1. With protective shield in closed position (Figure 1) place the knife under the surgical microscope. (For more information, please see the Atomic Edge Instructions for Use document).

2. Use index finger or thumb to open shield and expose blade (Figure 2). Note: The Atomic Edge knife must be handled with the utmost care. Take care not to let blade contact any hard objects which can cause damage to the blade.

3. **IMPORTANT: The blade cuts in one direction only.** Identify the cutting edge of the blade prior to starting the procedure! The cutting edge is the angled portion of the blade. The knife can be positioned with the white footplate facing up (Figure 3) or with the blade surface facing up (Figure 4).

   Note: Positioning the knife with the blade surface facing up will allow optimum blade to tissue visualization. Make sure to identify the cutting edge when utilizing either blade orientation.

4. Position blade at desired incision location with cutting edge pointing in direction of desired cut. Push blade into cutting area until footplate contacts tissue surface.

5. Keep the footplate in contact with tissue and maintain perpendicularity to surface while performing incision.

6. When incision is complete, remove knife from tissue and close protective shield. Dispose of knife in a sharps collector.

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