

# Universal Surgical Drain



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- Willis Tompkins, PhD

## **Client:**

- Ramzi Shehadi, MD

# Presentation Outline



- Client Background
- Problem Definition
- Existing Technology
- Client Requirements
- Design Alternatives
- Design Matrix
- Prototype Fabrication
- Future Work
- Acknowledgements
- Questions

# Client Background



- **Ramzi Shehadi, MD**
  - Plastic Surgeon for Dean Clinic
  - Specializes in breast reconstruction surgery
- **Currently treats abscesses using the Penrose surgical drain**
  - Frequency of ~10 cases/yr
  - Interested in creating a more efficient and patient friendly surgical drain



**Fig 1**

# Problem Definition

- Boils and abscesses are localized infections under the skin that result in pus accumulation
  - Local infection can lead to systemic infections
  - Pressure from pus build-up inhibits tissue perfusion
  - Healing time ranges from 2 weeks to 3 months
- Current method is painful, requires suturing and specialized nursing care

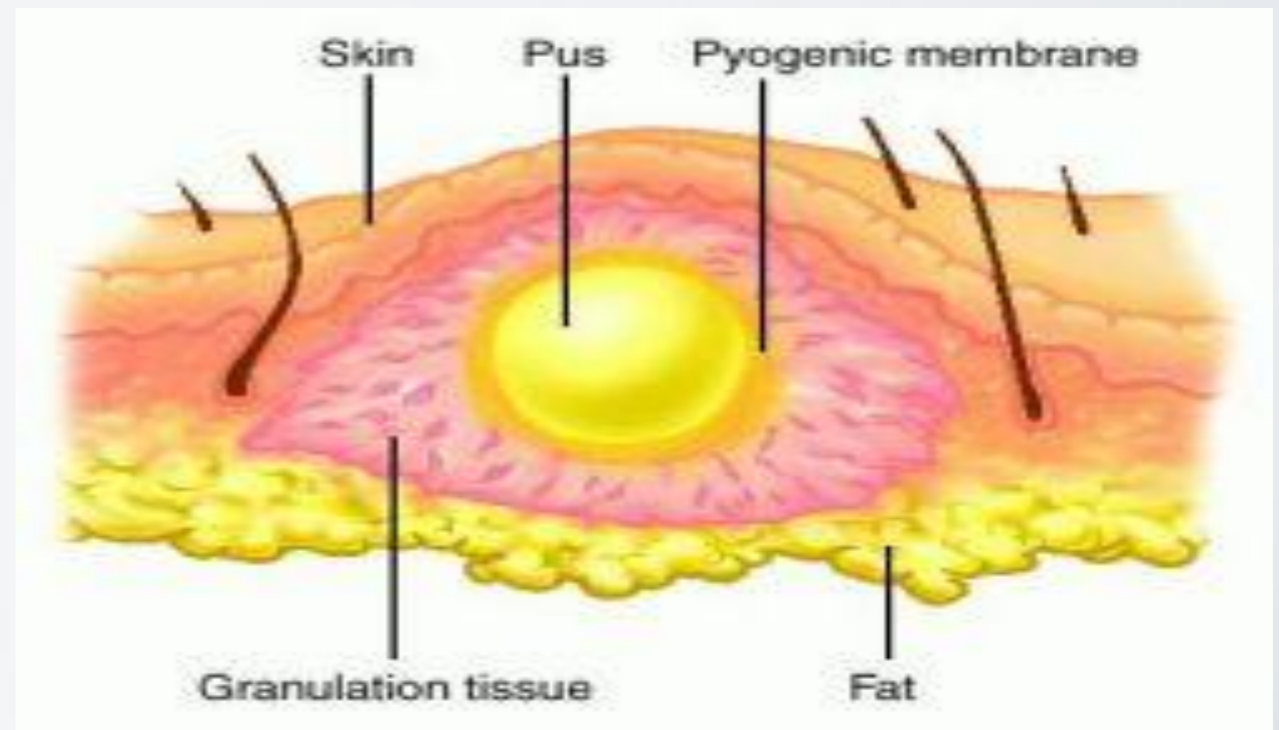


Fig 2



# Existing Technology



- Penrose Drain – natural rubber (latex) tube packed into incised abscess
- Variations on surgical tubes (US 3957054, 3860008)
- Method and device for draining abscesses (US 5232440)
- KCI VAC foam dressing with continuous negative pressure

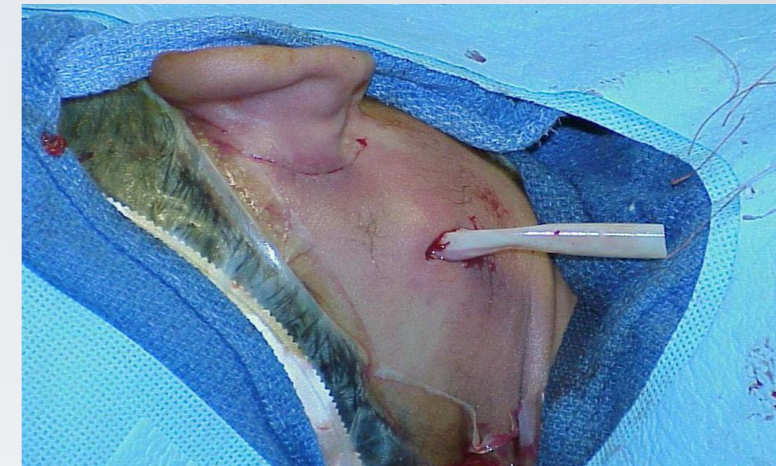


Fig 3

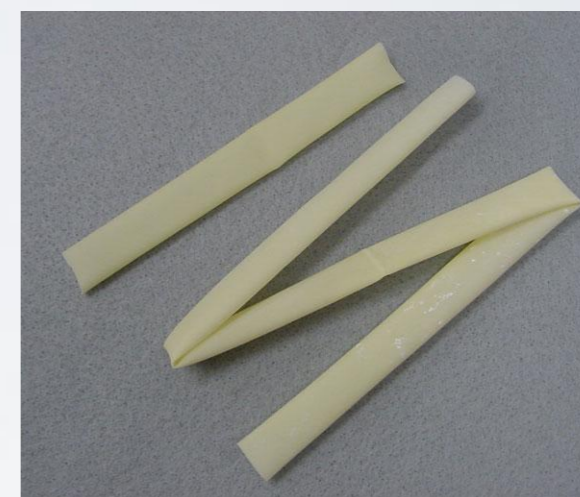


Fig 4

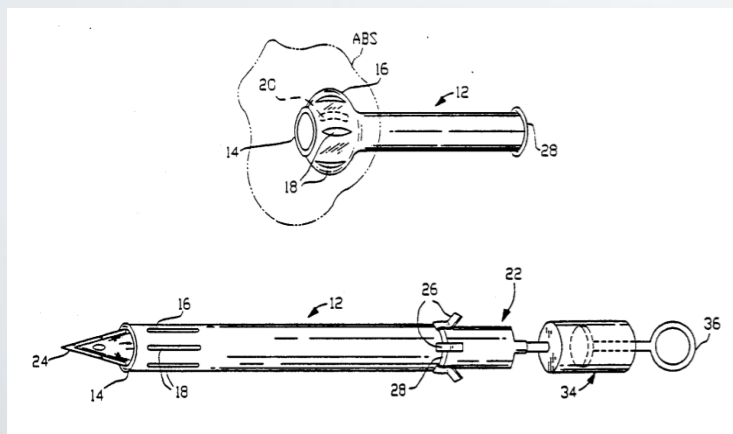


Fig 5



Fig 6

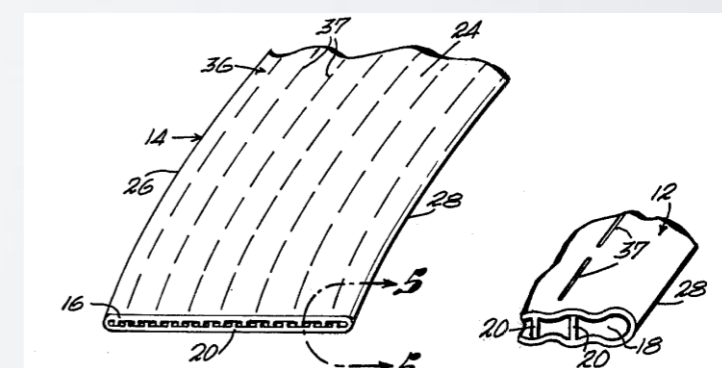


Fig 7

# Client Requirements



- Develop a surgical drain that passively drains subcutaneous abscesses
- Reduce the cost, time and pain associated with the current treatment method
- Specific requirements:
  - Drain must be compatible with various sizes of abscesses
  - Patient must be able to insert and remove drain as needed
  - Material should be non-latex medical grade silicone rubber

# Alternative #1: The 'A' Drain

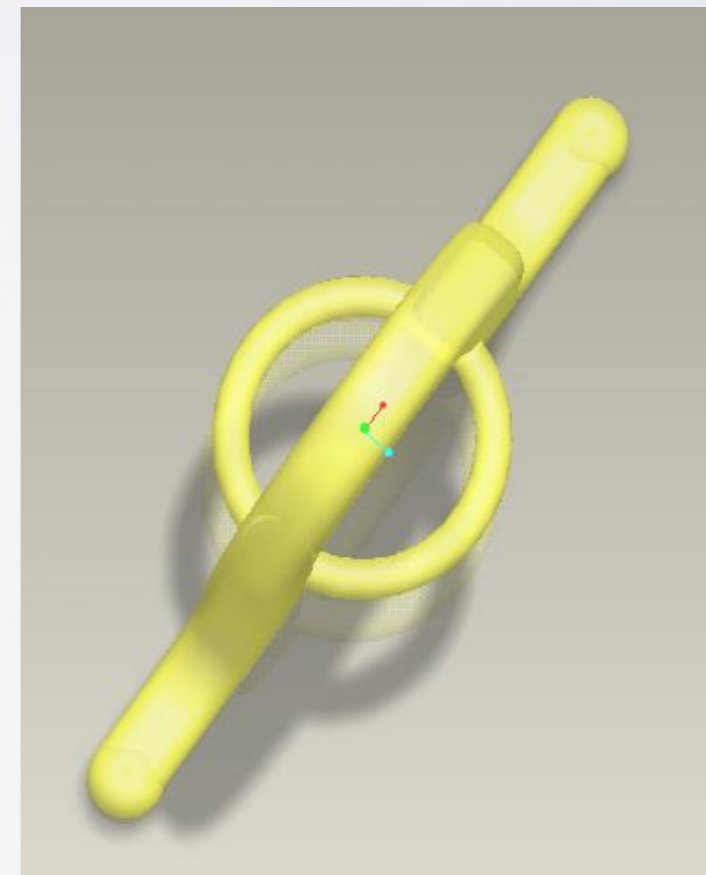
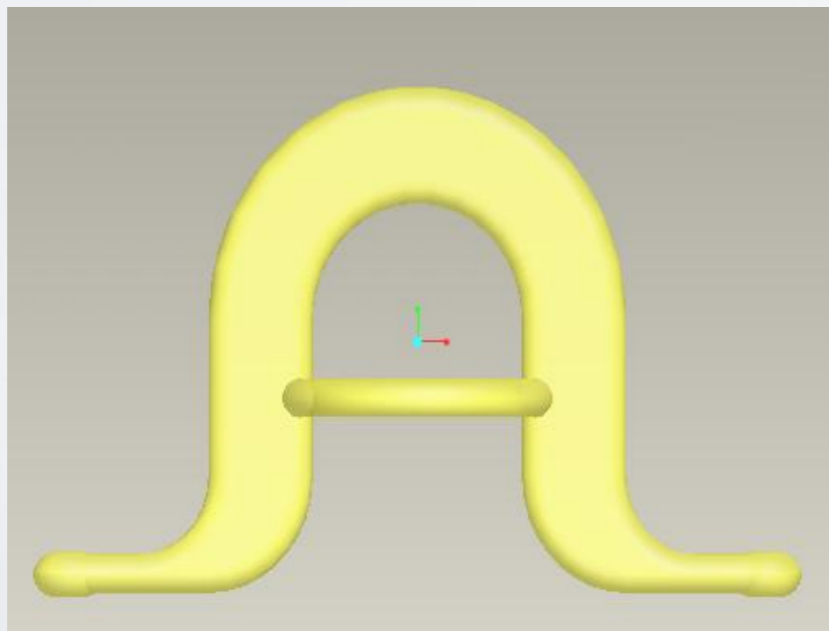


- Advantages

- Adaptable to different incision depths
- Circular spring eliminates high stress points

- Disadvantages

- Compressed from bottom during insertion and removal
- Removal of drain could be painful
- High profile above wound



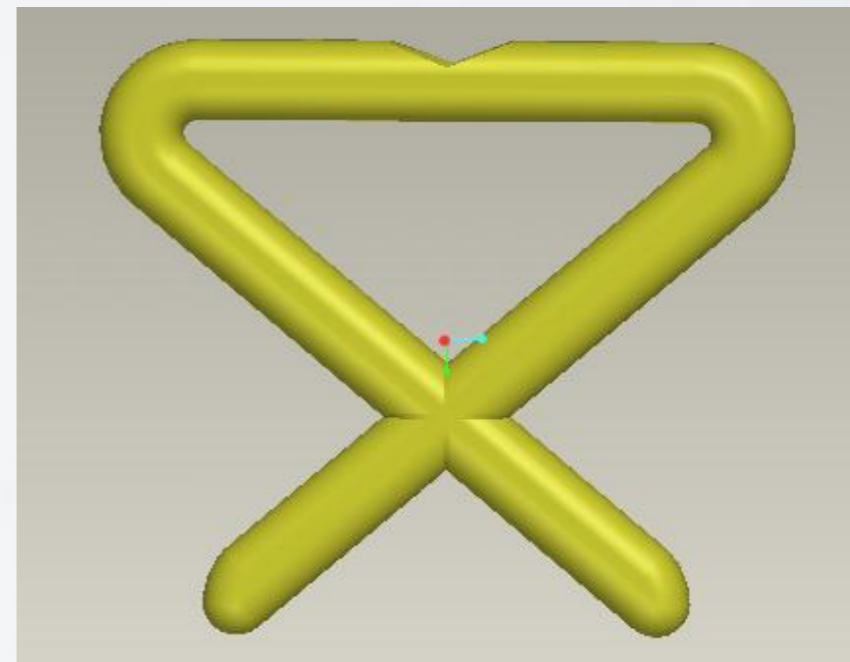
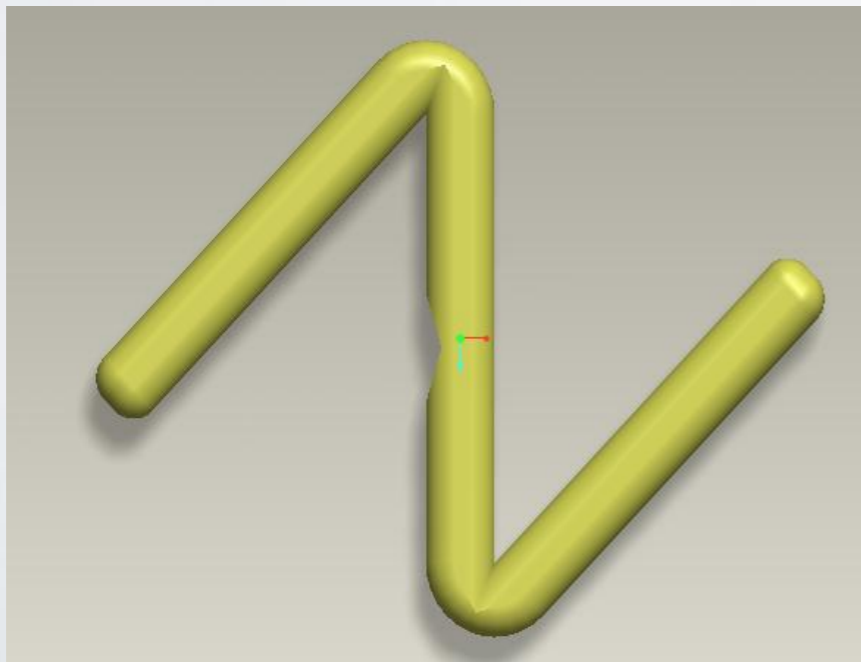
# Alternative #2: Scissor Frame

- Advantages

- Pinched at top of drain during insertion and removal
- Low profile, rests securely on skin surface
- Middle cross prevents premature incision closure

- Disadvantages

- Possible pain from compression inside abscess cavity
- More intricate design; requires material tension, stress on notch





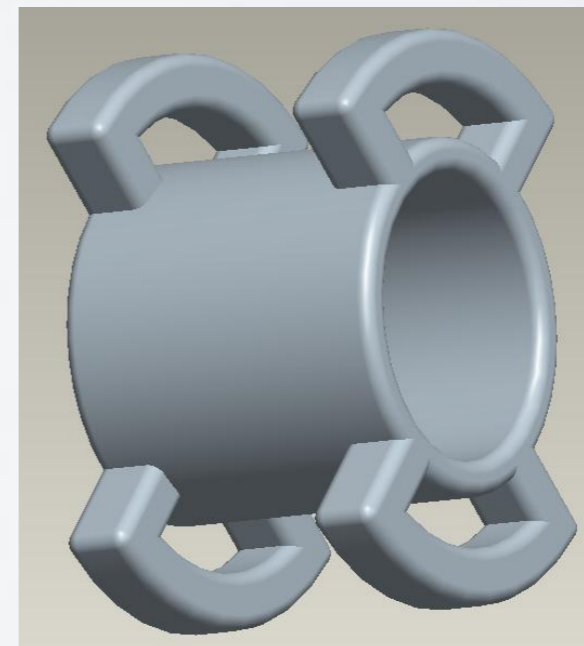
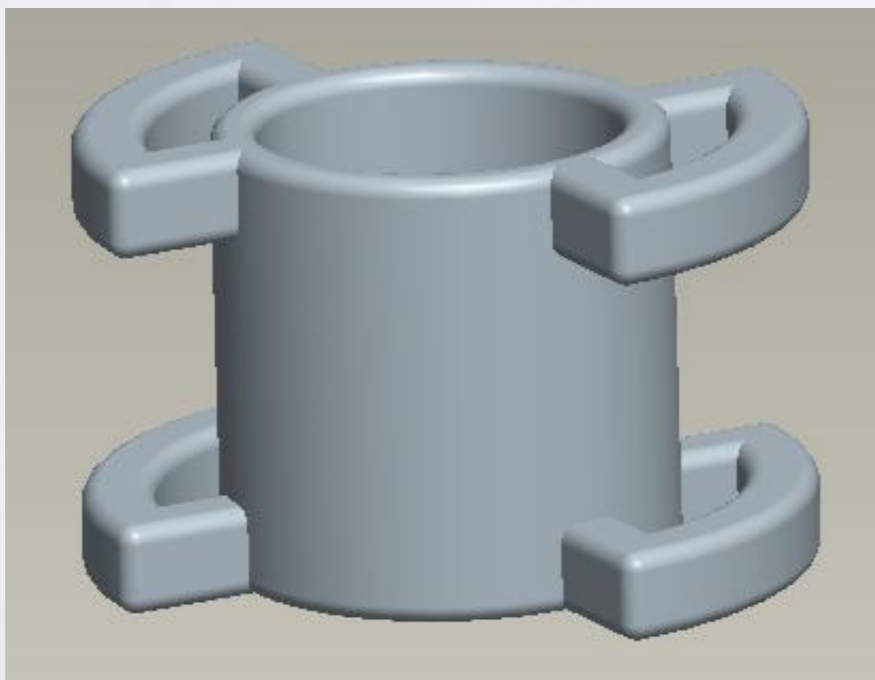
# Alternative #3: Spool

- Advantages

- Held snugly in place
- Hollow center provides access for irrigation, wound draining

- Disadvantages

- Relatively difficult to insert, painful to remove
- Not universal due to different abscess depths



# Design Matrix

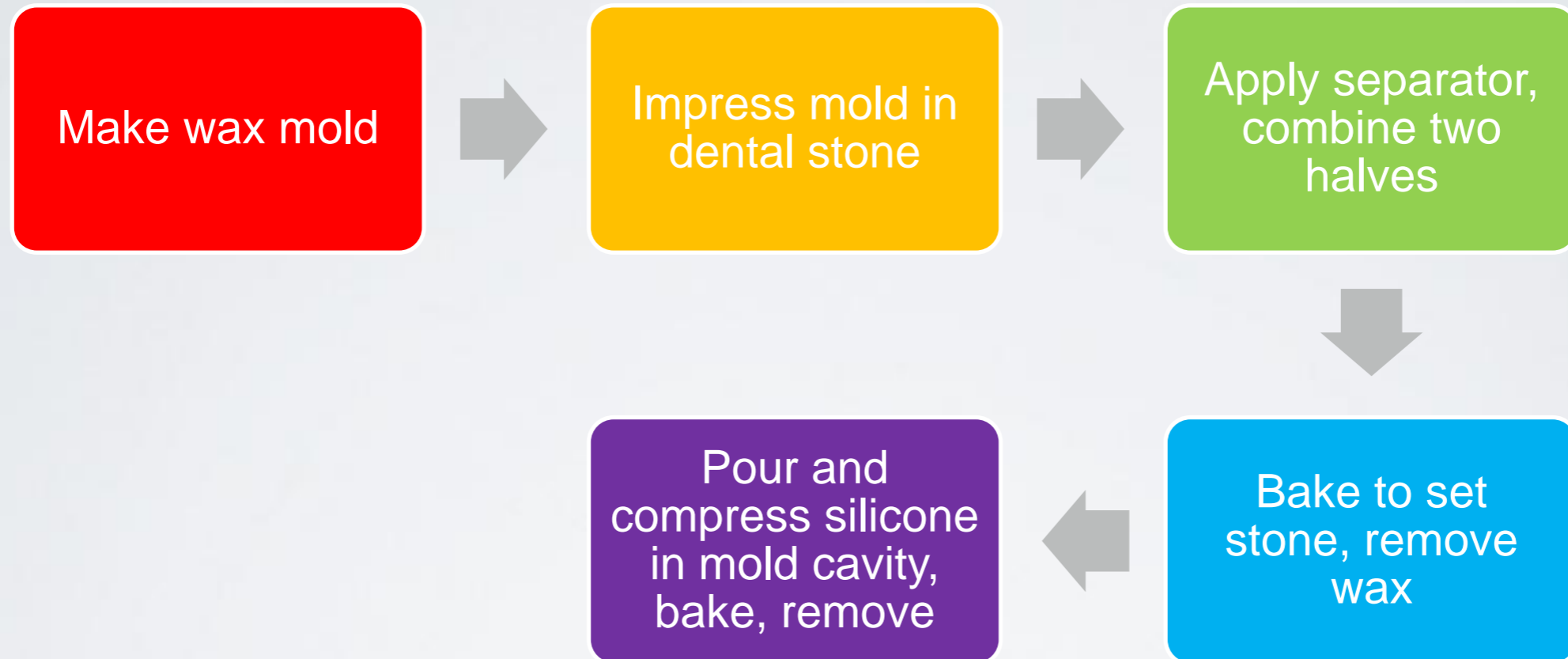


	Fabrication 0.2	Ease of Use/ Patient Comfort 0.3	Efficacy 0.35	Universality 0.15	Total 1.0
The 'A' drain	7	8	7	9	7.6
Scissor Frame	8	9	8	6	8.0
Spool	5	6	8	7	6.65

# Prototype Fabrication



- Create mold using lost-wax casting method



- 10A and 30A two-part silicone mix from NuSil

# Future Work



- Fabricate all design concept prototypes using lost wax casting method
- Preliminary evaluation of prototypes, redesign as necessary
- Test with cadavers, animals and/ or bench-top models



# Special Thanks To...



- Ramzi Shehadi, MD
- Willis Tompkins, PhD
- Sarah Gong, PhD
- John Kao, PhD
- Greg Gion, MMS, CCA
- Julie Harber – NuSil Technical Sales

# References

## Figures

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# Questions?

