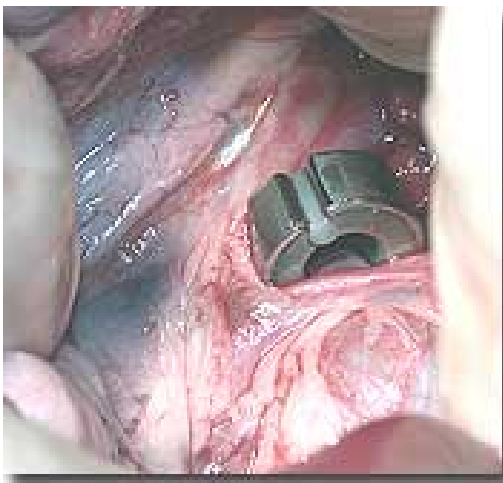


Ameroid Constrictors

An ameroid constrictor is an inner ring of casein that is surrounded by a stainless steel sheath. Casein is a hygroscopic substance that swells as it slowly absorbs body fluid. The stainless steel sheath forces the casein to swell inwardly, eventually closing the ring and obliterating the shunt. Ameroid constrictors gradually close over 4-5 weeks. Time to occlusion of the vessel is dependent on the size of the vessel and constrictor and the rigidity of the outer ring. Closure is most rapid during the first 3-14 days after implantation; rate of closure declines thereafter.



Ameroid constrictors come in various sizes, with internal diameters ranging from 3.5 to 9 mm; constrictors with 3.5 and 5 mm internal diameters are most frequently used for PSS ligation. The choice of ameroid constrictor size for PSS occlusion is based on shunt diameter; therefore, the surgeon should have a selection of sizes available at each surgery. To avoid postoperative portal hypertension, choose a constrictor that does not compress the shunt after placement. In cases where larger constrictors are not available, portal pressures can be measured during partial shunt occlusion and viscera can be evaluated subjectively for signs of portal hypertension to determine whether a smaller constrictor could be used.



J0659 3.5mm

J0659A 5.0mm

J0659B 6.0mm

J0659C 6.5mm

J0659D 7.0mm