

# Excision, Repair & Wound Care

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# Incision & Drainage

- 10040-10180
- 10120 & 10121 specific to foreign body removal
- Specific to type (abscess, hematoma, bulla, cyst...) & complexity (simple/single vs. multiple/complex)
- 10180 specific to postoperative wound infection

# Pairing, Cutting, Biopsy, & Tags

- 11055-11057 Pairing or cutting benign hyperkeratotic lesion (corn/callous) # of lesions
- 11100 Biopsy (includes simple closure)
- 11101 Each addl bx
- 11200 Skin tag removal 1<sup>st</sup> 15 lesions
- 11201 addl 10 lesions
- 11300-11313 Shaving of lesion (should not require closure) Based on location & diameter of lesion

# Excision

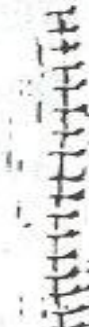
- Full-thickness (not shave or destruction)
- Minimum diameter excised (lesion diameter + margin)
- Diameter only goes to > 4cm (for unusual/complicated use modifier 22)
- Benign (11400-11446)
- Hidradenitis (11450-11471) May include closure
- Malignant (11600-11646)
- Location
- Includes simple (skin-only closure)



A



B



R. H. Hage

# Wound Closure

## *Techniques*

### *Hausted principles*

- Aseptic technique
- Meticulous hemostasis
- Gentle handling of tissue
- Obliteration of all dead space

# Repair

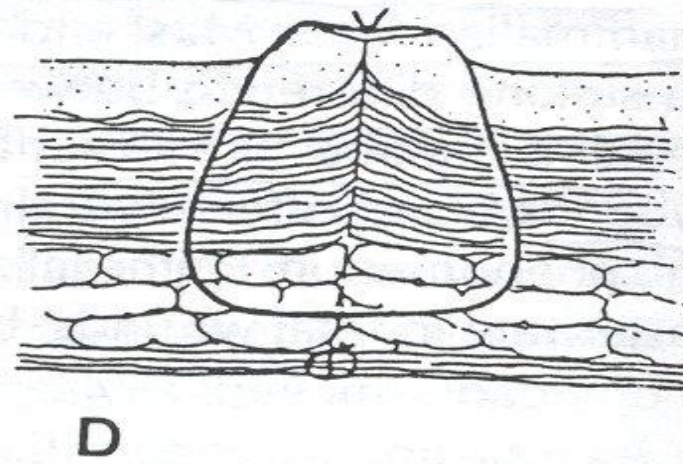
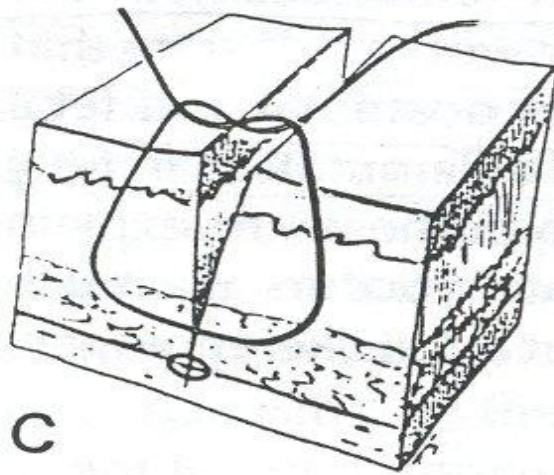
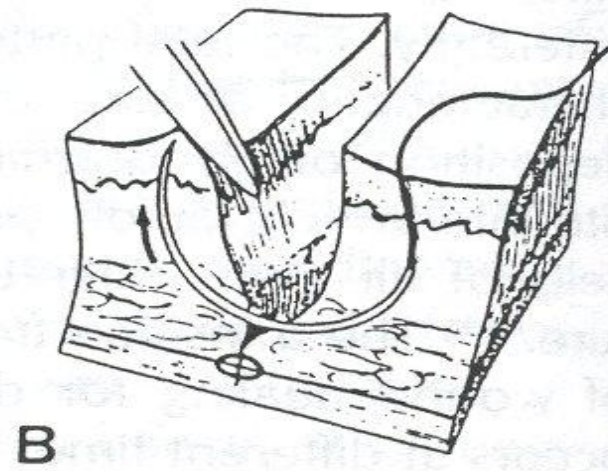
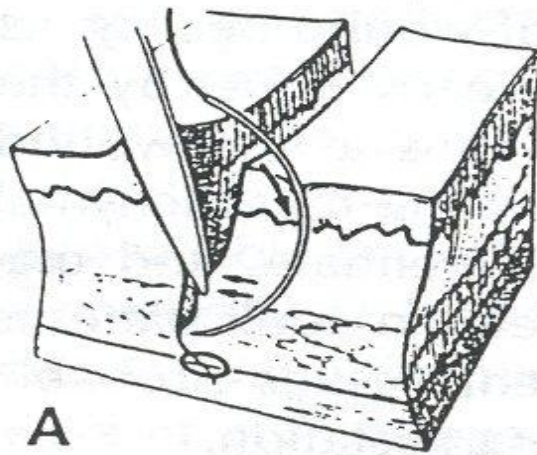
- Three “L”s: Length, Level, Location
- Butterfly/tape/Steri-strips...E/M code only
- Simple(12001-12021): Skin only
  - 1 layer closure
  - Superficial wound-epidermis/dermis, subQ not involving deeper tissue
  - Includes local anesthesia
  - Includes cautery (chemical or electric) of wounds not closed

# Intermediate Repair

- Layered closure
  - 1 or more deeper layers of subQ &/or superficial fascia in addition to skin
- Single-layer closure if extra work of cleaning heavily contaminated wound

# Complex repair

- Requires more than just layered closure
  - Debridement of heavily contaminated wound & layered closure
  - Extensive undermining (without transposition flap)
  - Conservative revision (scar excision prior to closure)
- Does not include excision of benign/malignant lesion
- Does not include excisional preparation of wound bed or open fracture/dislocation
- Add-on codes for each addl 5cm > 7.5cm









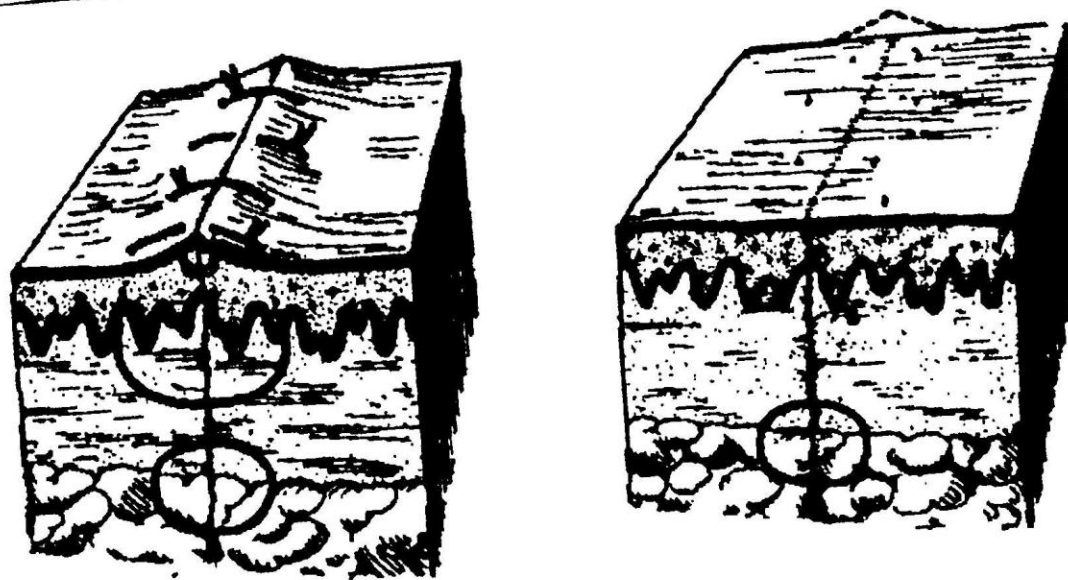




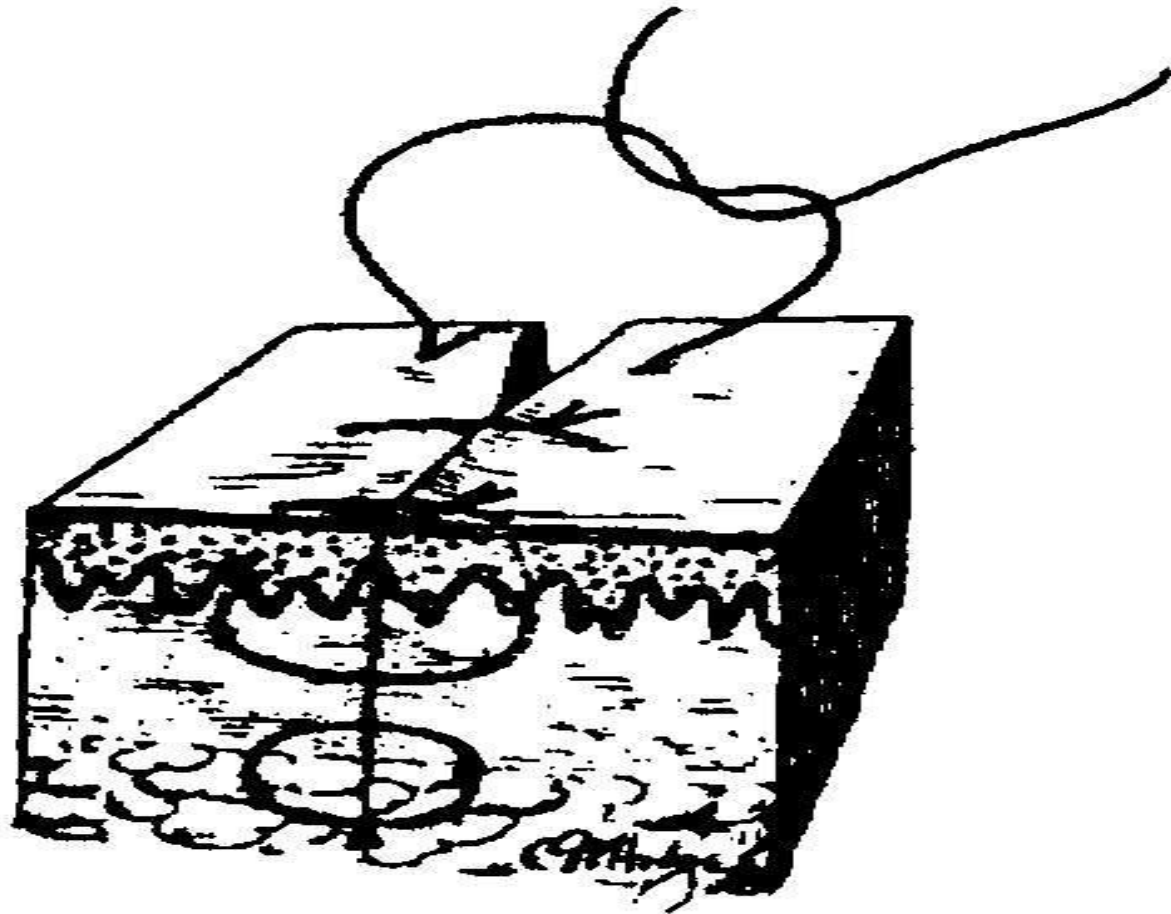


ROCHE HARBOR  
- MARINA -

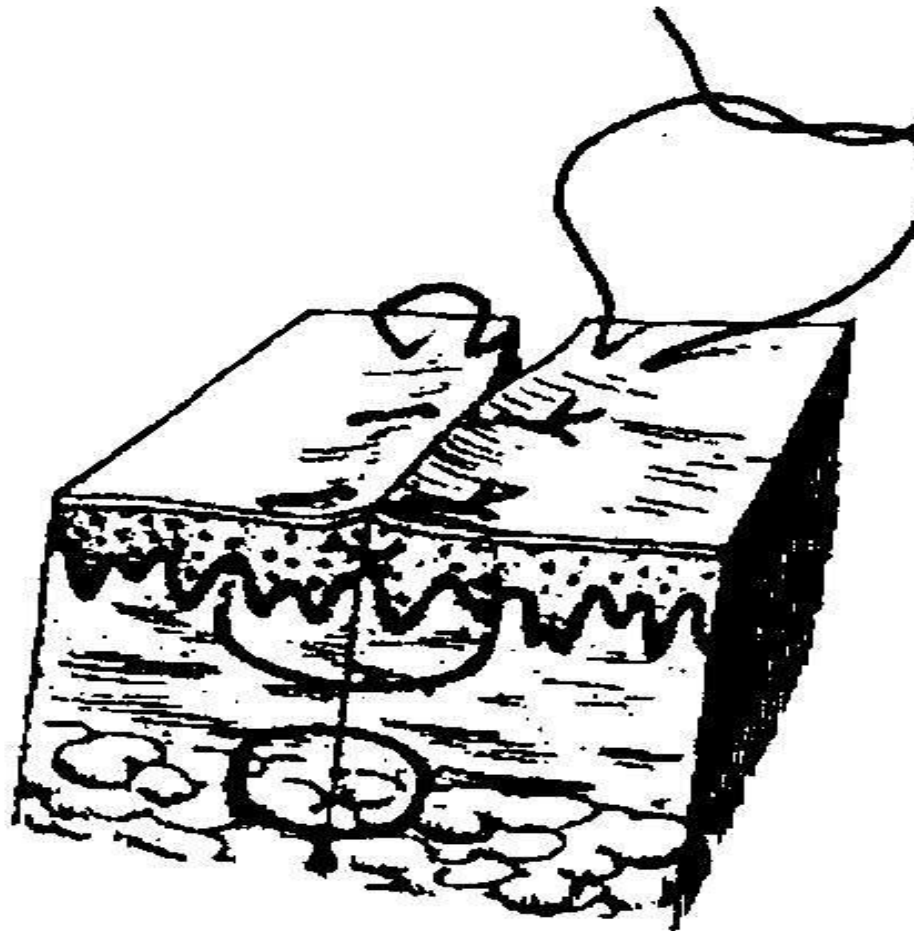
NAUTICAL



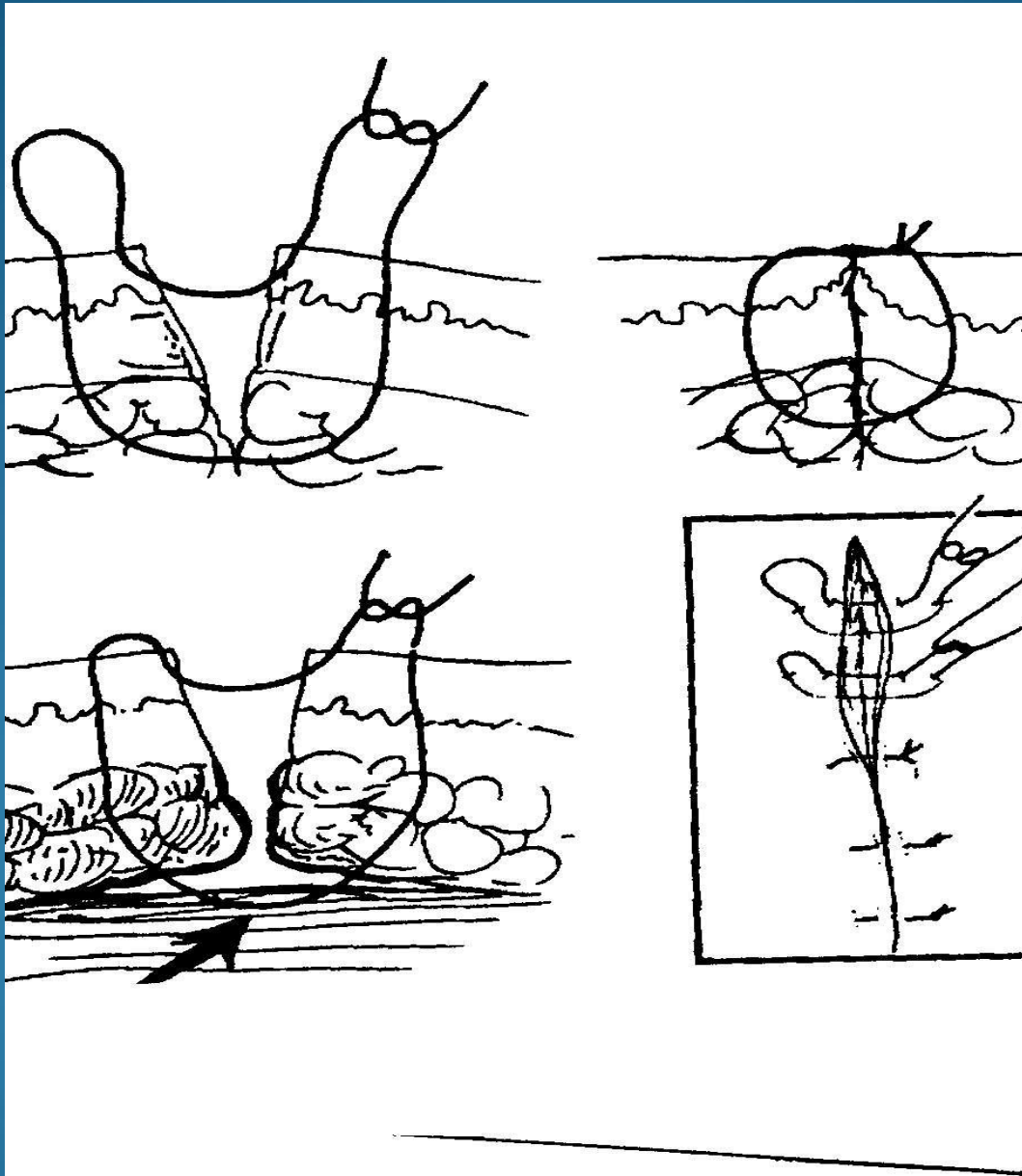
**Figure 1-8** Skin edges that are everted gradually flatten to produce a level wound surface.

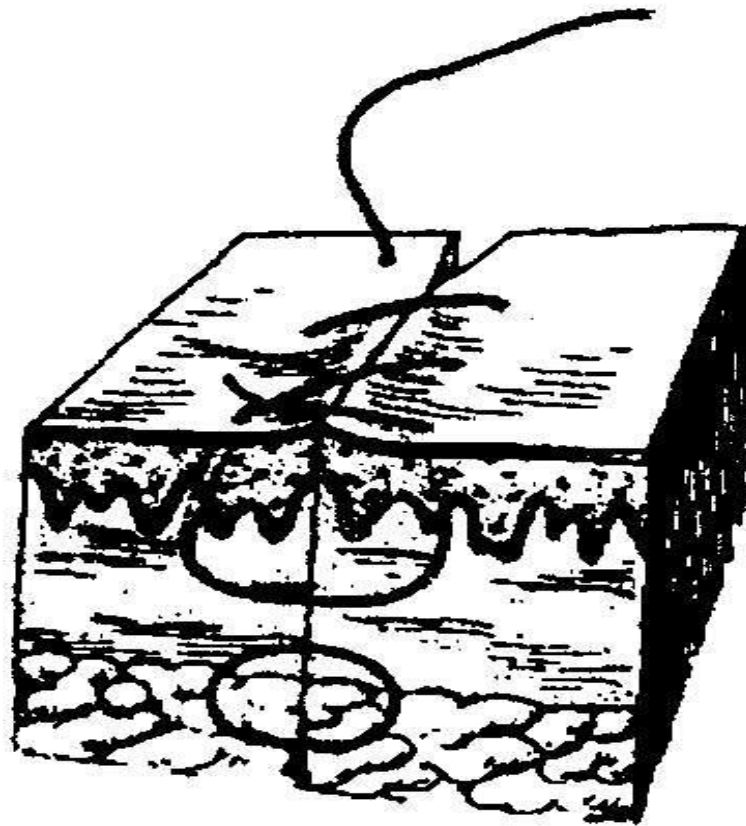


**A. Simple interrupted**



**B. Vertical mattress**





. Continuous over and over

## Squamous Cell Carcinoma

2cm diameter lesion

2.5cm minimum diameter  
excision with margin



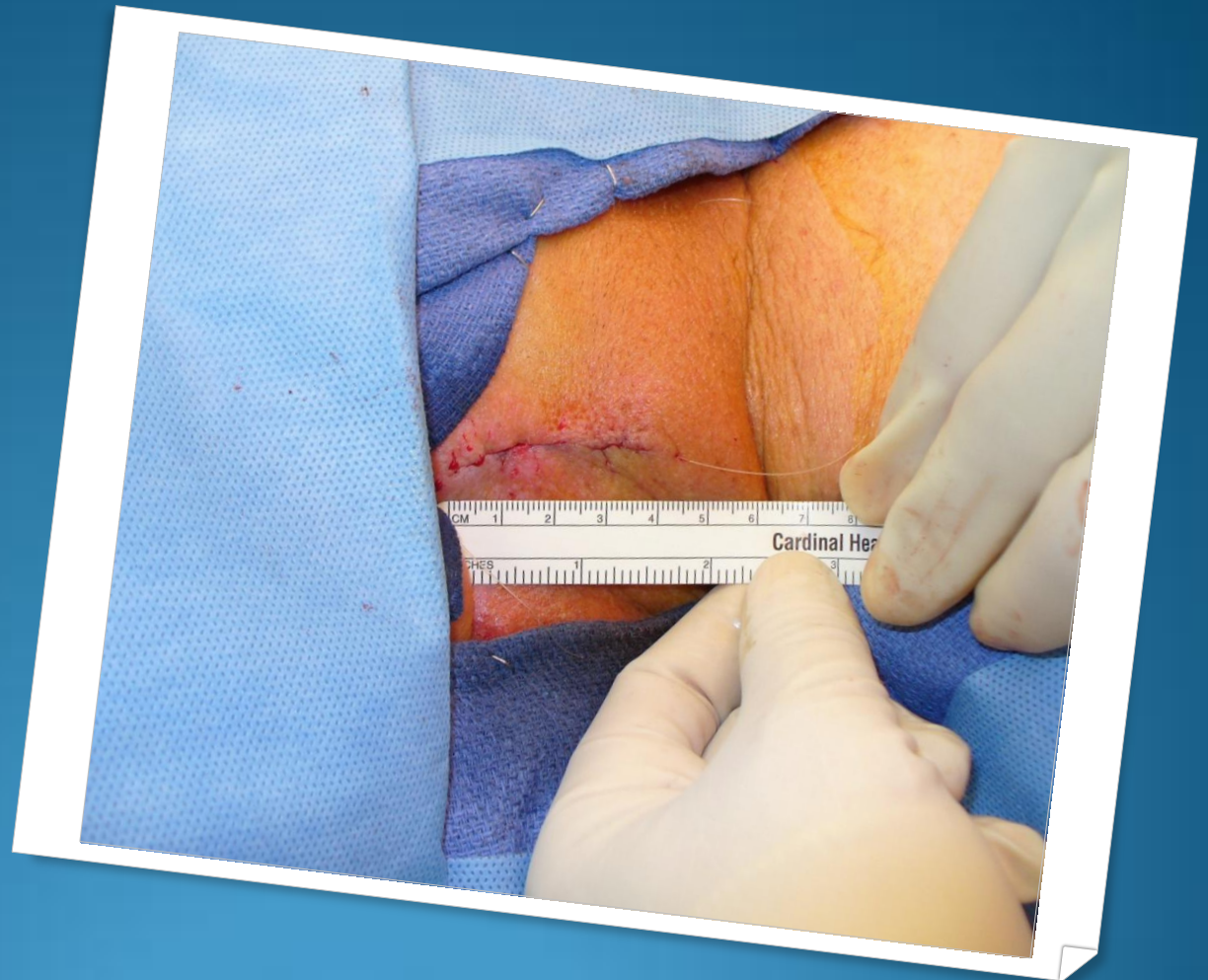
## Squamous Cell Carcinoma

2.5cm x 4cm defect



## Squamous Cell Carcinoma

4cm complex closure  
(extensive undermining, 3-  
layer closure)



# Excision & Repair

13132 Rt (Complex repair right neck 4cm)

11623 Rt 59 (Excision malignant lesion right neck 2.5cm diameter)



# Soft-Tissue Excision

- Diameter of mass (plus required margin)
- Subcutaneous
- Subfascial (intramuscular or subgaleal)
- Location on body
- Prior to 2010 only 3 mass codes that did not specify size or cover all anatomic locations
- Simple or intermediate repair included
- Complex repair specifically not included in CPT (CMS disagrees)

## Subcutaneous Mass

8 cm diameter



## Subcutaneous Mass

8 cm diameter



## Complex Repair

12.5 cm  
(not Medicare)



# Excision of Mass

27337 Rt (Excision Rt leg subcutaneous mass 8cm diameter)

13121 Rt 59 (Complex repair Rt leg 7.5cm)

13122 Rt 59 (Complex repair Rt leg additional 5cm)





# Adding Repairs

Add lengths of repair together when the same level (simple, intermediate, complex) & same anatomic group (trunk...)

If different level &/or anatomic group, report separately with 59 modifier with most complicated 1<sup>st</sup>

Medicare fiscal intermediaries will often only reimburse 1<sup>st</sup> lesion if 51 modifier used (even though correct)

Excisions are not added

# Multiple Repairs

51 Multiple procedures

59 Distinct procedural service

CMS.GOV



# Local Tissue Rearrangement

14000-14061, 14301-14350

Flap without named blood supply

Z-plasty, V-Y advancement, Rhomboid, Circumferential advancement, bipedicle flap...

Includes excision (benign or malignant)

Based on surface area including that required to repair donor defect

## Multifocal Basal Cell Carcinoma

8cm diameter with clear margin-back



# Multifocal Basal Cell Carcinoma

Back defect



## Local Tissue Rearrangement- circumferential advancement

Decrease from 8cm diameter  
to 5.5cm diameter  
LTR ~ 27cm(2)





# Local Tissue Rearrangement

14001 Excision malignant lesion 8cm diameter (included) & circumferential advancement flap 27cm(2)

15100 59 Split-thickness skin graft 24cm(2)

Surface area(circles):  $\pi \times r(2)$

Others roughly L x W

# Debridement

Significant changes in 2011

11040 (epidermis) & 11041 (dermis) removed

Excisional (11042-11047) Based on deepest layer of **viable** tissue removed

Selective (97597-97598) removal of **non-viable** tissue (&/or viable skin only)

Non-selective (97602) Gradual removal of non-viable tissue (Generally not by physician)

# Debridement

Based on surface area ( $>$  or  $<$  20 sq cm)

Document pre & post debridement wound measurement

% of wound debrided

Indication, anesthetic, technique, instrumentation, hemostasis, pt tolerance, dressing

CPT code selection based on post-debridement surface area (unlike lesion excision)

Round up for 0.5 or greater & down for  $<$  (20.4 to 20, 20.5 to 21 sq cm)

# Debridement-Multiple Wounds

Same anatomic location (legs, arms, trunk, face,...) & same level add surface area together

Same anatomic location & different levels report only highest level debridement

If different anatomic locations can charge separately (59)

If excisional & selective debridements performed in same anatomic group can charge separately

# Debridement-Multiple Procedures

- If skin substitute applied after debridement, charge only skin substitute
- Exception for excisional preparation (1500x) & extensive debridement (muscle 11043 & bone 11044)
- TCC/UNNA boot can only be charged separately from selective debridement (o/w can only charge excisional)

# Debridement

11000/11001 Extensive eczematous or infected skin up to 10%  
BSA/ea additional 10%

11004-11012 Necrotizing infections, infected mesh, compound  
fxs...

Specific to site & material, not surface area



# Surgical Preparation

15002-15005

Surgically preparing a clean & viable wound surface for placement of graft, flap, skin substitute, or NPWT

May include surgical release of scar contracture or band

Based on surface area of wound created

May be similar procedure as debridement with more definitive coverage/healing planned

15920-15999 Pressure ulcer excision



# Skin Replacements

Autograft/cultured autograft (from same pt) 15040-15157

Full-thickness autograft (includes direct closure of donor site)  
15200-15261

Split-thickness graft includes epidermis & part of dermis (leaves part of dermis to re-epithelialize)

Full-thickness graft includes all of dermis-does not contract, thicker

Autograft codes remain unchanged for 2012:surface area & anatomic-site dependent



# Skin Substitute Grafts

Allograft-transplant from same species

Xenograft-transplant from another species (most commonly pig)

2012 allograft/xenograft/biological products for scaffolding  
surface application codes deleted

Based on surface area & not as straightforward or “add-on like other CPT

Total surface area of application < or > 100cm sq

# Skin

## Substitutes/Replacements

Apligraf

Dermagraft

Alloderm

Flex HD

Integra

Oasis/Stratice

....



# Skin Substitute Grafts

- Total Surface area < 100cm sq
  - 15271: 1<sup>st</sup> 25cm sq Trunk/Arms/Legs
  - +15272: ea. Addnl 25cm sq
  - 15275: 1sr 25cm sq  
Face/Scalp/Mouth/Neck/Genitalia/Hands/Feet/Digits
  - +15276: ea addnl 25cm sq

# Skin Substitute Grafts

- Total Surface Area > 100cm sq
  - 15273: 1<sup>st</sup> 100cm sq Trunk/Arms/Legs
  - +15274: ea addnl 100cm sq
  - 15277: 1<sup>st</sup> 100cm sq  
Face/Scalp/Mouth/Neck/Genitalia/Hands/Feet?digits
  - +15278: ea addnl 100cm sq
  - 15272/15274/15276/15278 are add-on codes & do not require modifier 51 (may require 59)

## Biological Implantation

If skin substitute used deep  
(breast  
reconstruction/hernia/...), use  
+15777

Implantation of biological  
implant for soft-tissue  
reinforcement)





cm 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

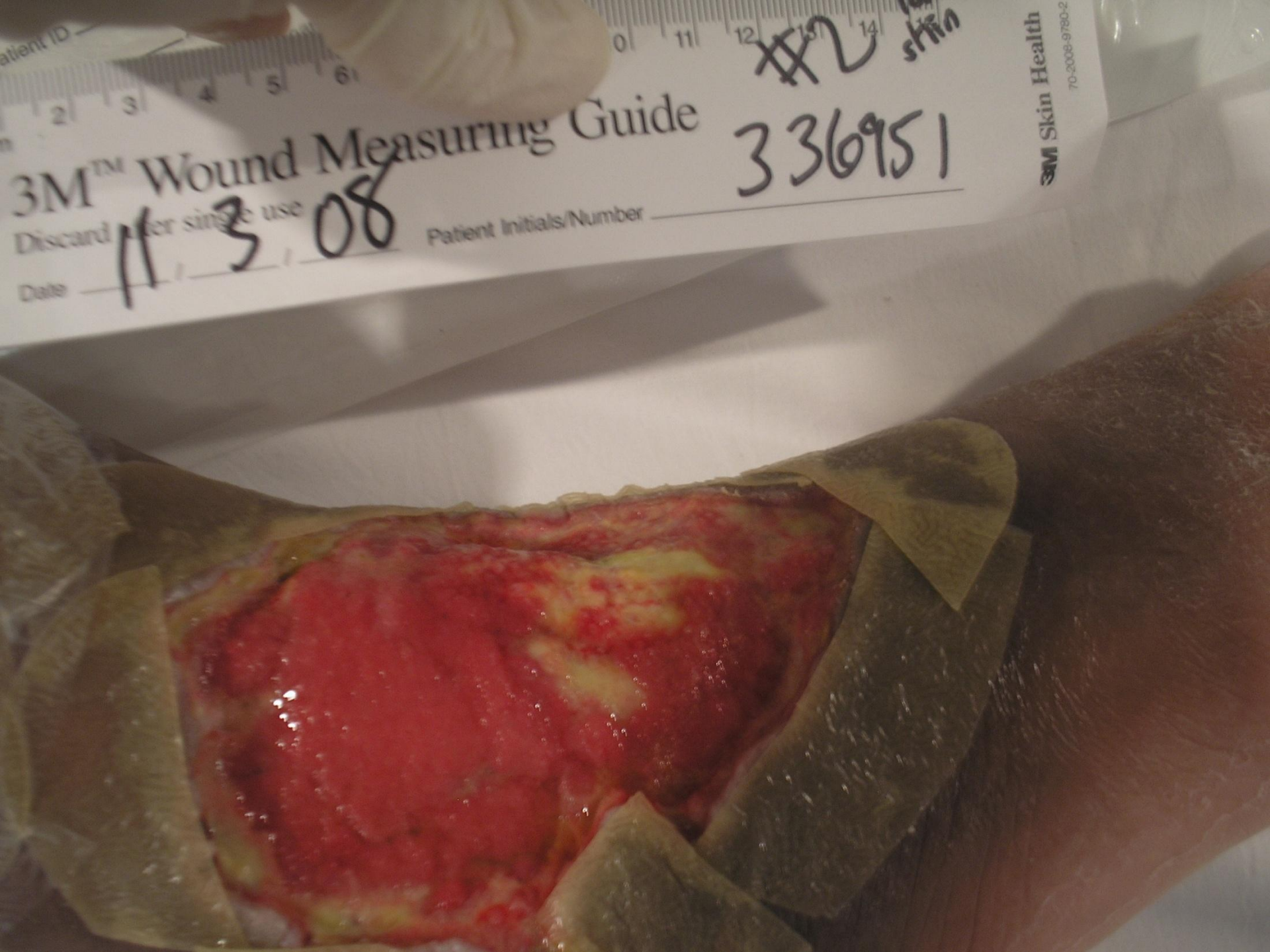
Patient Name: 336951  
Date: 10-10-08  
Wound Type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wound Length: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wound Width: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wound Depth: \_\_\_\_\_

#1

Select Silver  
BY MILLIKEN

Milliken & Company

1 2 3 4 5 6



patient ID \_\_\_\_\_

3M™ Wound Measuring Guide

Discard after single use

Date 11 / 3 / 08 Patient Initials/Number 336951

~~XXV~~ skin

3M Skin Health  
70-2008-9780-2

# Serial Debridements

97597 & 97598 for removal of necrotic (non-viable) tissue & debris (selective)

11042 (11045 ea additional 20 sq cm) SQ

11043 (11046 ea additional 20 sq cm) muscle/fascia



2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

②

336951

12/4/08

T.P.

graft.

1-877-De

1-877-33

Size: Length Width Depth

Closure

# Excisional Preparation & STSG

15002 Surgical preparation by excision. Trunk, arms, legs first 100 sq cm or 1% BSA infant/children

15003 Each additional 100 sq cm or 1% BSA

15100 Split-thickness autograft trunk, arms, legs first 100 sq cm or 1% BSA infant/children

15101 Each additional 100 sq cm or 1% BSA



#2

33695/  
1/5/09

l-rom.com

Single Use Only

2007-007-2007/Rev. 001 1/08  
© 1998 Full-Form



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
cm

**3M™ Wound Measuring Guide**  
Discard after single use

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Patient Initials \_\_\_\_

**336951**  
**1/26/09**

**#**

**3M Skin Health**  
70-800-8 0780-2

## Cervical spine infection w/dehiscence

Exposed spine  
Hardware removed  
External fixation



## Cervical spine wound

Serial debridements-bone  
(11044)



## Cervical spine wound

Covered with lower trapezius  
myocutaneous flap  
Complicated by seroma/CSF  
leak & small peri-flap  
dehiscence



# Myocutaneous Flap

15620 59 Trapezius myocutaneous flap (neck)

15004 excisional preparation of wound sq cm

## Cervical spine wound

Bilateral splenius capitus muscle flaps to close dead space/cover hardware  
Re-advancement of Trapezius flap (LTR)



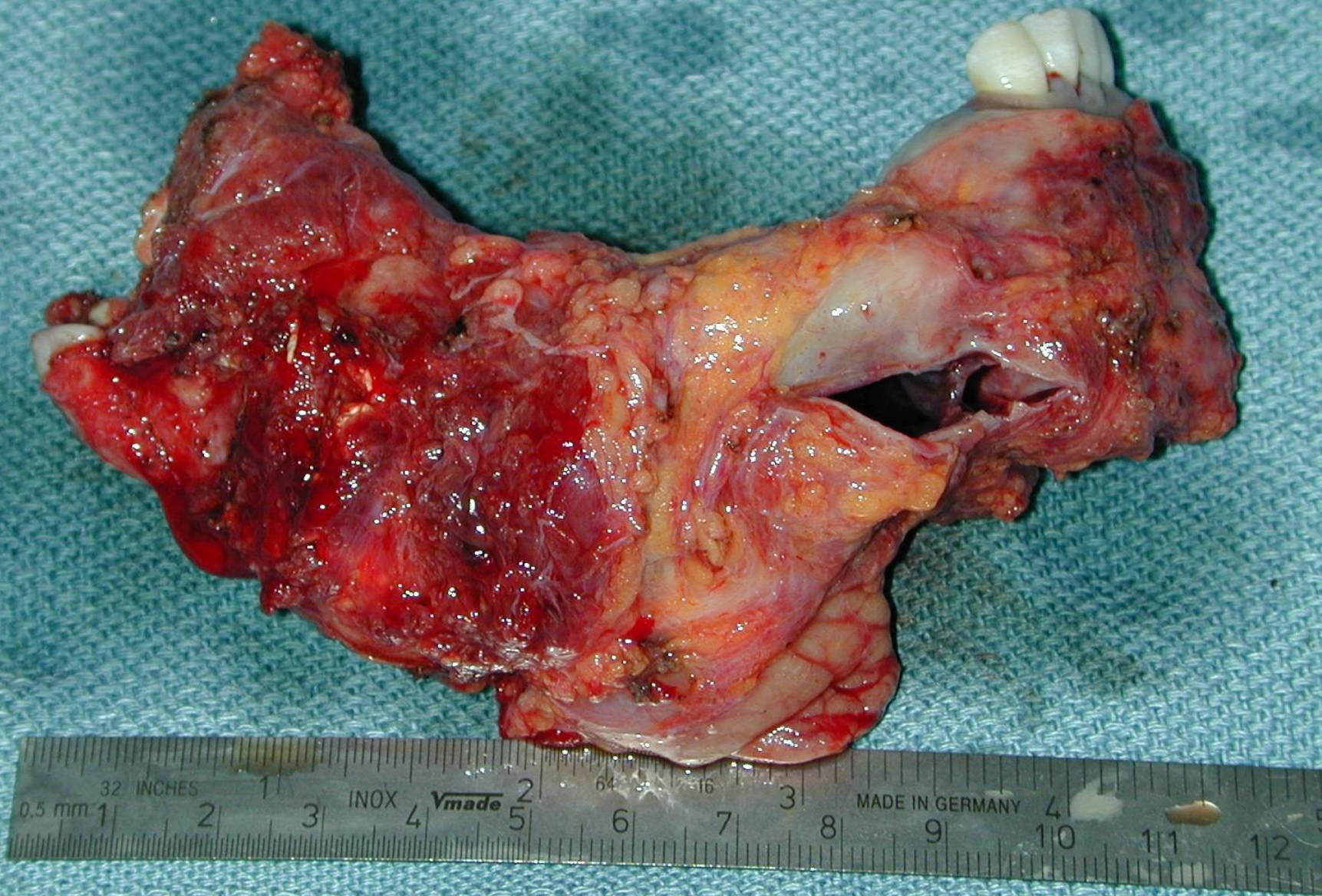
# Revision Flaps

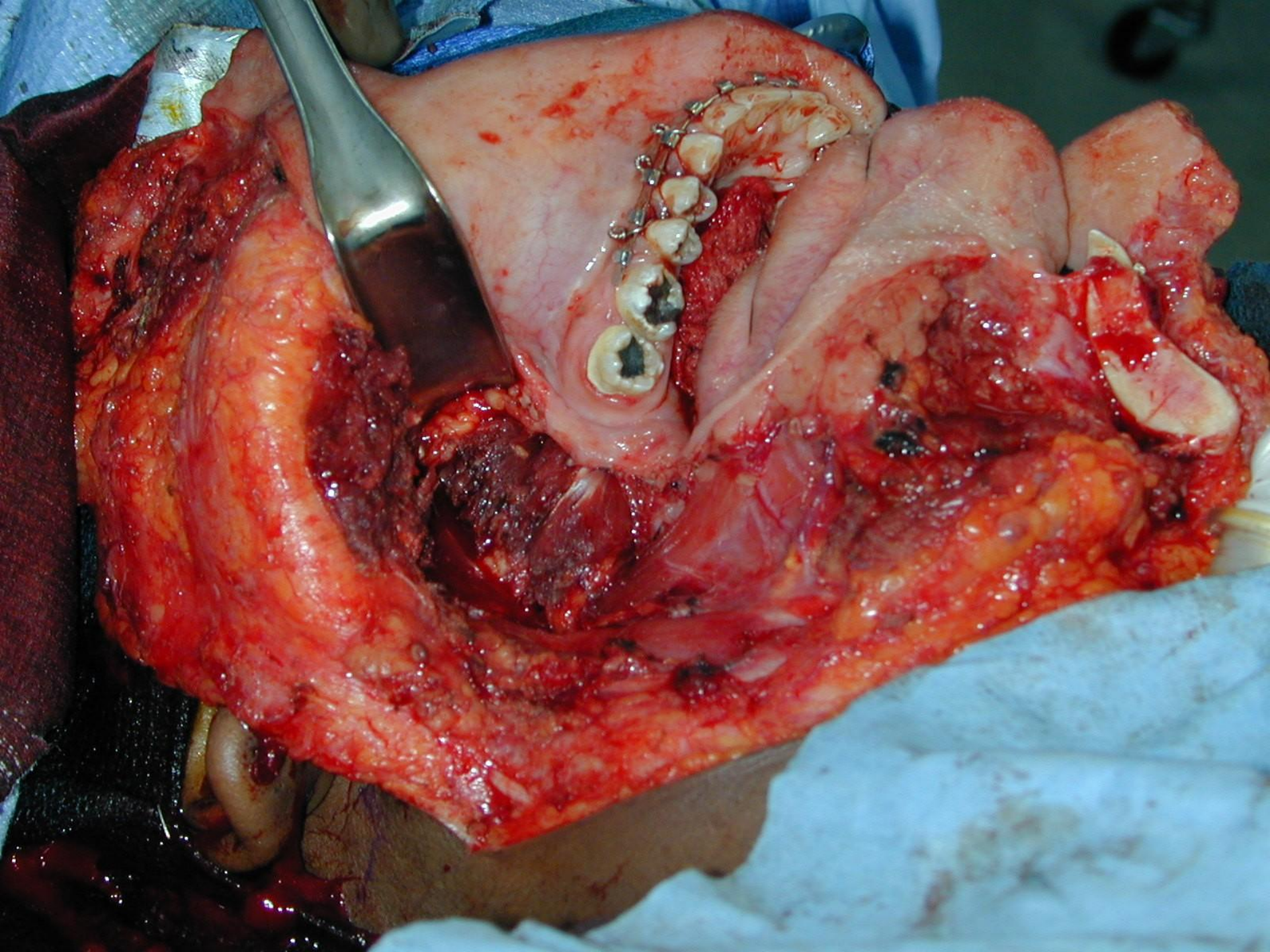
15732 78 50 Muscle flaps during global post-op period

14141 78 59 LTR neck during global post-op period (separate procedure) sq cm

11044 78 59 Debridement bone during post-op period (separate procedure) sq cm





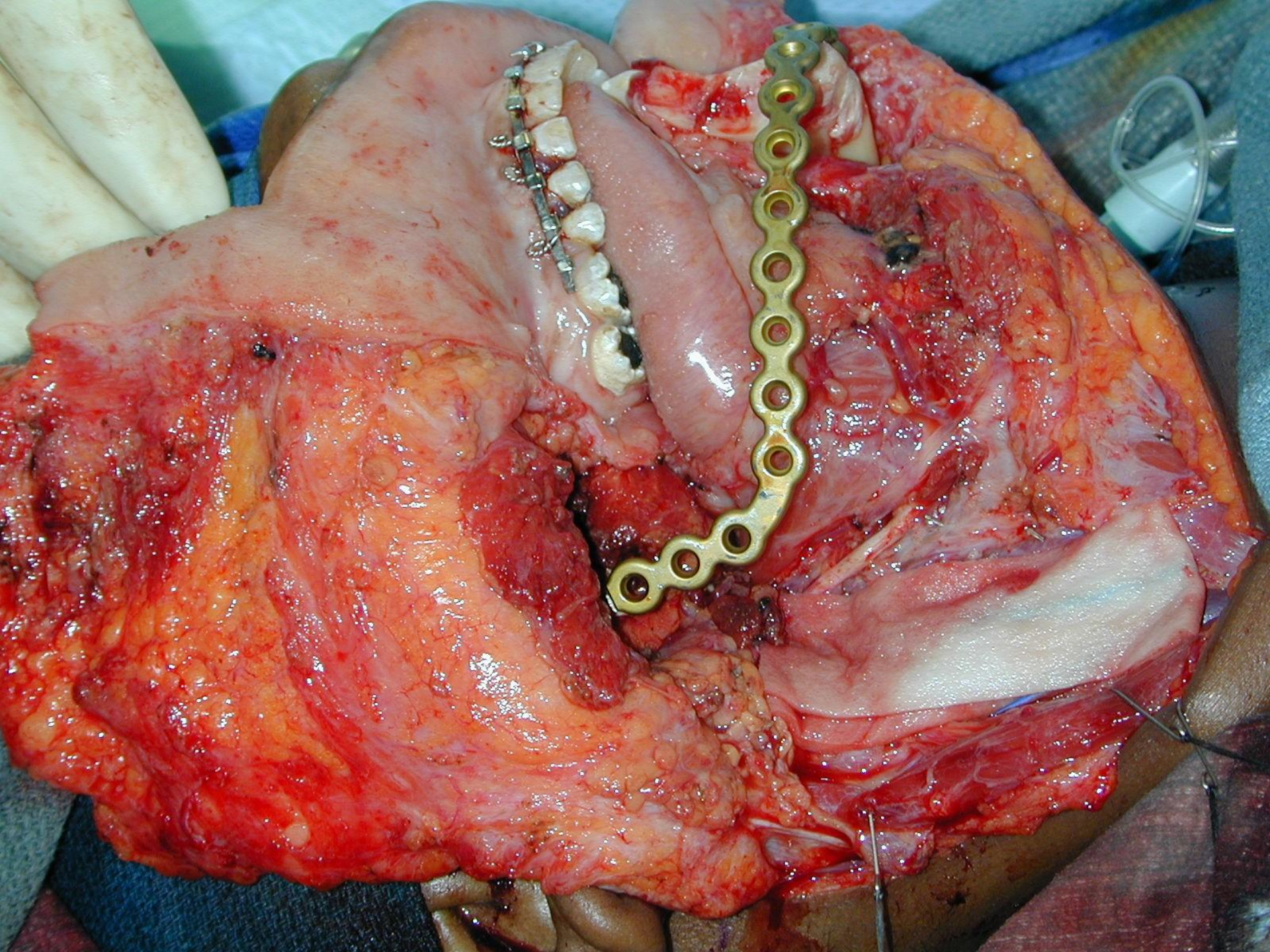


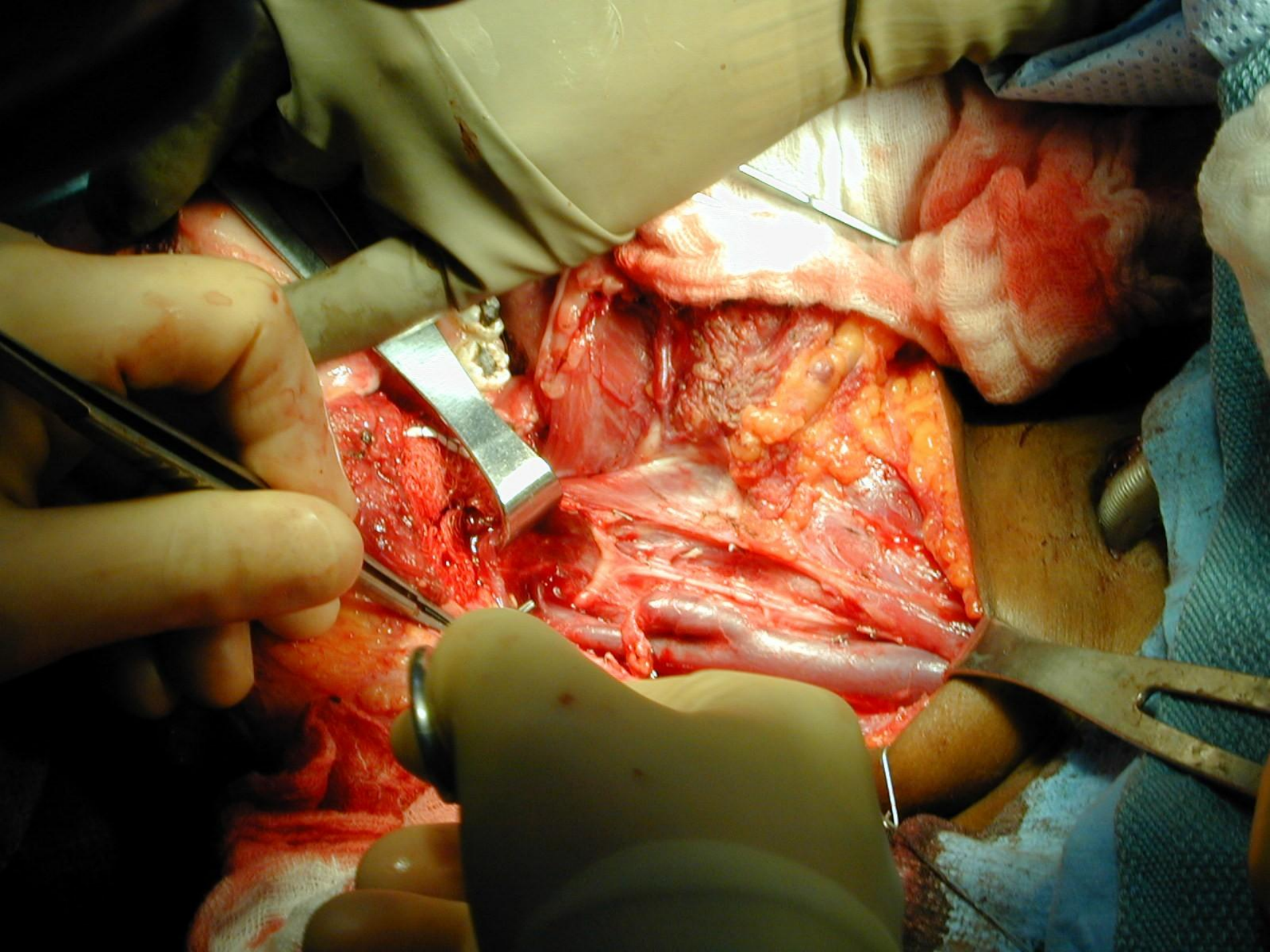
# Ameloblastoma

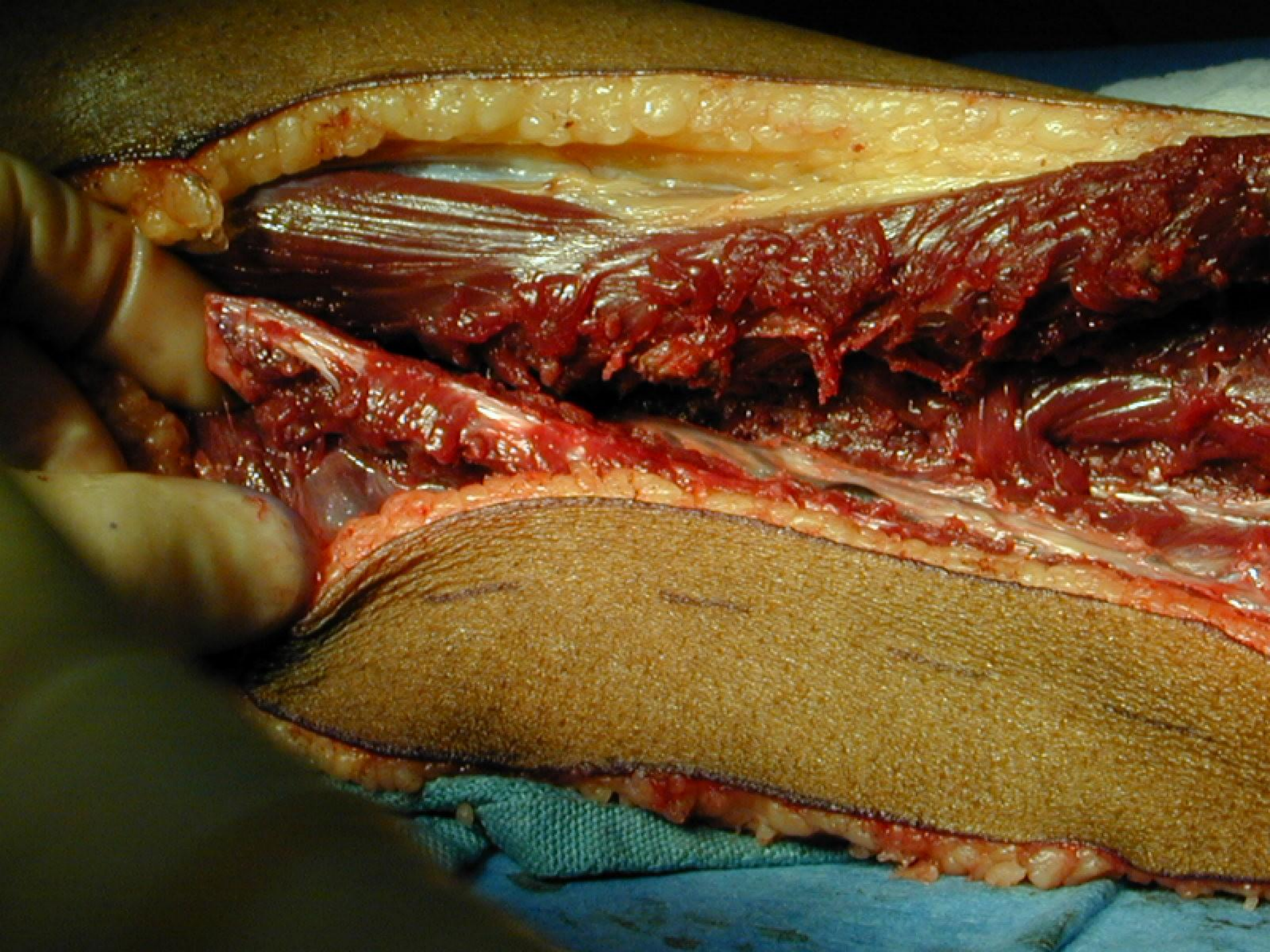
Technically benign tumor (3<sup>rd</sup> recurrence)

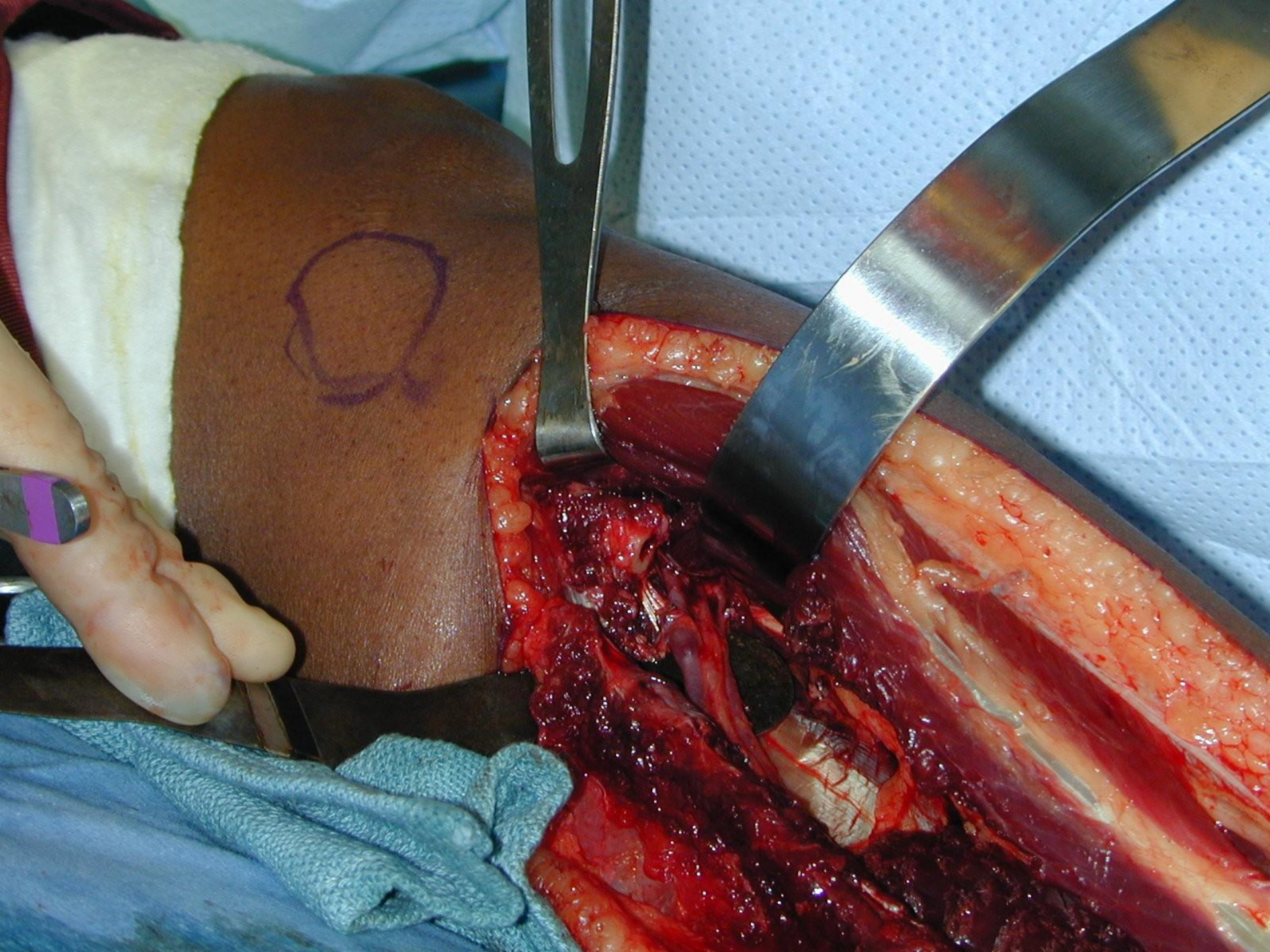
21047 Excision benign tumor or cyst of mandible requiring extra-oral osteotomy & partial mandibulectomy

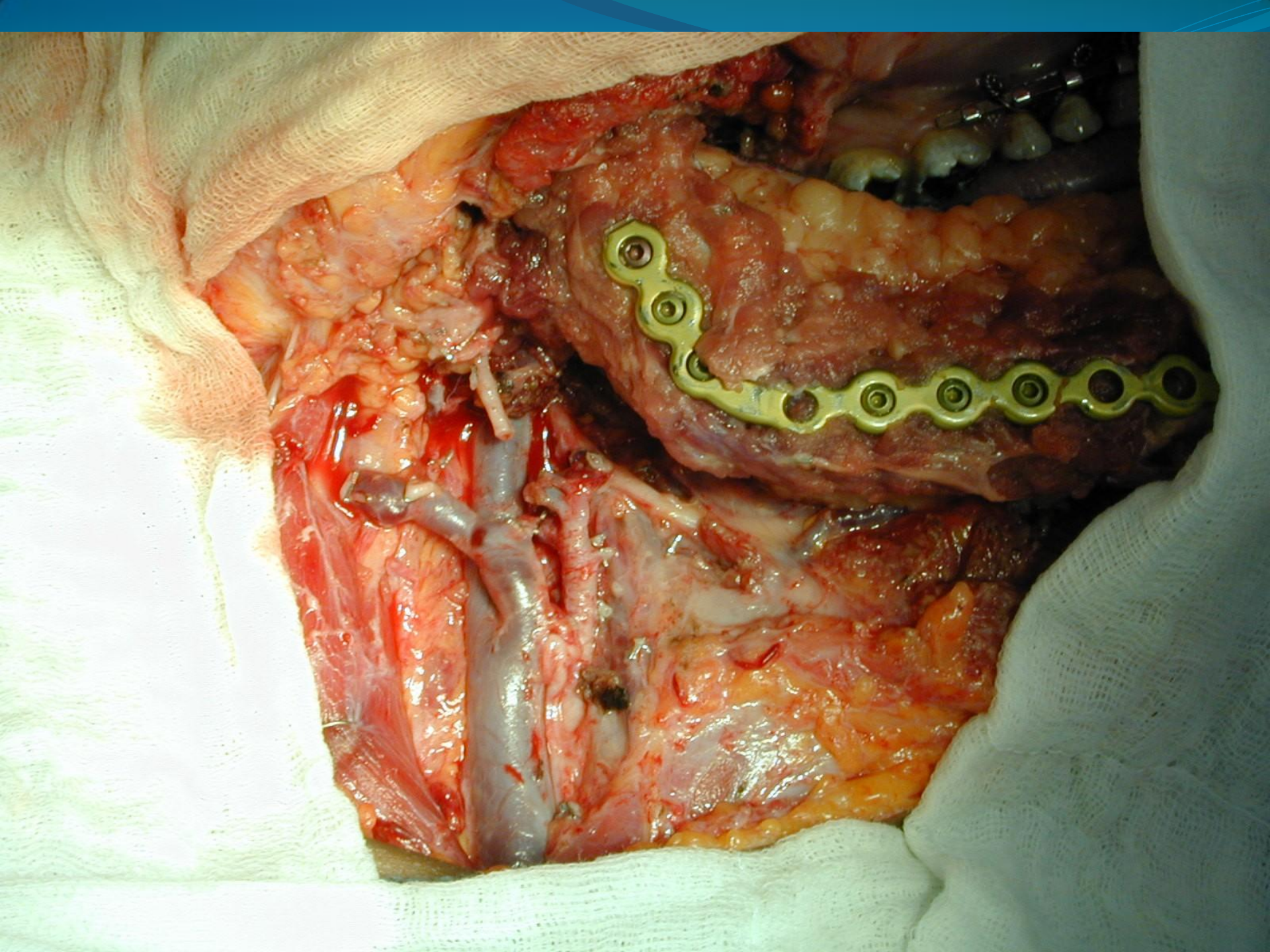
21045 Radical resection technically reserved for malignant lesions

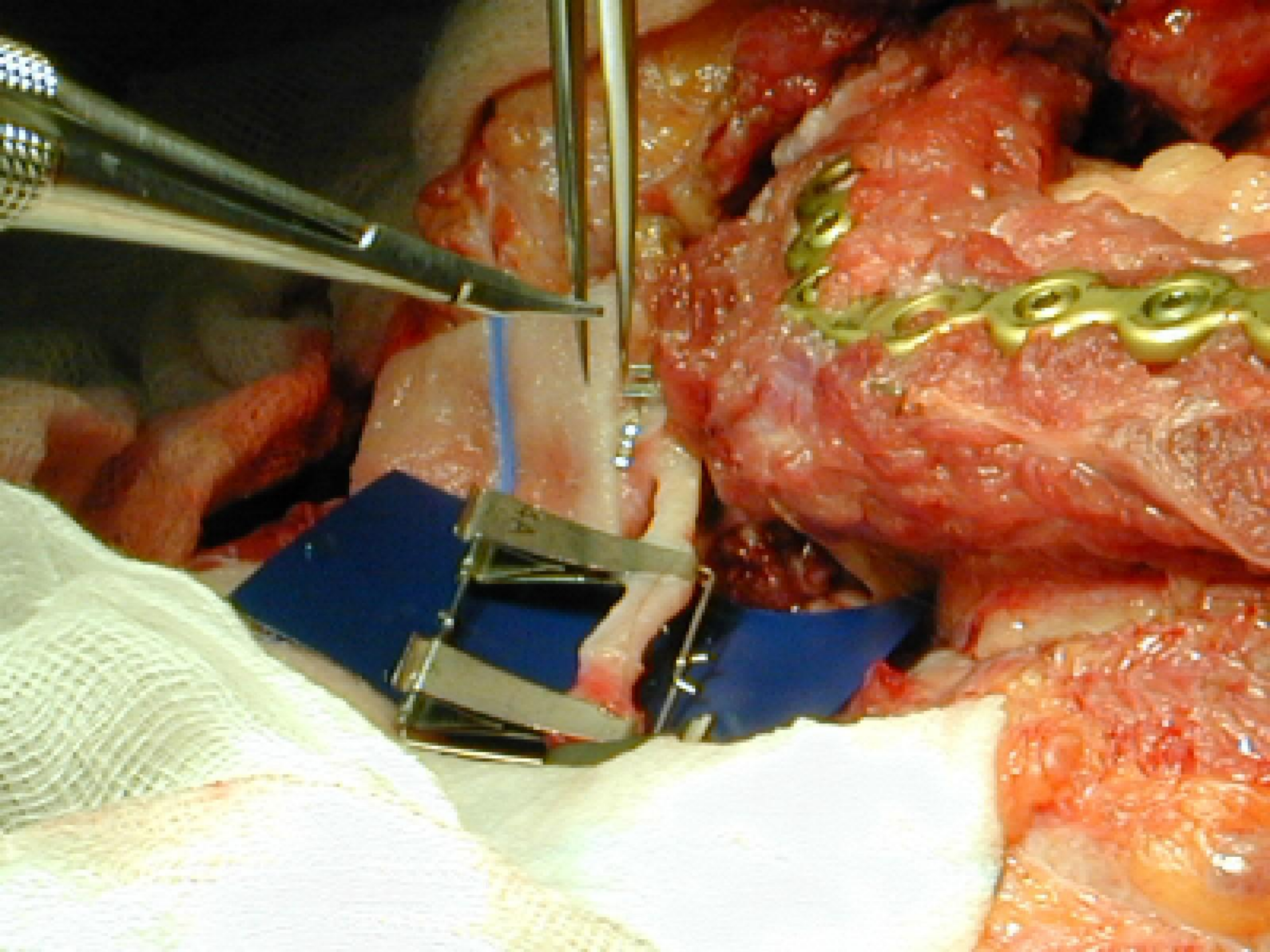












# Free Fibula Flap Mandible Reconstruction

29069 Free osteocutaneous flap with microvascular anastomosis

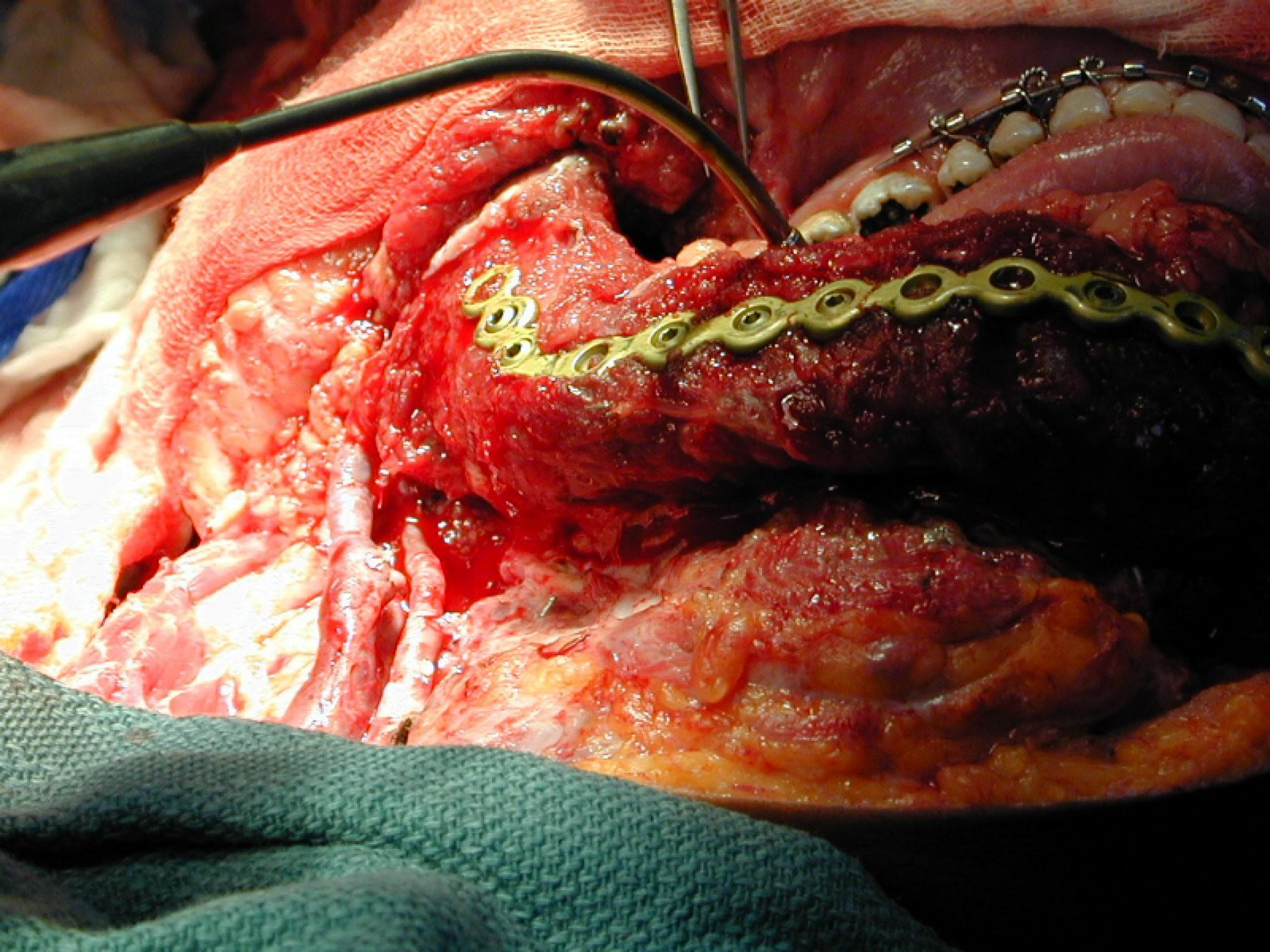
Do not report 69990-use of operating microscope (included in most of the free flap codes)

STSG to close donor site reported separately 15100/15101

Tracheotomy 31600

Cancellous bone graft 21215

Archbars/maxillo-mandibular fixation 21462





Blonde Moment!



"Dear, if you're gonna pad your bra with Kleenex, take them out of the box first."