

Innovations

A simple modification in the cyanoacrylate glue container applicator for precise application

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PROBLEM

Cyanoacrylate glue is often used in dermatology to close clean incised wounds and pedal fissures, control bleeding from cut wounds, splinting of ingrown and onycholytic nails, skin graft fixation, and epidermal graft transfer.^[1-3] However, most glue applicators feature large apertures through which extra glue is frequently poured out and spilled across a larger area. As a result, the glue reacts with the surroundings, burning the skin and destroying the grafts, and the skin adheres to any nearby structures. For emergency repair of corneal perforations, an opaque dental micropipette applicator with a smaller aperture has been utilized to control the amount of glue.^[4]

SOLUTION

To address the issue of the applicator's aperture, a disposable transparent micropipette tip with very small apertures can be used as an applicator for precise glue application. First, the cap from the container outlet is removed. Following that, a disposable transparent plastic micropipette tip that fits snugly over the outlet is fitted. It is now functional. The flow of glue in the applicator is visible and

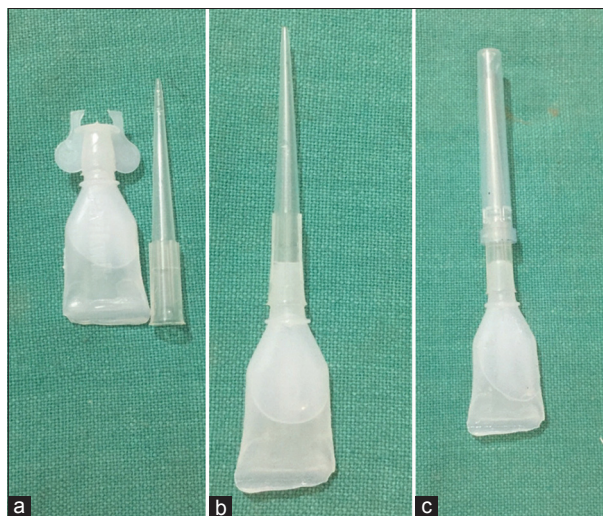


Figure 1: (a-c) A procured micropipette tip applicator for cyanoacrylate glue.

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Figure 2: (a and b) Onycholytic space of toenail is sealed with the glue.

easily controlled by applying pressure with two fingers to the container. After use, the applicator's residual glue is withdrawn into the container and the device's outlet is firmly capped with a hypodermic needle cap [Figure 1a-c]. If the micropipette tip becomes clogged, a new one can be used. This customized applicator may be used for precise glue application [Figure 2a and b]. As a result, the micropipette-tipped glue device is a low-cost and effective instrument for accurate glue application. In place of micropipette tip, a hypodermic injection needle with or without cutting its tip, can be mounted over the glue container.

Declaration of patient consent

Patient's consent not required as patient's identity is not disclosed or compromised.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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