

# 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Reinforced Skin Closures

## How could something so small do so much?



3M™ Steri-Strip™ Reinforced Skin Closures are the worldwide standard in adhesive skin closures, trusted for their convenience, simplicity and non-invasive design.

### Features and Benefits

Provides wound support and increases the tensile strength of the wound compared to sutures<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Non-invasive design reduces scarring and the risk for infection as compared to sutures and staples, providing less tissue trauma and better cosmetic outcomes<sup>1,4</sup>

Sterile, breathable and comfortable to wear

Hypoallergenic adhesive

Permits early staple/suture removal<sup>1,2,3</sup>

Less expensive than skin adhesives, sutures or staples<sup>5</sup>

### Suggested Applications

Known for their versatility, Steri-Strip Reinforced Skin Closures are used in the closure of lacerations, surgical incisions and following early suture/staple removal.



### Ordering Information:

Product Code	Description	Size	Packaging
R1540	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 5 strips/envelope	3mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
R1541	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 3 strips/envelope	6mm x 75mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
R1542	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 6 strips/envelope	6mm x 38mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
R1546	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 10 strips/envelope	6mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
R1547	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 6 strips/envelope	12mm x 100mm	50 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case
R1548	3M Steri-Strip Adhesive Skin Closures (reinforced) - 4 strips/envelope	25mm x 125mm	25 Env/Box 4 Boxes/Case

1. Pepicello J, Yavorek H: Five-year experience with tape closure of abdominal wounds. SG&O, 169:310-314, 1989.

2. Chao T-C, Tsaez F-Y: Paper tape in the closure of abdominal wounds. SG&O, 171:65-67, 1990.

3. Forrester JC: Wolff's law in relation to the healing skin wound. J Trauma, 10:770-779, 1970.

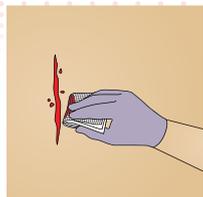
4. Hirshman HP, Schuman, DJ, Kajiyama, G: Penetration of Staphylococcus aureus into sutured wounds. J Ortho Res, 2:269-271, 1984.

5. Zempsky WT, Zehrer CL, Lyle CT, Hedblom EC. Economic Comparison of Methods of Wound Closure: Wound Closure Strips vs. Sutures and Wound Adhesives. Int Wound J 2005;2:272-281.

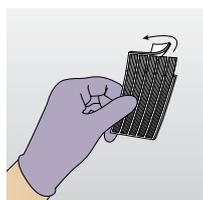


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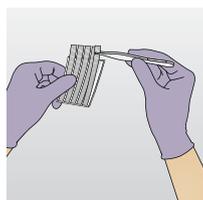
## Skin Closure Application



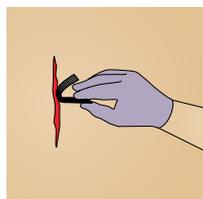
**1** Clean and dry skin at least 5.08cm around wound. If distention or movement is anticipated, consider using 3M™ Steri-Strip™ Elastic Skin Closures.



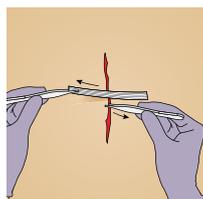
**2** Peel back package tabs to access the sterile Steri-Strip closures. Remove card, using sterile precautions as necessary. Bend card at end perforation and gently remove tab



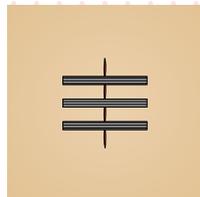
**3** Grasp end of skin closure with forceps or gloved hand; lift straight upward (90 degree angle). Steri-Strip closures lifted at a lesser angle or directly back on themselves may "curl," complicating handling.



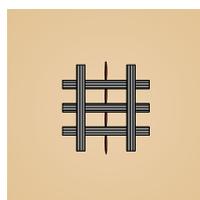
**4** Wound closure generally starts at the middle of the wound. Steri-Strip closures must be applied without tension. Do not stretch or "strap" Steri-Strip closures. Apply one-half of first Steri-Strip closure to wound margin and press firmly in place.



**5** Using fingers or forceps, appose skin edges as closely as possible. Press free half of Steri-Strip closure firmly on other side of wound.



**6** The rest of the wound should be closed with additional Steri-Strip closures spaced approximately 3mm apart by (a) sequentially bisecting remaining length of wound with Steri-Strip closures or (b) applying Steri-Strip closures 3mm apart until edges are completely approximated. If edges are not accurately apposed, remove Steri-Strip closures over affected area (peeling each side towards wound) and reapproximate wound.



**7** Additional Steri-Strip closures may be applied parallel to wound, approximately 12.7mm in from ends (cross stays, railroad tracks). This may reduce stress beneath the ends of Steri-Strip closures decreasing risk of skin tension blisters and premature lifting of Steri-Strip closures.

**Tip:** If tension is noted under Steri-Strip skin closures, they may be replaced under the direction of a health care professional. Lifted edges of Steri-Strip closures may be trimmed. However, when less than 12.7mm of Steri-Strip closures remains on either side of wound, one might consider gently removing the Steri-Strip closure and replacing it with a new one.

## Skin Closure Removal

- 1** Remove cross stays. Gently grasp and loosen ends of Steri-Strip closure.
- 2** Stabilise the skin with one finger. Remove Steri-Strip closure "low and slow" towards wound, keeping it close to skin surface and pulled back over itself. Removing Steri-Strip closure at an angle will pull at the epidermis increasing risk of mechanical trauma.
- 3** As the Steri-Strip closure is removed, continue moving finger as necessary, supporting newly exposed skin. When both sides of the Steri-Strip closure are completely loosened, lift strip up from centre of wound.

**Contact your 3M Health Care Sales Representative  
or call the 3M Health Care Customer Helpline at  
1300 363 878 within Australia or 0800 80 81 82  
within New Zealand**



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