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CASE REPORTS

Undulated sternotomy and a new set for closure of the sternum

Topalov I. ¹, Guirov K. ¹, Spassov L. ²

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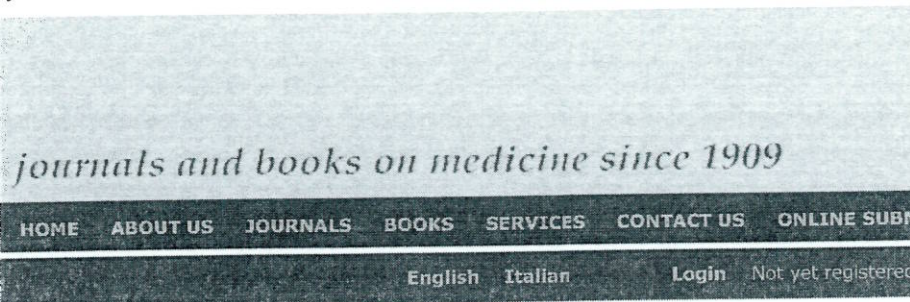
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CASE REPORTS

Undulated sternotomy and a new set for closure of the sternum

Topalov I. ¹, Guirov K. ¹, Spasov L. ²

¹ Clinic of Vascular Surgery Military Medical Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria

² Clinic of Cardiac Surgery

The authors share their experience with a new operative technique for longitudinal medial sternotomy by using original undulated sternotomy. This method was applied under experimental conditions on dogs and in their clinical practice in 136 cases of cardiac or thoracic operations. The authors invented an original set for fixation of the sternum and postoperative chest wall. The set consists of two parts: plates for fixation and fixator. The plates are made of plastic with some antimicrobial properties. They can be fixed in a way that allows a certain degree of compression on the bone fragments. The plates are tightened by means of a single use fixator. The fixation plates can also be used for closing of large wounds, postoperative hernias or dechiscention.

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