

# Bowel Isolation Technique



# Objectives

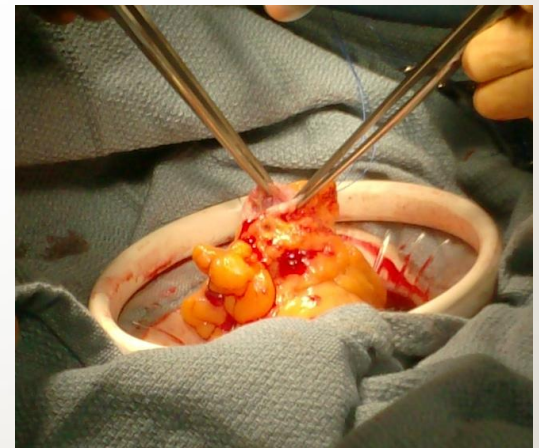
Upon completion of this module the learner will be able to:

- Define the rationale for use of the Bowel Isolation Technique during a gastrointestinal anastomosis.
- Describe how to prepare the surgical field for bowel isolation.
- Describe how to isolate clean and dirty items during and after anastomosis has been completed.

# Bowel Isolation

## Rationale

- Instruments, suture, and equipment used during the open gastrointestinal tract contain peritoneal microorganisms that can lead to surgical site infections.
- Isolation of instruments and supplies used during bowel anastomosis can reduce the chance of a post operative infection.



# Bowel Isolation Technique

**All supplies and instruments needed for the Bowel Isolation Technique should be placed in a large basin. Items may include the following:**

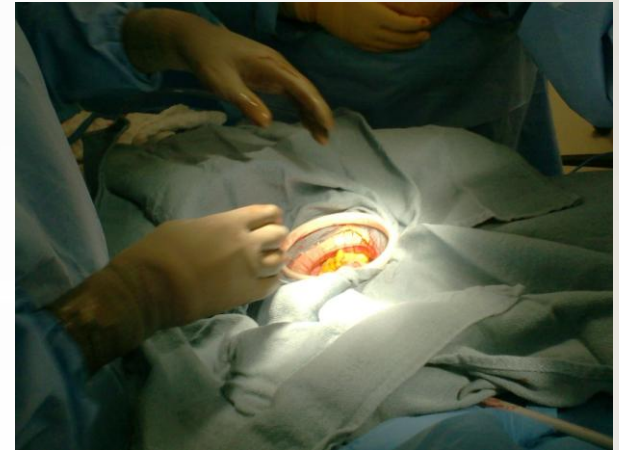
- Towels x 2
- Needle Counter
- GIA Stapler
- New Suction Tip
- Needle Driver x 2
- Debakey Forceps x 2
- Curved Mayo
- Allis x 3
- Sponge Stick



# Bowel Isolation Technique

## Before opening bowel:

- Drape towels around surgical site and any place where there is potential exposure to open bowel contents.
- Clear off mayo stand and drape with additional towels before adding items for the anastomosis:
  - New needle counter
  - Needle drivers
  - Debakey forceps
  - Suture
- Identify a neutral zone for contaminated sharps.



# Bowel Isolation Technique

## During Anastomosis:

- Have a large basin available for grossly contaminated instrument, stapler and specimen. ***Do not return contaminated instruments or supplies to the back table.***
- If additional instruments are needed, use a sponge stick to retrieve clean instruments from the back table.





# Bowel Isolation Technique

**Once bowel is closed and anastomosis is complete:**

- Return all instruments and supplies, (*sponges, suction tip, staplers and towels*) that were used during the anastomosis, back into the blue basin.
- Close isolation needle counter and place inside of basin.
- Basin with dirty instruments, supplies and needle counter are handed off of the surgical field.



# Bowel Isolation Technique

- The Surgical Technologist changes gloves and assists other team members with changing both gowns and gloves.
  - *Attending surgeon*
  - *Resident surgeon*
  - *Students*
- Once each team member has changed, they may return to surgical field and continue with the procedure.

