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**Microbial Sealant Now Being Used at Roosevelt Hospital To
Protect Women Against Potential Infection Related to C-Section and Gyn Surgeries**
*Jacques Moritz, MD Using Kimberly Clark's InteguSeal® Microbial Sealant to Help
Prevent Surgical Site Infections*

New York, NY (July 13, 2009, 2009) The last thing a new mother needs to worry about after delivering a baby via cesarean section (c-section) is a surgical site infection (SSI). In an effort to provide the best protection against SSIs for new moms or women who undergo gynecologic surgery, Jacques Moritz, M.D., Director of Gynecology at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan, is now using InteguSeal® Microbial Sealant, a microbial barrier designed to reduce the risk of surgical site contamination by skin flora.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), almost 500,000 surgical site infections occur in the United States each year, making SSIs the second most common healthcare-associated infection. Compared with uninfected patients, those with SSIs remain hospitalized seven days longer, have a 60 percent increased probability of admittance to intensive care units, are five times more likely to return to the hospital for continued care within 30 days of discharge and have double the mortality rate.

“As an obstetrician who must make surgical incisions during c-section, I’m always looking to make the procedure as safe as possible for my new moms,” says Dr. Moritz. “InteguSeal Microbial Sealant forms a protective barrier that seals and immobilizes areas where bacteria can grow. That barrier protects against the skin flora migration that can otherwise creep into an incision.”

On untreated skin, skin pathogens can be transferred into the surgical incision by irrigation fluids, gloves, instruments, sponges or implants. Developed by the Kimberly-Clark Corporation, InteguSeal Microbial Sealant is a fast-drying liquid that bonds to the skin and locks down bacteria that reside deep within the skin and those that survived pre-operative prepping. The sealant also helps protect surgical prep from wash-off. In clinical studies, InteguSeal has been shown to seal and immobilize harmful pathogens including: MRSA, S. epidermis and E.coli.

The cyanoacrylate-based sealant is applied to the surgical site after prep and prior to incision and is compatible with most commonly-used surgical skin preparation products with standard surgical draping. The liquid is easily applied to the patient's skin, regardless of skin contour or hair content. Another benefit is that it seals micro-abrasions on the skin. The sealant is non-irritating, allows for standard skin transpiration and does not need to be removed in order to close the incision. After surgery, there is no need to remove Integuseal, as it has the ability to wear off naturally within a few days.

InteguSeal should not be used: in surgical procedures involving mucous membranes or the eyes; on patients with known hypersensitivity to cyanoacrylate; or on skin with active signs of infection.

“There is no such thing as true sterilization of the skin,” says Dr. Moritz. “However, InteguSeal gives me and the new moms I deliver an added safeguard against surgical site infection.”

If you'd like to interview Dr. Moritz and a patient and/or come into the operating room to see InteguSeal applied during a cesarean section, please contact Elizabeth Dowling in the public affairs office at: 212-523-4047.

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