

Development of an ovine Buhner suture model

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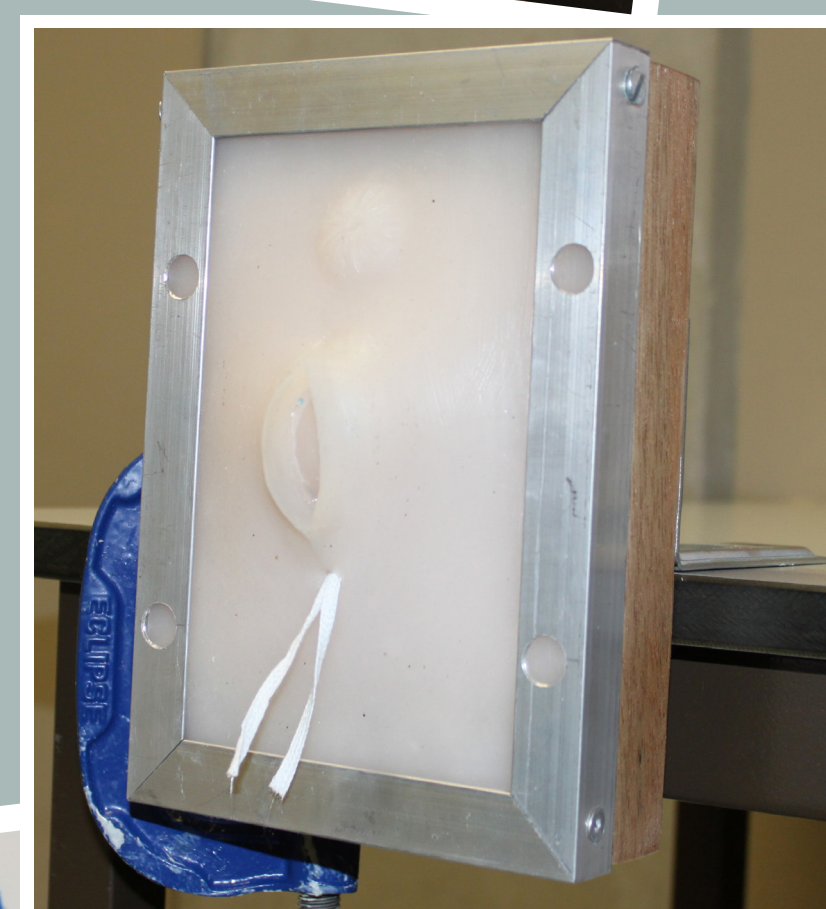
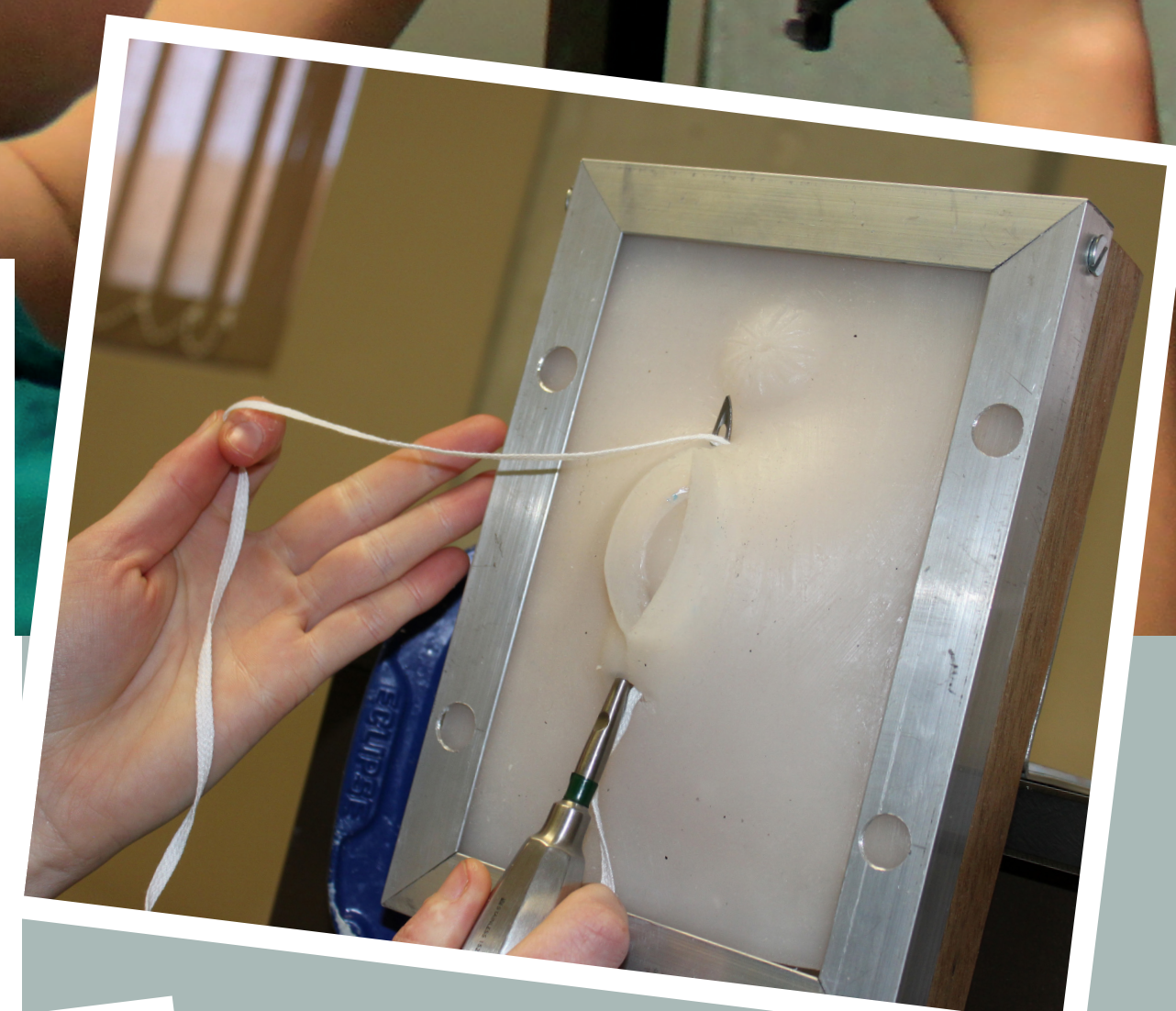
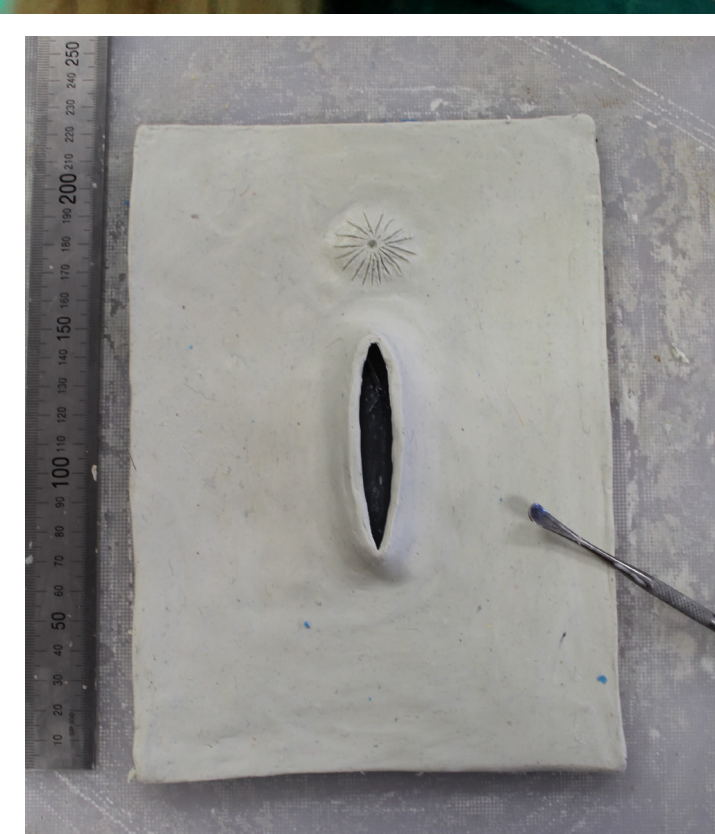
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ABSTRACT

The Buhner stitch technique for subcutaneous, perivulvar suture is used to prevent vaginal or uterine re-prolapses during the peri-partum period. It is a procedure veterinarians in production animal practice perform frequently. Therefore it is an important technique veterinary students should be able to practice. Since student exposure to ovine or bovine patients with vaginal or uterine prolapses is limited, a Buhner suture model was developed through a collaboration of the University of Pretoria and Anatomoulds (Pty)Ltd.

The 210x148.5mm model consists of a silicone perineal area with an anus and a vulva. High density foam representing subcutaneous tissue is covered with silicone skin and placed in a u-tube anodized aluminum frame that is mounted on a wooden block. The frame can be attached to table tops for an upright perineum position during the student practice sessions. Use of a Gerlach's prolapse needle and umbilical tape enables students to practice the procedure with the correct instruments. The model is reusable. The silicone part can easily be replaced after approximately 15 uses. The model has been implemented for use within the skills laboratory's production animal circuit which consists of a variety of bovine and ovine models. Final year clinic students are exposed to it during their production animal clinic rotation. The model is commercially available from Anatomoulds (Pty) Ltd.



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