Difference in pain scores on a 0 – 10 numerical rating scale over time.
Data are expressed as mean differences with 95% confidence intervals and significance levels 1 and 3 days, and 3 and 6 months postoperatively. Positive differences express more pain on the stapled side, and negative differences more pain on the sutured side. On day 1, a $P$ value < .05 was considered statistically significant. From day 3 (after removal of staples) a $P$ value < .017 was considered statistically significant due to a post hoc Bonferroni correction equivalent to the number of time points investigated.


The authors provided this information as a supplement to their article.

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