

Hemostatic Clamps

Video Transcript

Hemostatic clamps are used to occlude blood vessels or a source of blood supply located within a tissue bundle, known as a pedicle. As dictated by their function, all hemostatic clamps feature a set of crushing jaws. Jaw sizes vary among different types of hemostatic clamps, as do handle lengths and configurations.

When choosing the type of hemostatic clamp, the surgeon selects the jaw size relative to the size of the blood vessel or pedicle that needs to be occluded. Generally the large hemostatic forceps, such as the Pean or Carmalt, are used to occlude large blood vessels and pedicles. Pean and Carmalt forceps are frequently used to occlude the ovarian pedicle in an ovariohysterectomy in large patients or highly vascularized areas with large vessels. Medium sized pedicles are typically clamped with Crile or Kelly forceps. The smallest hemostatic clamp is a mosquito hemostat and is used to occlude smaller blood vessels. Hemostatic clamps are also available in two configurations: curved or straight. Generally speaking, curved hemostats are more desirable for hemostatic use because the tips are better exposed when clamping vessels in deep, remote areas, and the surgeon can see the tips of the forceps to be sure their ligature is situated beneath the clamp. In more superficial hemostatic applications, straight hemostatic forceps will suffice.

To learn more about the hemostatic clamps commonly used in veterinary surgery, please continue to the next part of this module.