

Developments in medical textiles

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Abstracts

Textiles and fibres have long played a vital role in the medical and healthcare sector. In recent years, however, the role played by fibre-based materials has advanced dramatically. For example, silicon fibres are now used to produce textiles for use in the manufacture of biodegradable implantable devices, and nonwoven textiles are being used to manufacture implants for use in tissue engineering. Textile-based stents are helping to support and keep veins and arteries open, and many of these devices are complex structures which require the use of sophisticated manufacturing technologies. Also, fibres are being used to reinforce medical balloons which assist surgeons in the repair of spinal injuries and collapsed arteries. Furthermore, devices made from textile fibres can be implanted to release therapeutic drugs at controlled rates and over controlled lengths of time. The report contains insight and analysis of a wide range of developments from companies, developers and other organisations involved in the sector, including: Abdul Barr and Al-Fakhouri Hani; Bard Peripheral Vascular; BASF; Bio Med Sciences (BMS); Centre de Coopération Technique et Pédagogique (CECOTEPE); Dale R Peterson; Deutschen Institute für Textil- und Faserforschung (DITF-German Institutes for Textile and Fibre Research); Ethicon; Med Institute; Quick-Med Technologies; Precision Fabrics; PSI Medica; Ronald Rakos and Krzysztof Sowinski; Tepha; Textronics; University of Delaware; and Zeus Industrial Products.

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