

Response to reviewers' comments

We thank the reviewers for their constructive comments on our manuscript. We have addressed each comment made in our manuscript and detail our responses below. Please let us know if there are any other changes that you feel would improve the manuscript further.

Reviewer:

The paper is an interesting, well-organized and well-written double-blind randomised controlled trial with the aim to compare the of triclosan-coated sutures (TCS) and non-coated sutures (NCS) on wound healing and wound complications. Following inclusion and exclusion criteria 150 patients on 210 were included in the study and divided into 2 groups. All patients were assessed using ASEPSIS wound scoring system and a 'yes/no' questionnaire regarding the wound, moreover, their characteristics were recorded. The study highlighted the wound healing or the reduction of infections is not associated with TCS use.

Comment 1: a stratification of sample is mandatory, an age-related subgroups analysis could be useful to understand if, for example, elder patients have benefited from the TCS use.

Thank you. We have performed a univariate and multivariate regression analysis as outlined in Table 6 and this subgroup analysis has not shown any effect of age on the outcomes described.

Comment 2: The authors should insert a cost paragraph in discussion.

Thank you. A paragraph on cost analysis has been added to the Discussion section as per your recommendation.