Burr-Hole Buttons for Fixation of Craniotomy Bone

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The proper replacement of the bone in craniotomy at the termination of intracranial procedures merits attention in the interests of technical facilitation and simplification. It is eminently desirable that the final stages be accomplished with precision, smoothness and dispatch. Moreover, where this step is managed too casually an unstable bone plate is liable to become misaligned. Deviated inwardly it poses a potential threat of cortical irritation or actual neurological deficit, and displaced outwardly it defaces the contours of the scalp with unsightly ridges.

Silicone burr-hole buttons* are designed to provide a simple, efficient means of firmly affixing the bone to defects of the skull. Time-consuming processes of wiring are thus obviated while cosmet-

Fig. 1. (A) Silicone burr-hole button with base and cap separated. (B) Base inserted between dura mater and bone at burr holes. (C) Craniotomy bone replaced and caps tightened firmly down on stems. (D) Extruding stems cut away. (E) Cross-section view of button in place.

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* Todd burr-hole buttons may be obtained from Codman & Shurtleff, Inc., 104 Brookline Avenue, Boston 15, Massachusetts.
nervous system by virtue of its basic inertness and durability. These qualities have been demonstrated extensively in studies of animal tissues\(^1\) and in human clinical application.\(^2\)–\(^5\)–\(^7\)–\(^10\)

The recent explosive development of versatile plastic materials for surgical prostheses has served to vastly implement and refine neurosurgical technique and it is hoped that this simple gadgetry will add some small measure to these rewards.

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References


