# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF SURGICAL SEALANT USE VERSUS STANDARD OF CARE IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING AORTIC REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION: A BRAZILIAN COST-CONSEQUENCE ANALYSIS

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# **BACKGROUND**

Aortic repair and reconstruction are regular procedures and are usually indicated to treat thoracic and aortic aneurysm, aneurysm, dissections and occlusions¹. Intra and postoperative bleeding at the anastomotic suture line are one of the main complications related to this type of surgeries². Major complications due to bleeding are a real challenge for perioperative hemostasis. Failures regarding bleeding management may lead to negative and costly post-operative consequences¹. Preventing complications and events related to perioperative bleeding seem to be a key tenet to improve clinical performance and management of economic resources. COSEAL™ sealant (CSS) is a polyethylene glycol sealant, commonly used in major cardiac and vascular surgical procedures in the prevention of anastomotic bleeding.

## **OBJECTIVES**

To perform a Cost-Consequence analysis based on the estimated cost savings when COSEAL™ sealant (CSS) is used to seal anastomotic closures during aortic reconstruction and repair procedures versus Standard of Care (SoC).

# **METHODS**

Design and Methodology: This cost-consequence analysis evaluates the use of healthcare resources in patients receiving sutures (SoC) vs. SoC plus CSS in aortic surgeries.

Data Source: Clinical data, such as ICU stay, length of hospitalization, rethoracotomy, use of red blood cells (RBC) and fresh frozen plasma (FFP) has been obtained from Natour 2012¹. Costs have been obtained from Brazilian literature³-⁵ and real world⁶; local official sources and economic data from previous years (2016-2017) had been adjusted for annual inflation. (Currency exchange rate/Dec 31st 2019: USD 1.00 = BRL 4.01)

Model Structure: Model results include savings per patient and total budget impact if CSS would be regularly used in patients undergoing aortic surgeries.

### Complication and Outcomes (C/O)<sup>1</sup> and Their Costs

C/O	Costs	CCS+SOC	SoC
Hospital LOS (Days)	\$885.85 <sup>3</sup>	16.1	21.0
ICU LOS (Days)	\$363.52 <sup>5</sup>	4.3	6.4
Incidence of Rethoracotomy	\$1,189.274	2.1%	11.1%
Use of RBC (Un.)	\$623.44 <sup>6</sup>	3.6	5.0
Use of FFP (Un.)	\$1,870.32 <sup>6</sup>	2.1	3.0
CSS (Un.)	\$661.00 <sup>7</sup>	-	-

**Table 1:** Summary of Clinical Model Inputs and Costs

# \$8.000,00 \$7.000,00 \$6.000,00 \$5.000,00 \$4.000,00 \$2.000,00 \$1.000,00 \$0,00 \$0,00

**Graphic 1:** Cost-Consequence Analysis and Savings per Patient

## **RESULTS**

Rate of complications, use of blood products and reinterventions were significantly different between the groups (Table 1). The analysis suggest that despite the acquisition cost of CSS+SoC, this is a potentially cost-saving decision representing \$7,162.00 of overall savings per patient (Graphic 1): \$5,099.00 in In-patient care (Hospital and ICU LOS), \$2,555.00 in blood products (RBC and FFP) and \$169.00 in operative costs (Rethoracotomy).

## CONCLUSION

Surgical complications and use of resources are main drivers to increased costs. Despite the acquisition cost of CSS, CSS + SoC is a cost-saving decision that impacts the institutional budget in a positive way. Savings could be explained by lower incidence of complications, especially avoided surgical reintervention for bleeding repairing, use of blood products and hospital length of stay.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## **REFERENCES**

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