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= Abstract =

Predictors for saving the limb after popliteal artery injury

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Purpose : This study had been performed to evaluate the factors affecting either saving the limb or amputation after popliteal artery injury associated with fractures or dislocation around the knee.

Materials and Methods : Twelve patients of popliteal artery injury were included. Authors had analysed nine probable factors as follows - age, sex, injury mechanisms, injury types, interval between injury and time to arrive at the hospital, interval between injury and time of operation, surgical methods for revascularization, severity of extremity injuries and fasciotomy, for discrimination between the limb-saving group and the amputation.

Results : Ten patients were arrived at the hospital within 48 hours after the injury. Each patient was managed by end-to-end anastomosis in 6 cases and autogenous vein graft in 4 cases and among them, 2 cases needed additional amputation for vascular compromise. All limbs could be saved in which cases operate within 6 hours after the injury. however, the limb was lost in one of 6 cases(16.7%) between 6 and 20 hours, in one of two cases(50%) over 20 hours. One

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of 7 cases(14.3%) with the Mangled Extremity Severity Score(MESS) of 2 to 4 points, two of 4 cases(50%) with MESS of 5 to 6 points and one(100%) with MESS of 7 points were amputated. All 4 patients associated with fasciotomy could save their limbs, however, two of 6 patients not associated with fasciotomy lost.

Summary : Authors thought the most reliable predictors for saving the limbs after the popliteal artery injury might include the MESS and fasciotomy, however, ischemic time more than 6 hours might not be an absolute indication for amputation.

Key Words : Popliteal artery injury, Limb loss, Predictors



Fig 1. Angiogram shows abrupt cut-off(arrow) of right popliteal artery at the level above bifurcation. Foreign bodies(arrow head) are seen in the lateral aspect of the knee and fracture of the medial tibial condyle is also noted.

가 가 .
 ,
 ,
 ,
 . DeBakey Simeone³⁾ 2
 (ligation) 73%
 ,
 12) 30% ,
 Melton ⁹⁾(1997) 102 25%

1994 6 1 1998 12 31

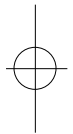
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(the Mangled Extremity Severity Score: MESS)
(Table 1)⁵⁾,

(Fig. 1).

**Table 1.** Mangled Extremity Severity Score(MESS) variables.

A.	Skeletal/soft-tissue injury	
	low energy(stab, simple fracture, civilian gunshot wound)	1
	medium energy(open or multiple fracture, dislocation)	2
	high energy(crush injury, military gunshot wound)	3
	very high energy(above + gross contamination, soft tissue avulsion)	4
B.	Limb ischemia(score doubled for ischemia>6 hours)	
	pulse reduced or absence but perfusion normal	1
	pulseless: paresthesias, diminished capillary refill	2
	cool, paralysed, insensate, numb	3
C.	Shock	
	systolic BP always>90 mmHg	0
	hypotensive transiently	1
	persistent hypotension	2
D.	Age	
	<30	0
	30-50	1
	>50	2



2 (Table 3).

5 10 2

12 가 10 , 가 2

, 13 70 (42.7) , 48

9 , 3 10 , 8

9 , 3 (Table 4).

, (blunt trauma) 11

8 3 51 ,

1 (Table 2). 2 16 31

8 ,

1 ,

(floating knee) 1 ,

Table 2. Injury of mechanism.

Trauma	No. of patient
Blunt	
Pedestrian	3
Motor cycle	3
Automobile	3
Industrial	2
Penetrating	
Industrial	1

Table 3. Associated orthopaedic injuries.

Orthopaedic injury	No. of patients
Proximal tibial Fx	8
Knee dislocation	2
Distal femoral Fx	1
Floating knee	1

Table 4. Interval between injury and time to arrive at the hospital.

Interval	Cases	Amputation
>48hr	2	2(100%)*
<48hr	10	2(20%)**

* primary amputation

** secondary amputation



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6 2 (33.3%) , 6 20
16.7% , 20
2 1
(Table 5).

Table 5. Interval between injury and time of operation.(except for 2 cases of primary amputation)

Interval	Cases	Amputation
<6hrs	2	0 (0%)
6-20hrs	6	1 (16.7%)
>20hrs	2	1 (50%)

8 11 20 ,
2 22 35
6 ,
4 , 1
16.7% 25% (Table 6).

Table 6. Methods of arterial repair.
(except for 2 cases of primary amputation)

Method	Cases	Amputation
End to end anastomosis	6	1 (16.7%)
Vein graft	4	1 (25%)

(MESS)
5.6 , 4
(MESS)가 2-4
7 1 (14.3%), 5-6 4 2
(50%), 7 1 (100%)
(Table 7).

Table 7. Severity of extremity injury (MESS)

MESS	Case	Amputation
2-4	7	1 (14.3%)
5-6	4	2 (50%)
>7	1	1 (100%)

6 2
(Table 8).

Table 8. Performance of fasciotomy
(except for 2 cases of primary amputation)

Fasciotomy	Amputation
+ (4)	0 (0%)
- (6)	2 (33.3%)

+ : Yes

- : No

(adductor hiatus) 가 (soleus) (fibrous arch)

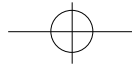
¹¹⁾. Snyder¹³⁾(1988)
32%,
2%, 0.5%
8 66.7% 가
2 16.7%

73%
3),
10-30%

10
20%
(ischemic time),
(crush injury)

5).

6-8
가 가
2).



- Miller Welch¹⁰⁾(1949) (MESS)가
 , 6 90%, 12
 18 50%, 20 20%
 . Majeski
 Gauto⁸⁾(1979) 6 Lim ⁷⁾(1980)
 가 ,
 Snyder ¹⁴⁾(1979) 6
 , . Melton ⁹⁾
 가
 6 75%
 11 20
 ,
 .
 Melton ⁹⁾(1997)
 5%
 ,
 25% , Peck ¹¹⁾ 12
 (1990) 2%,
 20%
 1. 6
 8 6
 16.7%,
 25% . Johansen ⁵⁾(1990)
 (MESS) 2. (MESS)
 3.
 . Johansen ⁵⁾(1990)
 (MESS) 가 7
 100% , Whittle
²⁾(1992) 8 91.7%, 7
 42.9%, 6 11.1%
 (MESS)
 ,
 (6 2
),
 , (Table 1).
 (MESS)
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