

## Tips & Techniques

for the implantation of  
**ProxiCor® for Pericardial Closure**  
**ProxiCor® for Cardiac Tissue Repair**

Refer to the Instructions for Use for indications, full implant instructions, warnings and precautions, and contraindications.

### DO:

- ☑ **Hydrate properly:** Hydrate (soak) ProxiCor in **room-temperature** saline for **1-2 minutes**. Excessive hydration may result in delamination.
- ☑ **Size material appropriately:** To promote effective remodeling, use only what is needed of the material. ProxiCor should not be pulled too tight, and sutures should not be pulling. **Minimize material redundancy and tension.**
- ☑ **Use non-absorbable sutures:** Prolene suture is recommended.
- ☑ **Use either side:** ProxiCor is not sided and you may use either side in your procedure.
- ☑ **Implant properly:** Sew to healthy, viable tissue – ProxiCor ECM bioscaffold relies on angiogenesis and cellular infiltration from the sutured edge. Stitches should be **1 cm apart**. Bite width should not exceed **2 – 3 mm**. **Note:** If using ProxiCor to repair an ASD/VSD, it is recommended to wipe off the endothelial lining prior to implanting which may facilitate remodeling.
- ☑ **Suture circumferentially:** Make sure all layers of ProxiCor are penetrated to ensure good tissue approximation and regeneration potential.
- ☑ **Flush until clear:** Irrigate shed blood from pericardial sack with warm saline until clear.
- ☑ **Insert 2 chest tubes:** Utilize two drains, one inside and one outside of the reconstructed pericardium.

### DON'T:

- ☒ **Use without hydrating:** Without proper hydration, ProxiCor will tear and not retain sutures.
- ☒ **Use with glues, sealants, or platelet gels:** Avoid using glue glutaraldehyde-based and hemostatic agents as they may increase crosslinking and negatively impact remodeling.
- ☒ **Sew to synthetic or non-viable material:** Do not sew to synthetic or non-viable material (i.e. scar tissue or tissue damaged due to radiation).
- ☒ **Save or Reuse:** Discard all open or unused portions of ProxiCor.
- ☒ **Use in patients with connective tissue disorders:** i.e. Marfan Syndrome
- ☒ **Use in small vessels:** 5mm or less

### NOTE:

- ☒ ProxiCor is not indicated for the construction or replacement of total valves or conduits.