
An easy and cheap surgical pocket case for draining blood when performing scalp surgery



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SURGICAL CHALLENGE

Skin cancers are increasing in their incidence worldwide. The scalp is a frequent site for cutaneous carcinoma, both basal cell and squamous cell. Scalp carcinomas usually bring difficulties in surgical management owing to the high bleeding risk and the uncomfortable position for the surgeon. In particular, during the surgical excision such lesions tend to bleed because of the high vascular support of the scalp, and this can negatively affect surgical management.

Some devices, such as a plastic pocket, are on the market, but their use increases the expense of the procedure.

SOLUTION

Herein, we describe a simple and cheap way to create a pocket for blood and gauze with just 2 towel forceps (or 2 Kocker forceps) and a 200 × 200-cm (or 150 × 150-cm) sheet, which are usually in overabundance in the surgical kit.



Fig 1. The pocket on site at the head of the patient who is to undergo scalp surgery.

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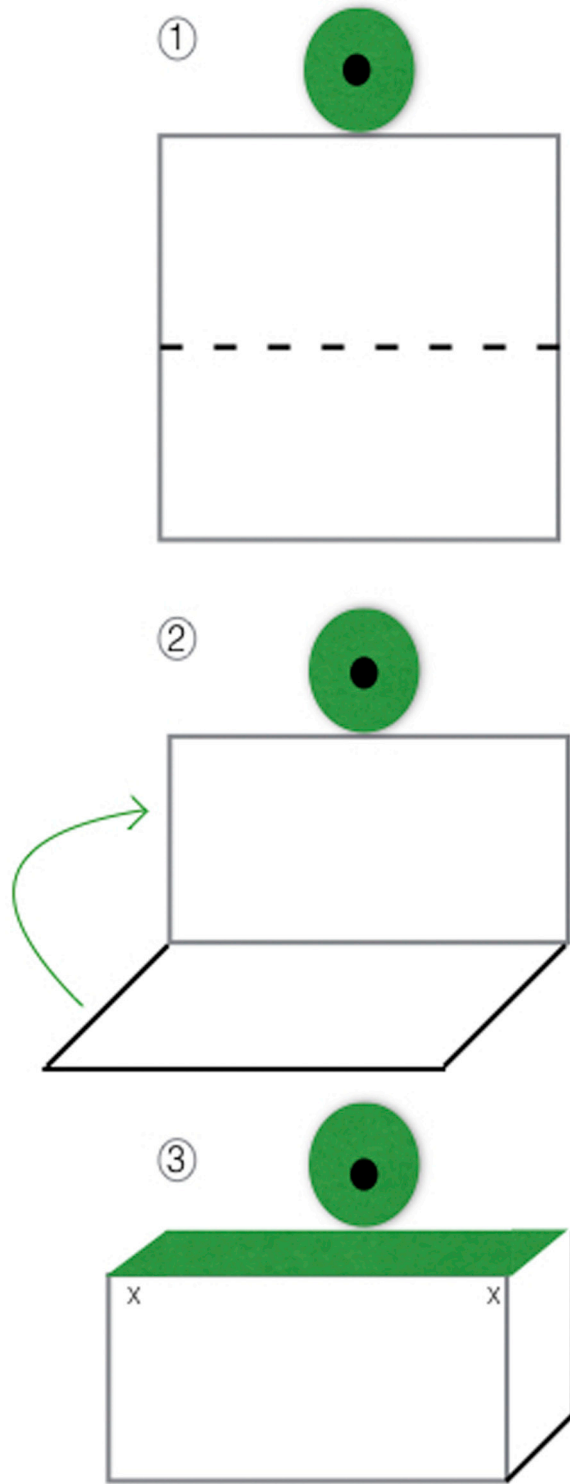


Fig 2. How to fold and create the pocket.

This pocket case is designed at the head of the patient, just between the surgeon and the surgical bed (Fig 1). The sheet is folded in two and the two upper corners are pinched at the surgical sheet of the sterile field (Fig 2). This pocket case may be used to collect both blood and used pieces of gauze.

At the end of the procedure after the removal of the surgical instrument, the pocket case can be disposed of as waste with the other sheets.

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