

1

3,040,746

**CIRCUMCISION CLAMP**

Martin H. Chester, 16000 S. Vermont Ave.,  
Gardena, Calif.

Filed Aug. 12, 1960, Ser. No. 49,284

5 Claims. (Cl. 128—321)

This invention relates to a circumcision clamp and more particularly to such a clamp especially suitable for use in adult circumcisions.

It is well known to those skilled in the medical art that a correct and effective circumcision operation requires that an adequate amount of prepuce or foreskin be excised. On the other hand, excision of an excessive amount of foreskin or prepuce could result in a painful scar. Additional hazards such as accidental amputation of glans penis and injury to the urethra have been reported in the surgical literature.

Several circumcision clamps are now in use for the so called bloodless circumcision operation. These include the Sheldon Clamp, the Yellen Clamp, the AL AKL Preputome, and the Ross Circumcision Clamp, all of which produce hemostasis by crushing the layers of the prepuce. These clamps produce the desired results in most infant circumcisions. Their use, however, in adult circumcisions will increase the risk of post operative hemorrhage. As noted on page 411 of Surgery for General Practice by Victor Richards published by C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1956, except in infants the advantages of bloodless type circumcision clamps is more apparent than real.

Consequently, in performing adult circumcisions, most surgeons prefer to use a technique which includes dorsal and ventral slitting of the prepuce followed by excising with circumscribing incisions. Active bleeding from small arteries is controlled by conventional surgical technique, the artery being clamped and a ligature applied.

The device of this invention facilitates and increases the safety of this type of operation. This is accomplished by providing means for clamping the inner and outer layer of the lateral flaps prepuce and means for guiding the scalpel or dissecting scissors. In this manner, the circumscribing incision of the prepuce is greatly facilitated with an optimum excision of skin readily achieved. Using the device of this invention, the operating surgeon can easily make an adequate excision of skin with a sufficient amount of prepuce being removed to produce the maximum benefits from the circumcision surgery. At the same time, the excision of excessive amounts of the prepuce is prevented so that enough prepuce is available to cover the corona and consequently increase the ease of suturing.

It is therefore an object of this invention to provide an improved circumcision clamp especially suited to adult circumcisions.

It is a further object of this invention to facilitate circumcision operations.

It is still a further object of this invention to lessen the hazards attendant to circumcision operations.

It is another object of this invention to lessen the time required for circumcision operations.

It is still another object of this invention to enable an operating surgeon in a circumcision operation to easily excise an optimum amount of skin with smooth even incisions.

Other objects of the invention will become apparent as the description proceeds in connection with the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a plan view of a preferred embodiment of the device of the invention;

FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 1 taken along a plane as indicated by the line 2—2 in FIG. 1;

2

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of the device of the invention illustrated in FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a perspective view illustrating the details of the holding and guiding means of the embodiment of FIGS. 1-3;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view illustrating how the device of the invention is utilized in a circumcision operation; and  
FIG. 6 is a second perspective view illustrating how the device of the invention is utilized in performing a circumcision operation.

Referring now to FIGS. 1 and 3, a plan and a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the device of the invention are illustrated. The device comprises a first member 12 and a second member 14 mounted pivotally with respect to each other on pivot pin 22. These members are mounted so that they are capable of scissor-like motion about pin 22. Each member has a similar elongated arm 34 and 33 respectively. Attached to each of arms 34 and 33 is a respective finger grip 31 and 30. These finger grips may be integrally formed with their associated arms. Extending from finger grip 30 is a ratcheted piece 23. A similar ratcheted piece 27 extends from finger grip 31. Ratcheted pieces 27 and 23 are positioned so that they will mate with each other when finger grips 30 and 31 are drawn together to lock members 12 and 14 in clamping engagement. FIGS. 1 and 2 show members 12 and 14 in such clamping engagement.

Referring now to FIG. 4, in addition to FIGS. 1 and 3, the details of the holding and guiding portions of members 12 and 14 are shown. A holding member 29 is fixedly attached to arm 33 and pivotally mounted on pivot pin 22. Holding member 29 comprises a support portion 35, a pair of forked arms 37 and 38 extending therefrom, and a curved holding plate 16 attached to forked arms 37 and 38. Plate 16 has serrations 19 on the inner curved surface thereof.

A guide member 32 is fixedly attached to arm 34 and pivotally mounted on pivot pin 22. Guide member 32 has an elongated aperture 39 therein through which holding member 29 fits and is free to pivot relative to guide member 32. Guide member 32 includes a support portion 36, and a curved guide plate 15 attached thereto. Guide plate 15 has a serrated portion 20 on the outer curved surface thereof. The curvature of plate 15 must be similar to that of plate 16 so that the two plates will mate with each other when finger grips 30 and 31 are drawn together. This mating relationship is indicated in FIGS. 1 and 2 which shows plates 15 and 16 drawn together with serrated surface 19 mating with serrated portion 20 of the top surface of plate 15.

Plate 15 has a groove 18 in its outer circumferential surface running substantially parallel to the extreme edge of this plate. When plates 15 and 16 are drawn together, groove 18 is positioned adjacent to the extreme edge 41 of plate 16. The curvature of groove 18 and the extreme edge 41 of plate 16 approximates the curvature of one-half the corona of the human penis starting at the frenulum. The operation, as to be explained further on in the specification, is performed with a matched pair of circumcision clamps, one of these clamps having a plate 15 with a groove 18 and a plate 16 with an edge 41 having a curvature to match the shape of the corona of the penis on one side of the frenulum, the other of these clamps having such portions to match the shape of the corona on the other side of the frenulum. The device of the invention may be made with plates 15 and 16 of various sizes and curvatures to accommodate individual physical differences in patients.

Referring now to FIGS. 5 and 6, the use of the device of the invention in performing a circumcision operation is illustrated. Prior to the application of the clamps of the device of the invention, the glans and layers of the pre-