DynaMesh®
by FEG Textiltechnik mbH

Tailored Implants
made of PVDF

Report

Hernia Expert Meeting 2018

Successful "Hernia Expert Meeting"
02-03 November, 2018, in Ghent, Belgium

In cooperation with Dr. Filip Muysoms and his team, DynaMesh® by FEG Textiltechnik hosted the "Hernia Expert Meeting 2018" held in Ghent, Belgium, on the 2nd and 3rd of November 2018.

Maria Middelares Hospital in Ghent

As in the previous year, the DynaMesh® team chose once again Maria Middelares Hospital as the site to host. Its high standard in technology, infrastructure and medical equipment make it an excellent location for hosting the "Hernia Expert Meeting 2018".

The event focused on technical innovations in mesh development and minimal invasive surgery in the field of abdominal wall repair. The "Hernia Expert Meeting 2018" was addressed to a high-class faculty and experienced surgeons in the field of hernia surgery. In total, 120 participants from all over the world joined the two-day event to explore a range of hernia surgery topics through live surgeries and expert lectures.

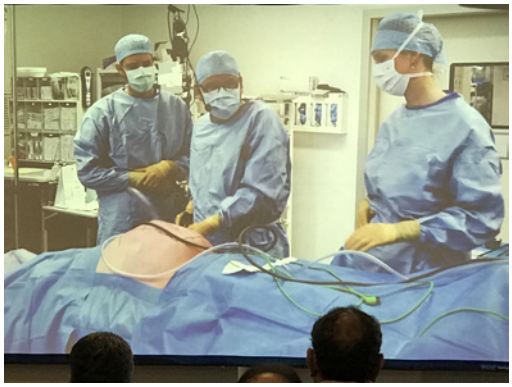
After a welcome dinner on the 1st of November in the medieval vaulted cellar of the nh Hotel Ghent Belfort, the scientific part of the event started in the morning of 2nd November at Maria Middelares Hospital.

Moderation team Dr. Agneta Montgomery and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Dietz

Following a warm welcome by Dr. Boris Obolenski, CEO of FEG Textiltechnik mbH in Aachen, Germany, Dr. Agneta Montgomery (President-elect of the European Hernia Society (EHS), Surgical Consultant, University Hospital Lund, Sweden) and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Dietz (Bürgerspital Solothurn, Solothurn, Switzerland) took over to moderate and guide the audience through the programme.

Dr. Filip Muysoms

Dr. Filip Muysoms, the Head of Abdominal Surgery Department at Hernia Centrum Ghent and internationally recognised expert in field of hernia surgery, started with the first live surgery demonstrating a robotic-assisted retromuscular umbilical hernia repair with the use of a DynaMesh®-CICAT mesh implant. In the subsequent live surgery of a case with bilateral inguinal hernia, Dr. Muysoms presented a robotic-assisted TAPP (transabdominal preperitoneal approach) using a DynaMesh®-ENDOLAP 3D mesh implant.
A patient with umbilical hernia was later treated with a DynaMesh®-IPOM mesh implant via the laparoscopic IPOM technique (intraperitoneal onlay mesh). During the surgery, participants had a lively exchange of experiences with the IPOM technology and discussed tips and tricks for effective mesh placement. In the discussion about the importance of the IPOM technique, there was consensus in plenary that the technique is safe and effective, especially with proper patient selection and surgery.



Live-broadcast of a surgery

For the final live surgery of the first day, Dr. Muysoms demonstrated the surgical treatment of a hiatal hernia using a DynaMesh®-HIATUS mesh implant.

All operations were broadcasted live from the operating room into the hospital's event room. Audiences had the chance to also pose questions to Dr. Muysoms regarding specific operation steps throughout the entire surgery. Thus, participating hernia surgeons were able to deepen their knowledge and exchange ideas first-hand.
The moderation team, Dr. Montgomery and Prof. Dietz, maintained a constant dialogue with the surgeon and involved the participants during the live surgeries by asking about their experiences and opinions.

In addition to the live-broadcast of the surgeries, an extensive lecture programme was also offered. This year, again, top-class speakers agreed to present practice-related lectures. Prof. Dr. Ulrich Dietz, Chief Physician Surgery of the Civic Hospital Solothurn and Chief Physician Surgery of the Cantonal Hospital Olten, Switzerland, is specialized in visceral surgery. He received the "Julius-Springer Prize for Surgery 2016" for the most widely read publication "Indications for the laparoscopic treatment of large incisional hernia" in the journal "The Surgeon". In his lecture "Models for teaching laparoscopic TAPP and ventral hernias", Prof. Dr. Dietz presented how the use of novel, validated models can make the learning curves more effective and efficient both for laparoscopic inguinal hernia repair (in TAPP technique) as well as for the treatment of ventral hernias.

The subsequent lecture was then given by Dr. Roel Beckers (Maria Middelares Hospital Ghent, Belgium), one of the world's most experienced radiologists in the use of DynaMesh® MRI-visible products, who has gained extensive knowledge on this subject in numerous studies. In his presentation on "Clinical application of MRI-visible meshes", he illustrated that MRI visibility provides the opportunity to better evaluate mesh implants in

many aspects: mesh position, mesh migration and mesh shrinkage. According to Dr. Beckers, this technology, as an additional diagnostic tool, can contribute to reducing the number of subsequent operations.

To conclude the scientific programme of the first

Live-broadcast of a surgery

day, we were pleased to welcome Prof. Dr. Uwe Klinge (University of Aachen, Germany). He has been teaching and researching for over 20 years in the field of mesh implants and is considered as an outstanding key opinion leader. In his lecture on "Rationale for PVDF meshes", he illustrated his reasonings for using mesh implants made of PVDF (Polyvinylidene fluoride). These are, according to Prof. Dr. Klinge: reduced foreign body reaction, high ageing resistance and superior mechanical properties.

The first day concluded in a relaxed atmosphere with a dinner in the historic district of Ghent. Participants used the opportunity to exchange ideas, share their experiences and establish contacts.

In the morning of 3rd November, Dr. Filip Muysoms and Dr. Agneta Montgomery welcomed the participants to the second part of the event in Maria Middelares Hospital and guided the audience through the scientific programme.

The first of a total of seven lectures was given by Prof. Dr. Bernd Klosterhalfen (Krankenhaus Düren, Germany), who is head of the only pathology laboratory in Germany that is certified and accredited for testing and approval of biomaterials, implants and medical devices. In his lecture on "What we learn from explanted meshes", he presented interesting findings from an analysis of more than 1,000 explants: meshes with small pores or no pores are causing strong scar formation and, as a result of the "bridging" effect, significantly higher shrinkage. In addition, his research has shown that polypropylene is degrading under in vivo conditions.

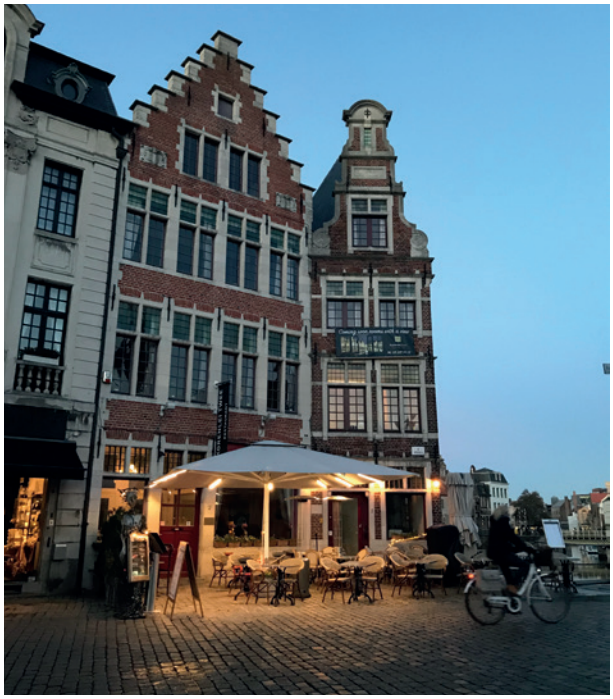
The following speakers continued the lecture series and provided highly interesting insights into their long-standing expertise in the field of hernia surgery: Dr. Miguel Garcia Ureña (Hospital Universitario Henares, Spain): "Prophylactic mesh after laparotomy"; Toby Hammond, MD FRCS (Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford, United Kingdom): "Laparoscopic IPOM: effective and established?"; Prof. René Fortelny (Wilhelminenspital, Vienna, Austria): "Prevention of parastomal hernias"; Simon Toh, MD FRCS, (Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth, United Kingdom): "Laparoscopic hiatal hernia repair" and Dr. Agneta Montgomery (University Hospital Lund, Sweden): "Short and long-term results of my personal DynaMesh®-CICAT case series". Philipp Schuster, (Director of Clinical Affairs, FEG Textiltechnik mbH, Aachen, Germany), completed the lecture series with his presentation on "European Medical

Scientific programme

Scientific programme

Device Regulation - Impact on Manufacturers and Clinicians“. He informed the participants about the new EU-regulation “Medical Device Regulation“ (MDR) and its effects on manufacturers and clinicians.

Thanks to the cooperation of Dr. Brian Jacob, an internationally recognised hernia expert from New York City, United States of America, all lectures on the second day were streamed live to the Facebook group “International Hernia Collaboration (IHC)“. This enabled us to share the event with a global audience of hernia surgeons and was well received both by the local participants and members of the Facebook group.



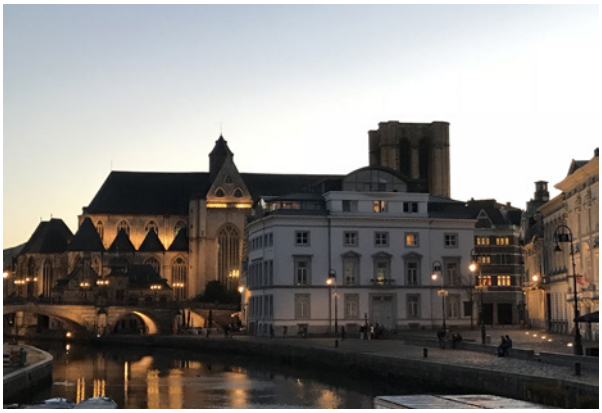
Impressions of Ghent

We are very pleased that the “Hernia Expert Meeting 2018” in Ghent received incredibly positive responses. The feedback to the meeting from the international audience was even better than the largely successful meeting last year.

The quality of the live surgeries and lecture programme, the excellently selected location as well as the professional exchange with the attending experts contributed to the success of the event again this year.

All live surgery videos and lectures held during the “Hernia Expert Meeting 2018“ are available for all participants on the DynaMesh® website in the login section under “Event Information”.

Due to the positive feedback from the participants, another “Hernia Expert Meeting“ is planned in 2019. The exact date and programme of the meeting will be announced in good time.



Ghent at night

The DynaMesh® team would like to extend our thanks to all participants, speakers and colleagues as well as to Dr. Filip Muysoms and his team for their active involvement and support. Special thanks to Dr. Agneta Montgomery and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Dietz, who have both very professionally and competently guided the audience throughout the entire programme.

Many thanks to all who have significantly contributed to the success of this event!

DynaMesh®
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