

propionic, lactic, trichloroacetic, succinic, benzoic, salicylic and p-toluene sulfonic.

8. A process according to claim 2 wherein said polysaccharide is hyaluronic acid.

9. A process according to claim 2 wherein said polysaccharide is sodium hyaluronate.

10. A process according to claim 4 wherein said polysaccharide is sodium hyaluronate.

11. A process according to claim 5 wherein said polysaccharide is sodium hyaluronate.

12. A method of preventing adhesions or accretions of body tissues in which one or more pieces of a gel of a crosslinked carboxylgroup-containing polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of carboxymethyl dextran, carboxymethyl starch, carboxymethyl cellulose and glucosaminoglycans, during the course of a

surgical operation, is introduced into the interstices between the tissues to be maintained in a separated condition; the gel being formed by reacting said polysaccharide with a bi- or polyfunctional epoxide.

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein the gel is formed by reacting the polysaccharide with a bi- or polyfunctional epoxide at a pH within the range of from 2 to 5.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said pH is from 2.5 to 4.5.

15. A method according to claim 12 wherein said polysaccharide is sodium hyaluronate.

16. A method according to claim 13 wherein said polysaccharide is sodium hyaluronate.

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