. 5). This technique automatically removes the suture and ferrule from the needle by simply pulling the lever fully forward. The next method is the PULL-OFF Technique as illustrated below (FIG. 6). This rapid approach requires an adequate length of suture remains attached to the ferrule throughout the unloading and does not utilize any other instruments. The third common unloading option, the CLAMP Technique (FIG. 7), is also simple and fast, but it requires an additional grasping device, such as a needle driver, to grasp and remove the used ferrule from the needle.


This unloading technique requires that the needle with its engaged ferrule and suture must first be retracted back into the distal end of the device shaft. If they are not, simply squeeze and release the pink lever to pick up and retract the ferrule, suture, and needle. Once the ferrule, suture, and needle are retracted into the shaft, pull the pink lever fully forward to automatically remove the ferrule and suture off of the needle. Inspect and discard the used ferrule and suture.


As the name implies, the ferrule is simply pulled away from and off the needle by hand grasping and pulling the suture during this unloading technique. When adequate suture remains attached to the ferrule, ensure that the needle attached to the ferrule and suture is retracted in its resting position in the distal shaft. To avoid pulling the ferrule back through the suture track into its ferrule compartment across the jaw from the needle, orient the suture over the distal jaw as illustrated by the bent red arrow in (FIG. 6). One brisk pull on the suture in a direction away from the needle typically pops the ferrule off from the needle to free the used ferrule and suture from the device. **INSPECT** to ensure ferrule remains attached to the suture and the needle and device are undamaged.

**CLAMP Technique**  Advance Needle Slightly. Grasp Ferrule With Clamp. Retract Needle Back.

A surgical grasping clamp, such as a needle driver, can be effectively used to remove the ferrule from the needle. Since this approach requires an additional tool and typically slightly more time than the PULL-OFF Technique, this secondary option is usually reserved for situations in which the suture has been cut too close to the ferrule or the suture is otherwise not available for hand grasping. Squeeze the device’s lever to slightly advance the needle with its attached ferrule. Apply the tip of the jaws of the grasping tool, shown highlighted in yellow (FIG. 7), only to the distal ferrule. Care must be taken to avoid damaging the needle with the grasper. Do not rock or rotate the ferrule with the grasper because such motion may bend, fatigue or break the needle tip. Push the device lever fully forward to retract back the needle and to slide the tip of the needle out of the ferrule held in the grasper. **INSPECT** to ensure ferrule has been successfully removed from the needle and that the needle and device are undamaged.
**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

- Minimally invasive surgical procedures should only be performed by physicians having adequate training and familiarity with endoscopic techniques. In addition, medical literature should be consulted related to techniques, complications and hazards prior to the performance of minimally invasive procedures.
- The 5mm RD180® is not intended to be used with any suture other than RD® QUICK LOAD® suture.
- Do not use this suture under conditions in which excessive suture tension can lead to tissue damage. For example, do not use RD® QUICK LOAD® surgical suture through an excessively narrow, restrictive or defective cannula access port, which could significantly impair easy and smooth passage of the suture or device.

**WARNINGS**

- Do not resterilize. The performance of the 5mm RD180® after cleaning or other reprocessing has not been verified and is not supported by LSI SOLUTIONS®.
- Discard open, unused, expired or damaged devices or devices in damaged primary packaging.
- As with any foreign body, prolonged contact of any suture with salt solutions, such as those found in the urinary or biliary tracts, may result in calculus formation.
- Users should be familiar with surgical procedures and techniques involving suture before employing the 5mm RD180® for wound closure, as the risk of wound dehiscence may vary with the site of application.
- Acceptable surgical practice must be followed with respect to drainage and closure of infected or contaminated wounds.
- Redundant, cut-away suture remnants, used ferrules, and 5mm RD180® devices, along with packaging, must be accounted for and disposed of consistent with standard, accepted medical device disposal procedures.
- The 5mm RD180® is indicated for use in the approximation of soft tissue. Applications other than for soft tissue closure, or to anchor another device, can result in failure to pick up suture or in damage to the device making it unsuitable for continued use.
- Never drive the needle into suture, bone, dense ligamentous tissue, or other instruments.

**PRECAUTIONS**

- Federal (U.S.A.) law restricts this device to sale, distribution and use by, or on, the order of a physician.
- Check for hemostasis or leakage wherever appropriate.
- Minimally invasive instruments may vary in diameter from manufacturer to manufacturer. Before endoscopic instruments and accessories from different manufacturers are employed together in a procedure, verify compatibility and ensure electrical isolation or grounding are not compromised.
- Care must be taken when inserting this or any device through a cannula to avoid advancing the device incorrectly (e.g., too far or too quickly). Device insertion should be easy, smooth and controlled to minimize the risks of trauma to the patient or damage to the device.
- Always assure insufflation, camera position and device tip location are viewed under direct visualization before advancing the needle.
- Ensure obstructions do not interfere with the movement of the needle of the 5mm RD180®.
- In handling the 5mm RD180®, care should be taken to avoid jamming the suture into the ferrule compartment and causing damage to the needle.
- Avoid damage to the needle, suture or ferrules due to direct application of surgical instruments, like forceps, needle holders, clamps, etc.
- Adequate knot security requires accurate completion of accepted surgical techniques for constructing surgical ties knots or the use of the TK™ TI-KNOT® DEVICE and TK™ QUICK LOAD® as warranted by surgical circumstances and the experience of the surgeon.
- Before loading the 5mm RD180® with another RD® QUICK LOAD® suture, assure the remaining suture tail and ferrule from the previous load has been removed from the needle. Failure to appropriately remove used ferrules from the needle can result in damage to the device, including intracorporeal or extracorporeal fracturing off the tip of the needle, making it unsuitable for continued use.
- After loading and re-loading of a new suture into this device, squeeze the pink lever to drive the needle forward into the new ferrule loaded into the ferrule compartment. If the ferrule is picked-up by the needle, then squeeze the lever again to reset the ferrule and suture back behind the latch. If the needle rotation is oriented to reset the ferrule, then the needle will retract back without the ferrule and suture attached. This “cycling” (FIG. 4, Step 4) of the needle helps ensure that the previous ferrule was properly removed, the new ferrule is installed properly and the operator receives the device with its needle oriented to pick-up the ferrule on its first needle advancement. If the previous ferrule was not properly removed from the needle prior to reloading the device, the needle will not fully advance into the new ferrule in the ferrule compartment. Driving a needle with a ferrule into another ferrule can lead to the breaking off of the tip of the needle.
- Do not use the 5mm RD180® to dissect or aggressively manipulate tissue structures.
- Verify the ferrule is still retained within the ferrule compartment and the device has not been damaged or deformed before attempting to place a stitch.
- Do not manipulate the device at any time with the pink lever partially actuated. This may expose sharp surfaces that can cause trauma to the patient, the device operator or other staff, or damage the device.
- To avoid inadvertent suture damage, ensure the ferrule always enters the ferrule compartment with its suture oriented to freely pass through the ferrule compartment’s suture track. Do not use damaged or expired suture.
- Ensure the advancing needle targets and enters the ferrule compartment. For example, during the suture placement avoid using an extended needle to manipulate or lift tissue because such an action can cause the needle to deviate from its targeted course toward the ferrule compartment. A needle tip, not entering the ferrule compartment properly, can strike the distal tip of the device and lead to undesired outcomes, including needle tip fracture. For another example, during suture reset, avoid applying tension to the suture from the ferrule on the needle. Tension on the suture can cause the needle to deviate off target and lead to the ferrule possibly striking the distal tip, which can cause needle tip fracture.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

Adverse effects associated with the use of suture include wound dehiscence, failure of adequate wound support in closure sites where expansion, stretching or distortion occurs, enhanced bacterial infectivity, minimal acute inflammatory tissue reaction, localized irritation when skin sutures are left in place for greater than 7 days, calculi formation in urinary and biliary tracts when prolonged contact with salt solutions such as urine and bile occurs, and pain, edema and erythema.

**MANUFACTURED UNDER ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING RELATED PATENTS**

5,431,666; 5,520,702; 5,562,686; 5,643,289; 5,669,917; 5,766,183; 6,368,334; 6,533,796; 6,641,592; 6,997,931; CA2141911; CA2141912; CA2141913; CA2173520; EP0669101; EP0669102; EP0669103; EP0748612 and DE69505283.7; DE69512447.1; DE69512446.3. Additional patents pending.

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