Screening: patients planned for elective median or transverse laparotomy

- $n = 800$
- $n = 100$ fulfilling exclusion criteria
- $n = 50$ not compliant
- $n = 50$ no informed consent

To be allocated to trial

$n = 600$

Visit 1

Randomization: between or at visit 1 - day of operation

Visit 2

Sterile surgical dressings $n = 300$

Circular plastic wound protector $n = 300$

Visit 3

Surgery: intervention and measurement of core body temperature

Visit 4 - 8

Blinded SSI assessment: at postOP day
- $2, 4, 6, 8, 10-14$
- $n = 42$ lost to F/U

Visit 9

Blinded SSI assessment: at postOP day
- $30-45$

To be analysed
- $n = 258$

To be analysed
- $n = 258$