PROLENE™
POLYPROPYLENE MESH
Nonabsorbable Synthetic Surgical Mesh
STERILE

DESCRIPTION
PROLENE™ Polypropylene Mesh is constructed of knitted filaments of extruded polypropylene identical in composition to that used in PROLENE™ Polypropylene Suture, Nonabsorbable Surgical Sutures, U.S.P. (Ethicon, LLC). The mesh is approximately 0.020 inches thick. This material, when used as a suture, has been reported to be nonreactive and to retain its strength indefinitely in clinical use.

PROLENE Mesh is knitted by a process which interlinks each fiber junction and which provides for elasticity in both directions. This construction permits the mesh to be cut into any desired shape or size without unraveling. The fiber junctions are not subject to the same work fatigue exhibited by more rigid metallic meshes. This bi-directional elastic property allows adaption to various stresses encountered in the body.

ACTIONS
PROLENE Mesh is a nonabsorbable mesh used to span and reinforce traumatic or surgical wounds to provide extended support during and following wound healing. Animal studies show that implantation of PROLENE Mesh elicits a minimum to slight inflammatory reaction, which is transient and is followed by the deposition of a thin fibrous layer of tissue which can grow through the interstices of the mesh, thus incorporating the mesh into adjacent tissue. The mesh remains soft and pliable, and normal wound healing is not noticeably impaired. The material is not absorbed nor is it subject to degradation or weakening by the action of tissue enzymes.

INDICATIONS
This mesh may be used for the repair of hernia and other fascial deficiencies that require the addition of a reinforcing or bridging material to obtain the desired surgical result.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
When this mesh is used in infants or children with future growth potential, the surgeon should be aware that this product will not stretch significantly as the patient grows.

PROLENE Mesh in contaminated wounds should be used with the understanding that subsequent infection may require removal of the material.

WARNINGS
PROLENE Mesh is provided by Ethicon, LLC as a sterile product. Resterilization of the device is NOT recommended. However, testing has demonstrated that reprocessing of unused PROLENE Mesh which has been removed from the package will not be adversely affected when exposed not more than one time to conventional steam autoclave conditions of 250°F (121°C) for 20 minutes. Reprocessing under any other condition or by any other means is neither recommended nor endorsed by Ethicon, LLC. PROLENE Mesh should not be flash autoclaved.

If this product should become stained with blood or soiled, it should not be resterilized for reuse.

When reprocessed as outlined above, it is the responsibility of the end-user to assure sterility of the product via a validated sterilization process as Ethicon, LLC has no control over environmental conditions the product may encounter prior to, during or after reprocessing.

PRECAUTIONS
A minimum of 6.5mm (1/4") of mesh should extend beyond the suture line.

Caution: Federal (U.S.A.) law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a licensed healthcare practitioner.
ADVERSE REACTIONS
Potential adverse reactions with PROLENE Mesh implantation are those typically associated with surgically implantable materials, including inflammation, seroma formation, adhesion formation, fistula formation, extrusion and potentiation of infection.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
Mesh is implanted according to currently accepted surgical mesh procedures.

Some surgeons prefer to suture an uncut section of mesh that is considerably larger than the defect into position over the wound. The opposite sides are then sutured to assure proper closure under correct tension. When the margin sutures have all been placed, the extra mesh is trimmed away.

Adequate mesh fixation is required to minimize post-operative complications and recurrence. The fixation technique, method and products used should follow the current standard of care. Careful attention to fixation and spacing will help prevent excessive tension or disruption between the mesh materials and connective tissue. When fixing with sutures or other mechanical fixation devices, a safe distance from the edge of the mesh of not less than 6.5mm (1/4”) must be maintained. 6.5mm to 12.5mm (1/4” to 1/2”) should be left between fixation points.

HOW SUPPLIED
PROLENE Mesh is available in single packets as sterile, undyed (clear) sheets in nine sizes. The sizes available are 2.5cm x 10cm (1" x 4"), 4.6cm x 10.2cm (1.8" x 4"), 5.1cm x 30cm (2" x 12"), 6cm x 11cm (2.5" x 4.5"), 6.1cm x 13.7cm (2.4" x 5.4"), 7.6cm x 12.7cm (3" x 5"), 7.6cm x 15cm (3" x 6"), 15cm x 15cm (6" x 6") and 30cm x 30cm (12" x 12"). Each sheet is approximately 0.5mm (0.020”) thick.