The use of Kinesio Taping® in patients with breast implant encapsulation (Two case reports)

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Goals of the study:
To show our personal experience in the use of Kinesio Taping® on the treatment of pain in patients with breast implant encapsulation, after mastectomy, plastic and reconstructive surgery, waiting for another surgical procedure.

Materials and methods:
Two out patients with pain localized to the breast area because of implant encapsulation are treated. Kinesio® Tex Gold™ was used to reduce the pain caused by the encapsulation and associated dislocation of the implant. Mechanical lift was the Kinesio Taping® technique chosen, stretching the middle of an I tape with 50% strength tension. The tape was applied to the portion of the breast where the implant was directed and with no tension to the ends.

Results and Conclusion:
For both patients, the use of Kinesio Taping® helped tolerate collateral effects, while the patients waited to undergo another surgical procedure. In our personal experience we verified an important reduction of patients' pain perception half an hour after the application (Table 1). Patients referred a reduced pain perception while the tape remained in place. These conclusion need verification with a larger number of patients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patients</th>
<th>Before Kinesio Taping</th>
<th>After Kinesio Taping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V.A.S</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Patients' pain perception

Bibliography:
Stockheime K. R. Kinesio Taping® for Lymphoedema and Chronic Swelling. 2004