cutting needle is the best for suturing gingiva and mucosa but for friable mucosa, a taper point may be effective. The needle should be inserted into tissues perpendicularly to make the smallest possible entry wound and to avoid tearing of the mucosa.

Double layer suturing in major surgical procedures is preferred to one layer if possible. A distance of 2-3 mm between the wound edge and the suture entry point and a 2-3 mm distance between interrupted sutures is recommended. A simple interrupted suture is recommended in most oral procedures, although some authors suggest the use of continuous sutures after total extractions in stomatitis patients reduce the time of closure and decrease surgical time. Tension free sutures are of the utmost importance. The knot should not be placed directly over the incision. No area of denuded bone should be left uncovered and the suture line should not lie over the defect.

Key Points:

- All equipment as well as dental operatory should be sanitized, disinfected and/or sterilized on regular basis
- Dental/oral procedures require use of specific instruments and equipment
- The most common dental procedures (diagnostic, prophylaxis and extractions) cannot be properly performed without access to radiographic equipment.

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