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NEUROSURGERY

THE ANATOMICAL RELATIONSHIP OF ASTERION AND TRANSVERSE-SIGMOID VENOUS JUNCTION FROM 100 CADAVERS

Sawaschai Lim, Ake Hansasuta
Division of Neurology, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Objective: To study the anatomical relationship of asterion and transverse-sigmoid venous junction.

Methods: One hundred adult formalin-prepared cadavers were dissected. Each skull was drilled at external landmark of asterion on both sides. Every skull entry was measured, from inside the skull, with special attention to its relationship to lower border of transverse sinus groove (as X-coordinate) and the line perpendicularly which passed the transverse-sigmoid junction (as Y-coordinate). The transverse sinus width was also recorded. The locations of drill bit's entry to skull were divided into five areas (posterior fossa, on transverse sinus, above transverse sinus, on transverse sigmoid complex, and above transverse sigmoid complex).

Results: On the right side, 39% of entries were in posterior fossa, 48% on and 2% above transverse sinus while 8% on and 3% above transverse sigmoid complex. On the left side, 35% of entries were in posterior fossa, 55% on and 3% above transverse sinus while 6% on and 1% above transverse sigmoid complex. The mean ±SD distance from drill bit's internal skull entry to transverse sigmoid junction were 5.57 ± 6.86 mm. on the right side and 7.66 ± 6.96 millimeters (mm.) on the left.

Conclusion: The asterion, for most, does not represent the transverse sigmoid venous junction. It was located most frequently directly over the transverse sinus or, less commonly, on posterior fossa. In addition, using asterion as external landmark, the entry is typically medial to transverse sigmoid sinus junction. For the majority, the width of right transverse sinus was significantly greater than left side.

OPERATING ROOMS AND EQUIPMENTS

NEW DESIGNED LED HEADLIGHT FOR SURGERY

Kraiyot Kiatsoontorn, Tassanai Parittotokkaporn*,†, Direk Sueaseenak†*
*Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Srinakharinwirot University, Nakornnayok, Thailand, †Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Engineer, Srinakharinwirot University, Nakornnayok, Thailand

Background: Surgical lighting system is an important key factor of successful operation to achieve better patient outcomes due to clear visualization. One of the systems is surgical headlight offering convenience and portability as a standard device of light source in operating theater. However, the conventional headlight consists of a light source, mostly halogen or xenon light bulb, fiber optic cable and headset. It has many limitations for clinical uses for instance: cumbersome size, heavy weight, high cost of maintenance, causing a shadow and a blind spot. Therefore, the advanced technology of LED (Light Emitted Diode) with high power light source can provide the solution to

solve the problems of ordinary light bulbs for multiple applications including surgery.

Objectives: We have developed a prototype of the surgical headlight with multiple light sources of very bright LEDs assembled in four rows to use as a headset. The evaluation criteria or performance was based on the properties of illumination, avoiding the shadow and surgeons' feedback.

Materials & Methods: The LED headlight is composed of 38-high power LED beads, which provide white light of luminous flux 120 lumens (1 Watt) of each LED, a light weight aluminum frame, an adjustable headset, a 1.5-meter wire cable, and a 5-volt 1-Amp rechargeable battery. The 26 LED beads were mounted on horizontal rows and 12 beads on vertical sides of the rectangular frame (16 x 8 cm). This aperture frame can be adjusted according to the angle of light projection between 0 - 60 degrees. All LEDs were lined with stainless wires connected to the cable through the portable battery controlled by on/off switch. This trial was experienced by six surgeons and received their feedback with mocked up surgical procedures.

Results: This prototype of the LED headlight weights 250 grams that is half lighter than the ordinary fiber optic headlight. The rows of LEDs are powered by the rechargeable battery with 4-hour life per one charge. The properties of illumination were measured on the luminous flux of 4,500 lumens at focal distance of 1.0 foot away from the aperture with 30 degree of light projection on horizontal rows and 45 degree on vertical sides toward a point of focus. As a result, the LED spots projecting from the aperture provides an overlapped spot surrounding the eye field. Then if some LEDs are blocked by an obscured object, the focus spot is still illuminated. The surgeons were satisfied with the results of ease of use, low cost, light weight, comfort, convenience, low maintenance cost, less heat, low energy consumption and the benefit of the absent of shadow. However, most of them suggested some improvements for example: increasing the light intensity by adding LEDs, mounting a regulator to control multi-level of light intensity, developing the knobs for adjusting the angle of projection, and collaborating with a medical instrument company to modify a version for mass production.

Conclusions: This LED headlight for surgery has been developed by two neurosurgeons for better functions over the conventional version according to the advantages of high technology of LED. The prototype has been proved to have beneficial results of not having shadow and high potential to be developed for mass production. However, improvement and clinical testing are necessary for the future steps.

TOUCHLESS CONTROL SYSTEM FOR OPERATING ROOM: FIRST EXPERIENCE IN THAILAND

Kraiyot Kiatsoontorn, Tassanai Parittotokkaporn*,†, Vichit Viriyaroj*, Withoon Ungkitphaiboon*, Montri Chatpoj‡*

*Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Srinakharinwirot University, Nakornnayok, Thailand

†Biomedical Engineering, Faculty of Engineer, Srinakharinwirot University, Nakornnayok, Thailand

‡National Electronics and Computer Technology Center (NECTEC), Thailand

Background: Most surgeries are reliant on medical images obtained from preoperative investigations. Surgeons require them as guiding maps for navigation and making decisions during the operation. Currently most of the hospitals in Thailand use computer systems to display all images for instance: X-rays, CTs, MRIs, etc. However, there are constraints to manipulate the interface devices, both computer mouse and touch screen in operating room. Maintaining sterility as well as instructing an assistant to control the devices are time consuming. As a solution to this problem, a touchless interactive technology has been recently developed as a commercial product "Leap Motion Controller" and introduced to the field of medical image technology of touch-free user interface.

Objectives: The objective of this study was to propose a recent application of touchless interface system to control medical images on the computer screen in operating room and to be first tested in Thailand.

Materials & Methods: The touchless interactive system (LEAP MOTION) is a small and light device ($0.5 \times 1.2 \times 3.0$ inches) which has infrared LEDs and 2 infrared cameras to detect and track user's hands and fingers as a motion-sensing controller. It has a USB cable connected to a computer including a download software and an application program to be installed. With the touchless program, the sensor produces a virtual touch screen of $2 \times 2 \times 2$ feet in the air for 3D space above the sensor. The user can use 1,2,3 and 10 fingers modes according to basic and advanced levels to display the image including clicking by the finger tip of the user, scrolling in horizontal and vertical directions as well as zooming in and out with one or two hands. Before getting started, there is a demo program to train the users how to implement and be familiar with the finger and hand motion control. This hardware and software are compatible with PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System) program that has been used in the hospitals to display the patient records and all medical images as an additional user interface.

Results: The system was firstly demonstrated to the operative team consisting of surgeons, nurses and assistants in operating rooms at HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Medical Center. They had a trial by using 2-finger mode to control a set of functions: open an image, zoom in-out, pan, and change figures by 10 minutes of each set. The results have shown some constraints caused by the speed of finger motion and the depth perception of active click, although all the users have experience working with touch screen. However, more training resulted in faster and more precise control of the information they needed during surgery. The feedback from surgeons was positive, the environment in operating room was sterile without hand contact or needing to remove sterile gloves. Moreover, surgeons support the idea of working as an interdisciplinary team composed of surgeons, engineers and researchers to develop the smart operating room.

Conclusions: The touchless control, Leap Motion Controller is being tested in six hospitals and two medical research centers around the world. We acknowledge a research team from NECTEC who supports this technology and is the first to bring the new motion control technology to the hands of the surgeons in Thailand. We are working on improving the new touchless interfaces and gesture control systems that work in the operating theatre for clinical trials in the near future.

PEDIATRIC SURGERY

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY IN NEONATES AND INFANTS

Hiroomi Okuyama, MD

Department of Pediatric Surgery, Hyogo College of Medicine, Hyogo, Japan

Background: Recently, several kinds of endoscopic surgery have been applied for neonates and infants. Endoscopic surgery for neonates and infants can expect an advantage to be able to expand the field of vision with minimum invasive procedure.

Objective: To evaluate the feasibility and safety of endoscopic surgery in neonates and infants.

Patients and Methods: Twenty eight neonates (8 type-C esophageal atresia (EA), 7 duodenal atresia (DA), 13 ovarian cyst) and 8 infants (2 type-A long-gap EA, 2 congenital esophageal stenosis, 2 CCAM, 1 congenital chylothorax, 1 congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH)) were included in this study. The CO_2 insufflation pressure was 8-10 mmHg for the laparoscopic procedure, and 5-6 mmHg for the thoracoscopic procedure.

Results: Eight neonates underwent thoracoscopic repair of type-C EA. There was no major anastomotic leakage. Seven neonates underwent laparoscopic repair of DA. The first two patients had major anastomotic leakage which required re-anastomosis. Thirteen neonates underwent laparoscopic fenestration of the ovarian cyst. Two infants with type-A long-gap EA underwent thoracoscopic esophagoesophagostomy after sequential extrathoracic esophageal elongation (Kimura's technique). Two infants with congenital esophageal stenosis underwent thoracoscopic esophageal resection and anastomosis. Two infants with CCAM underwent thoracoscopic lobectomy. One infant with CDH underwent thoracoscopic diaphragmatic repair. One infant with congenital chylothorax underwent thoracoscopic thoracic duct ligation. All procedures were completed without any surgical complications or open conversion.

Conclusion: In conclusion, endoscopic surgery for neonates and infants is safe and feasible under an expanded good field of vision.

SURGICAL INTESTINAL DISORDERS IN VERY-LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT INFANTS

Hiroomi Okuyama, MD

Department of Pediatric Surgery, Hyogo College of Medicine, Hyogo, Japan

Background/Aim: Very-low-birth-weight (VLBW) infants are at an increased risk for surgical intestinal disorders, including necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), focal intestinal perforation (FIP) and meconium-related ileus (MRI). Although prematurity is one of the most important factors for developing these diseases, detailed information regarding the pathophysiology and the risk factors for each disease is lacking, and no effective prevention strategy has been established. The aim of this study was therefore to describe the definition of NEC/FIP/MRI and to identify risk factors for each disease in order to propose a prevention strategy.

Definition of surgical intestinal disorders in VLBW infants: NEC= an acquired condition of diffuse necrotic injury to the mucosal and submucosal layers of the bowel; FIP = intestinal perforation without mechanical obstruction or massive necrotic changes; MRI = intractable ileus indicated a microcolon or small-sized colon extending to

the distal ileum, as well as a gradual change in the caliber of the ileum with a dilated proximal ileum filled with sticky meconium.

Methods: A retrospective multicenter case-control study was conducted at 11 institutes in Japan. We included the VLBW infants who underwent laparotomy for NEC, FIP or MRI from 2003 through 2012. For every subject, two matched controls were chosen based on gestational age and birth weight. Using a conditional logistic regression model, ORs and 95%CIs were calculated.

Results: A total of 150 cases (NEC, 44; FIP, 47; MRI, 42; others, 17) and 293 controls were identified. Cases were comparable in terms of their gestational age and birth weight to controls. Twin pregnancy, RDS, surfactant administration and PDA were associated with the development of NEC. Outborn delivery was the only risk factor for FIP. PROM, maternal steroid and surfactant administration were associated with the development of MRI.

Conclusions: We identified different risk factors for surgical NEC, FIP and MRI. These results suggest that different pathogenesis exist for each disease and that different strategy is required to prevent these diseases.

BENEFIT OF RECTAL EXAMINATION IN CHILDREN WITH ACUTE ABDOMEN

Wasun Nuntasunti, MD., Mongkol Laohapensang, MD.
Division of Pediatric Surgery, Department of Surgery, Siriraj Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

Acute abdomen is the condition that must be diagnosed and treated urgently. PR or DRE (per rectal examination, digital rectal examination) is a fundamental physical examination that doctors use to differentiate cause of acute abdomen. However, this is not a pleasant examination. Sometimes doctors have ignored this examination. This research study was designed to demonstrate the benefits of rectal examination for contribution to the diagnosis and reduction of unnecessary operation.

Of the total 116 children with acute abdomen, we found the most common 2 conditions, which are appendicitis accounting for 28% and constipation for 28%, followed by the GI diseases such as gastritis, diarrhea and food poisoning (9%) and diseases of reproductive system (7%). We found that rectal examination helping in differentiate diagnosis significantly in 38.8 % of total population. But also found no benefit after rectal examination in 19% of the total population.

In subgroup analysis of patients with suspected appendicitis, accounting for 69.8% of patients with acute abdomen, all of these found appendicitis which required surgery was 33/116 children or 28.4 %. After the rectal examination, the data can help in the diagnosis which reduced surgery for 26/81 (32%) of patients with suspected appendicitis. PR can differentiate diarrhea, constipation, gastritis, menstrual cramps and pelvic inflammatory disease. In the group of patients with suspected acute bowel obstruction (11/116), the rectal examination can aid in the diagnosis in 54% of patients. The researcher believes that this study recognizes the benefit of PR by aids in the diagnosis, reducing unnecessary investigation and surgery in children with acute abdomen.

CLINICAL OUTCOMES OF HEPATOBLASTOMA : AN EXPERIENCE OF 37 CASES

Anan Sriniworn MD, Rangsan Niramis MD, Maitree Anuntkasol MD,
Suranetr Laorwong MD, Wannisa Poocharoen MD.
Department of Surgery, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Hepatobalstoma is the most common malignant tumor occurring in young children. Results of the treatment have continuously improved with increased 5-year survivals in some patients.

Objective: The aim of this study was to review clinical outcomes of hepatoblastoma in a 10-year period.

Materials and Methods: A retrospective study was conducted of 37 patients with hepatoblastoma treated at Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health between 2004 and 2013. Their clinical data, pathological reports and results of the treatment were reviewed for descriptive study. Data were expressed as mean and standard deviation.

Results: Thirty-seven patients with hepatoblastoma, 20 males and 17 females, were treated during the study period. Mean age at the operation was 23.0 ± 28.2 months (ranged from 2 months to 12 years). Abdominal distension and asymptomatic mass were the principal complaints. Investigations by ultrasonography, plain abdomen and CT scan were performed in 14 (37.8%), 26(70.3%) and 31cases (83.8%), respectively. Alpha-fetoprotein level elevated ranging from 627 to 484,000 ng/ml before operation and it returned to normal after treatment with chemotherapy in 40.5% of the patients. Of the 37 patients, 10(27.0%) were noted to have distant metastasis at the diagnosis. Tumor masses located in the right, left and bilateral hepatic lobes in 21(56.8%), 11(29.7%) and 5 cases (13.5%), respectively. Primary tumor resection could be performed in 9 patients (24.3%). The 28 remainders underwent only

liver biopsies. After chemotherapy, the residual tumors were completely resected in 12 cases. Pathology revealed various types of hepatoblastoma, such as epithelial (19), mixed epithelial and mesenchymal (14) and undifferentiated small cell type (1). Serious postoperative complications occurred in five cases including massive intra-abdominal bleeding (tumor rupture), hepatic failure, tumor seedings outside the abdominal wall, subdiaphragmatic abscess and sepsis. Four patients (10.8%) died due to these serious complications. Of the 33 surviving patients, 17(51.5%) were alive over 2 years and 9 (27.3%) were doing well over five years after the first operation with the longest follow-up of 9 year period.

Conclusions: Hepatoblastoma was mostly found in children younger than three years of age. Only one-fourth of the patients could undergo primary tumor resections, while the residual tumors could be resected after chemotherapy in one-third of the remainders. The survival rates of 2 and 5 years were 51.5% and 27.3% respectively during the present study.

PREDICTIVE FACTORS FOR OUTCOME OF AIR ENEMA REDUCTION OF INTUSSUSCEPTION

Panida Bubphachai MD, Rangsan Niramis MD*, Warangkana Ratanaprakan MD**, Achariya Tongsin MD*,*
*Department of Surgery, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health
**Department of Radiology, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Intussusception is the most common cause of intestinal obstruction in children under two years of age. Nonoperative reduction using air enema (AE) is an established treatment of childhood intussusception with the success rate of 70% at our institute.

Objective: The aim of this study was to evaluate predictive factors for the outcome of AE reduction of intussusception.

Materials and Methods: Medical records of patients with intussusception treated by AE reduction at Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health from January 2009 to December 2013 were reviewed. The study was stressed on the success and failure rates of AE reduction of intussusception including risk factors affecting outcome of AE reduction. The statistical differences were analyzed by the Chi-square test and relative risk (RR) with significance at p-value less than 0.05.

Results: Two hundreds and sixty-eight patients (173 males and 95 females) with 284 episodes of intussusception were treated by AE reduction. Of the total 284 attempted AE reduction, 196 (69.0%) were successful, while 88 (31.0%) were failure. The significant risk factors of failure AE reduction included body temperature over 37.8 $^{\circ}$C (RR = 3.62, p <0 .001), abdominal distension (RR = 2.23, p = 0.004), rectal bleeding (RR = 2.34, p = 0.003), lethargy (RR = 2.68, p = 0.001), palpable abdominal mass (RR = 2.72, p < 0.001), palpable rectal mass (RR = 19.93, p < 0.001), radiological imagings of complete intestinal obstruction (RR = 1.39, p = 0.001), presence of soft tissue mass in abdominal films (RR = 1.39, p< 0.001), and intussusceptum at the sigmoid and rectum (RR = 3.25, p < 0.001). The complication rate was increased in patients with failure AE reduction (RR = 25.55, p < 0.001).

Conclusions: Many factors from clinical presentations and radiological findings could be used to predict the outcome of AE reduction in childhood intussusception. Although these risk factors predicted poor outcome, AE reduction should be done in every case unless no contraindication.

THE ACCURACY OF "SILK GLOVE SIGN" COMPARED WITH "ULTRASONOGRAPHY" IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF INGUINAL HERNIA IN CHILDREN: SINGLE CENTER, PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Puntharee Taisab, M.D., Mongkol Laohapensang, MD.
Division of Pediatric Surgery, Department of Surgery, Siriraj Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

Background & Purpose: History taking and physical examination (silk glove sign) were the useful steps to diagnose inguinal hernia in children. But "silk glove sign" was varied in accuracy due to physician's experience. Nowadays, ultrasound examination also plays a role in the diagnosis of inguinal hernia also. Therefore, the purpose of our study was to compare the accuracy between silk glove sign and ultrasound examination.

Patients and Methods: Thirty six patients (26 unilateral, 10 bilateral) with clinically diagnosed inguinal hernia were included into double-blind trial. Twenty five boys and 11 girls, whose mean age was 25.3 months. Silk glove sign was performed at both groins followed by ultrasonography of both groins. The author did not know which was the affected groin. Subsequently herniotomy was performed in the diagnosed groin only. The result of ultrasonography was then compared with silk glove sign.

Results: The sensitivity of SGS was 89.6% and specificity was 66.7%. The sensitivity of ultrasonography was 95.8% and specificity was 66.7%. Total accuracy of silk glove sign was 88.2% and the accuracy of ultrasound was 94.1%. Mean diameter of hernia sac from ultrasound after compressed at the abdomen was 2.7 mm. Mean diameter of

hernial sac from exploration was 3.7 mm. The important sign that suggested hernial sac from ultrasound was that the sac became wider when we applied positive pressure on the abdomen.

Conclusions: Ultrasonography of the groin was a useful technique in detecting of inguinal hernia. It is non-invasive and has a good accuracy.

RESULTS OF THE TREATMENT OF HIRSCHSPRUNG'S DISEASE: COMPARISON BETWEEN TRANSABDOMINAL AND TRANSANAL PULL-THROUGH OPERATIONS

Montinee Supehatura MD, Rangsan Niramis MD*, Veera Buranakitcharocn MD*, Narong Nithipanya MD**, Varaporn Mahatharadol MD**

*Department of Surgery, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health

**Department of Radiology, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Transabdominal pull-through operation has been established as the definitive treatment of Hirschsprung's disease (HD) since 1948. One-stage transanal pull-through procedure is the latest evolution in the management of HD.

Objective: The aim of this study was to review results of the treatment of HD by comparison between transabdomial and transanal pull-through operations.

Materials and Methods: Medical records of patients with HD definitely treated between January 2007 and December 2012 at Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health were retrospectively reviewed. Patients who underwent transabdominal and transanal pull-through operations were categorized into group A and group B, respectively. Results of the two groups were compared using the Chi-square test and a p-value less than 0.05 was considered significant.

Results: Of the 145 patients with HD, 87 (60%) were definitely treated by transbdominal pull-through operation (group A) and 58 (40%) received transanal pull-through treatment (group B). Age at operation ranged from 1.6 months to 12.7 years in group A and 21 days to 5.6 years in group B. One year after operation, normal defecation and continence were noted 67% in group A and 85% in group B ($p = 0.041$). Constipation was more common in group A than in group B (13% vs. 2%; $p = 0.028$). Anastomotic leakage (3%) and adhesive small bowel obstruction (3%) occurred in group A, but was not found in group B. Only anastomotic stricture which required anal dilatation was more common in group B than in group A, but not statistically significant (9% vs. 4%; $p = 0.267$). The incidences of postoperative enterocolitis were not different between group A (20%) and group B (21%). There was no immediate postoperative mortality in both groups.

Conclusions: Operative outcomes from the present study revealed that transanal pull-through operation was better than transabdominal procedure in normal defecation, low incidence of constipation, avoidance of anastomotic leakage and postoperative small bowel obstruction. The incidences of postoperative enterocolitis were not different between the two techniques.

LAPAROSCOPIC DUODENODUODENOSTOMY FOR DUODENAL ATRESIA: A CASE REPORT

Varaporn Mahatharadol, MD

Department of Surgery, Queen Sirikit National Institute of Child Health, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: As the benefits of the laparoscopic approach for children are readily recognized today. Laparoscopy is utilized for many common surgical conditions, such as appendectomy, cholecystectomy, fundoplication or for relatively less common problems, such as excision of choledochal cyst, high imperforate anus repair. However, the reports of laparoscopic approach in newborn are still limited in Thailand.

Purpose: To report a first case successfully performed in QSNICH with the laparoscopic duodenoduodenostomy for duodenal atresia.

Methods: A 38-week male infant was diagnosed with duodenal atresia with meconium aspiration syndrome and congenital pneumonia. After five days, the symtomps of pneumonia improved and he was extubated. He was operated on day 9 of life. His weight was 2,765 gm. Three 5 mm. ports and 3 mm. port were used for the procedure. Duodenodenostomy was performed using diamond shaped (Kimura's) technique.

Results: The operative time was 4 hours 50 minutes. There was no intraoperative complication. A nasogastric tube was removed on the post-op day 6. He was discharged after full feeding on the post-op day 17. He was doing well during a 4-month follow-up period with the weight of 6.1 kg.

Conclusion: Laparoscopic approach for duodenal atresia can be performed safely with great cosmetic results and a good short-term outcome.

PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

SURGICAL TREATMENT FOR HEMIFACIAL MICROSOMIA AFTER GROWTH SPURT

Lun-Jou Lo, MD
Professor, Department of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, and Chairman, Department of Surgery, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital, Taoyuan, Taiwan

Purpose: Hemifacial microsomia is a disease entity with hypoplastic development on one side of face resulting in prominent facial deformity. The treatment timing and method were controversial, especially during the growing period. However, the goal of treatment in the adulthood should focus on correcting dental malocclusion and facial asymmetry. This presentation reports our treatment experience.

Methods: Patients in this study received surgical treatment with lip repair for lateral facial cleft, excision of facial skin tags, mandibular distraction for severe deficiency, or conservative management without surgical intervention during the growing period. Treatment protocol for adult patients with hemifacial microsomia included stage I with orthognathic surgery and contouring surgery, and stage II with fat injection to the hypoplastic side for volume replacement. Each patient received individual consideration and possible modified treatment plan. Computer assisted orthognathic surgery has been applied in recent years.

Results: Satisfactory outcome was obtained after the two stages of surgical treatment. For minor deformity such as Pruzansky type I patients, a single stage of surgical intervention might obtain good results without further volume replacement surgery. For severe cases such as type III cases, a prior rib bone grafting was required, or this procedure could be included in the first stage of orthognathic surgery. Tissue volume reduction in the contralateral side during the first stage helped to increase facial symmetry. Computer assisted surgical simulation and navigation was helpful for planning and execution of the operation, as well as to improve treatment outcome.

Conclusion: The treatment protocol of two stages surgical intervention provided satisfactory results for adult patients with hemifacial microsomia. Computer assisted orthognathic surgery helps to improve treatment outcome.

A NOVEL DYNAMIC PULSATILE PLACENTA MODEL FOR MICROSURGERY TRAINING USING RAMA MICRO PUMP: RAMADPP MODEL

Chawarot Chansuebsai, MD, Kidakorn Kiranantawat MD, FRCST
Division of Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Microsurgery skill lab plays an important role in microsurgery training program, thus various kinds of models have been used. A model that is realistic, reliable, inexpensive and easy to obtain is needed.

Method: We developed a new model "Dynamic pulsatile placenta model (RamaDPP model)". The model was developed using fresh placenta connected to a newly invented 12-volt direct current water pump (Rama Micro Pump) at the umbilical artery. The model was tested and evaluated by two groups of users (Group1: plastic surgery resident, Group 2: plastic surgeon) using a questionnaire with numeric satisfaction scales (0-10).

Results: RamaDPP model was more realistic than the conventional placenta model in terms of patency test (mean score 8.57 ± 0.79, 5.57 ± 1.27 $p = 0.016$ in group1 and 9.20 ± 1.09, 2.60 ± 1.95 $p = 0.043$ in group2) and setting feeling (mean score 8.43 ± 0.79, 5.29 ± 1.38 $p = 0.017$ in group 1 and 8.80 ± 1.09, 3.60 ± 1.14 $p = 0.043$ in group 2), to a statistically significant degree.

Conclusion: We developed a new realistic model for microsurgery training. The dynamic pulsatile placenta model is realistic, reliable and easy to obtain for microsurgery training program with no life sacrifice is required.

COLD WATER FOR REDUCING PAIN IN NEGATIVE PRESSURE WOUND THERAPY DRESSING CHANGE: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Suphot Chattinnakorn, MD, Poonpissamai Suwajo, MD, Apichai Angspatt, MD
Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University , Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) is a technique using vacuum dressing to promote wound healing in complicated wound. The use of NPWT increased dramatically over the past 20 years due to its advantages such as stimulation of granulation tissue growth, reducing edema, and elimination of exudate. However, for many patients, the application and removal of the NPWT is source of procedural pain. Some techniques had been reported to reduce these pains such as administering topical lidocain or normal saline solution before the dressing change.

Objectives: The authors hypothesized that

administering cold water into the NPWT sponge would decrease pain during dressing changes.

Methods: A prospective randomized controlled trial was conducted on 27 patients who underwent 81 NPWT wound dressing changes (n= 81) at a single institution between October 2012 and September 2013. Each patient received three dressing changes. Cold water (5 °C), room temperature normal saline (26.89 °C), and nothing were randomized and administered in the NPWT tubing into the sponge 10 minutes before changing the dressing in each and every patient. Pain scores were assessed using a 0 to 10 numeric pain scale.

Results: Wound characteristics and patient's demographic data were recorded. Patient receiving cold water reported less pain than receiving room temperature normal saline during the dressing change (4 versus 5.67; p <0.03), and much less pain than receiving nothing before dressing change (4 versus 6.59; $p < 0.01$). There is no statistical significant difference in pain score between using the room temperature normal saline group and the control group that received nothing (5.67 versus 6.59; $p = 0.06$).

Conclusion: This study has shown that during the NPWT dressing change, cold water administered through the suction tubing had a better reduction in pain score than using room temperature normal saline and using nothing in the control group before the dressing change.

A NEW METHOD FOR BURN SURFACE AREA CALCULATION: A COMPARISON STUDY BETWEEN A NEW CALCULATING PROGRAM AND CONVENTIONAL METHODS

Chayamote Chayangsu, MD, Apichai Angspatt, MD*, Thanasit Kangkorn, MD†*

*Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

†Department of Surgery, Chonburi Hospital, Chonburi, Thailand

Fluid resuscitation in burn patients has been established for more than 40 years. All of those formulas depend on total burn surface area (TBSA). Accuracy of the burn surface area calculation is crucial. Rule of Nine and Lund and Browder chart has been widely used in most of the burn centers. Anyway, those two methods were based on the anatomy of the western patients. Foreseeing this issue, the research team has come up with the new 3-dimenional computerized program called the "THAI 3D Burn" program to provide an easy, accurate and user-friendly program that can assist physicians in estimating the burn surface areas. Unlike other conventional methods, the THAI 3D Burn program has taken into account the real figures of Thai citizens, patients' ages, genders, heights, weights and their BMI into the calculation. From the validity or the accuracy tests, the THAI 3D Burn program produces the estimating results that are not different from the other 2 conventional methods, Rule of Nine and Lund and Browder. Anyway, major highlight of the THAI 3D Burn program is its relatively high reliability comparing to the other 2 methods. No matter who uses this program, experienced physicians or inexperienced general practitioners, the THAI 3D Burn program will consistently produce estimations close to one another for them. In other words, difference in burn surface area estimation between physicians can be minimized with the THAI 3D Burn program.

SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE

INCARCERATED MASSIVE PARAUMBILICAL HERNIA IN A MORBIDLY SUPER-SUPER-OBESE PATIENT

Bandara I.M.H.W, Subasinghe D*, Gajanthan K*, Udayakumara E.A.D**

*Teaching Hospial Kurunegala, Sri Lanka

Introduction: Abdominal wall hernias are more prevalent in the morbidly obese. Incarceration of external hernias is a relatively common process in adults and is associated with a high rate of complications and mortality. We present the case of a morbidly super-super-obese patient (body mass index of 39.45 kg/m^2) who underwent emergency surgery for an incarcerated paraumbilical hernia with segmental ileal resection, abdominoplasty and mesh hernia repair.

Case Presentation: A 60-year-old morbidly obese female presented to us with a massive paraumbilical hernia without features of obstruction of four years duration. She was a diagnosed patient with diabetes mellitus and hypertension for six year with satisfactory control. Initial plan of weight reduction with diet control, exercise failed On examination she was morbidly obese (BMI=39.45kg/m2). The abdominal examination revealed a lax abdomen

with huge paraumbilical hernia. Subsequently she underwent preoperative investigation to assess the fitness for surgery. She underwent paraumbilical herniotomy, segmental intestinal resection and abdominoplasty with mesh repair. During initial post-operative period she was given intensive care and recovery was uneventful.

Discussion: Paraumbilical hernia is one of the commonest surgical conditions affecting especially the female population. Surgical repair is the mainstay of treatment. As with any other surgical procedures, this is associated with possible complications. These include urinary retention, superficial wound hematoma, superficial wound infection, serous effusion, recurrence of hernia. Most of these complications are of mild to moderate degrees and can be treated by a conservative approach. Recent advances in different surgical techniques and equipment claim to have less complications but none are completely devoid of them.

TRANSPLANTATION

ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS (EMR) AIDING IN THE LOGISTICS OF ORGAN TRANSPLANT SURGERY

Hermann Gruenwald
Burapha University, Chonburi, Thailand

Background: Due to scientific and technological advances in surgery organ transplants of hearts, livers, kidneys, lung, pancreas and eyes have increased over the past. But the challenge remains the procurement and matching of donors and recipients.

Objective: The objective of this study was to explore how Electronic Medical Records (EMR) can help to facilitate the logistics of the organ transplant surgery.

Methods: We analyzed the logistical issues surrounding organ donations and transplants in Thailand focusing on data from the Thai Red Cross Organ Donation Center as well as other sources such as Thai Transplantation Society.

Results: Over the past 21 years in Thai hospitals 142 intrathoracic organ transplantations including heart, heart-lung and lung transplantations were performed and 330 patients received livers from deceased donors. Twenty three (23) transplant centers implanted 4,202 kidneys of which 50% were from living related donors. Nowadays there are approximately 400 kidney transplants performed per year. The patient data is entered into the hospital information system (HIS) of the donor and the recipient, as well as a various organ donation databases.

Conclusion: Electronic Medical Records (EMR) can help to identify donors and recipients by interfacing the existing hospital information systems (HIS) and sharing real-time the EMR data.

TRAUMA, BURN, CRITICAL CARE

DISASTER AND MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT: PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Michael Stein
Director of Trauma, Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Hospital, Petach-Tikva, Israel

Drills for admitting mass casualties were developed in Israel over the last 30 years and each hospital is exercised every 2 years in various types of mass casualty incidents. Unannounced evacuations of large numbers of mock casualties, usually newly drafted military recruits, were brought within 1-3 hours to the entrance of the emergency department (ED). The hospital is expected to convert within minutes from its normal daily routine into a "mass casualty" management mode. The drill included phases of triage, initial management at the treatment sites (various temporary treatment sites should have been deployed to accommodate the masses that the ED could not provide space for), mobilization of the victims to appropriate evaluation facilities and, finally, transferring them to the entrance of the operating room (OR), intensive care unit (ICU) or hospital ward. Secondary distribution of victims is also tested, especially those requiring neurosurgery and other highly specialized medical facilities (burn units, specialized eye clinics, etc.). In the early 1990s, when terrorist activities became a real threat and increased the trauma burden in hospitals, it was realized that preparedness

protocols should be adjusted to different sizes of incidents. The new guidelines were required to provide new rational solutions for incidents of "limited" mass or multiple casualties. Guidelines that were theoretically sound for events with hundreds of casualties did not fit such a situation. Incidents of limited mass casualties with between 10 and 100 victims, including 2-10 who are severely injured, needed new guidelines and drills. As a result, the preparedness drills were modified and tiered to several levels:

Limited mass casualty incident (MCI) - Level I: Depending on the size of the hospital, this level will cover an incident with 10-20 casualties including 2-4 severely injured patients. The existing hospital staff will deal with this incident, using the standard facilities of the hospital, and calling only key personnel from their homes to assist.

Limited mass casualty incident (MCI) - Level II: Depending on the size of the hospital, this will cover an incident with 20-50 casualties (the full capacity of the ED) including 4-10 severely injured patients. This incident will be dealt by the existing staff reinforced by a limited number of surgical, anesthesia, critical care, and nursing staff using the standard on- call facilities of the hospital.

Large MCI: The number of total victims brought to the hospital outnumbers the full capacity of the ED gurneys and mandates opening temporary treatment sites within the hospital. To manage this kind of incident, the entire staff of the hospital is usually needed to mobilize all the evaluation and treatment capabilities of the institution.

Hospital Management: The initial assessment and management of multiple trauma victims arriving within a short time to an ED is a complicated task even for the very experienced. Moreover, in contrast to scheduled exercises and drills where all the staff and facilities are ready for the event, a real incident is always unexpected.

The methods and means of surgical care in these situations are not well defined. Effective triage is a paramount goal and a key to optimizing care, although less so for the Level I limited MCI, and more important for the Level II limited MCI and large events. One of the triage officers at the ambulance unloading point should be a surgeon experienced in triaging victims to urgent versus non-urgent casualties. This differs from our previous practice of classifying casualties as mild, moderate, or severely injured. Also, the decision to designate victims to the so-called expectant group, or the unsalvageable, is very difficult in real life, if possible at all. This status can be decided only after evaluation in the resuscitation bay unless the victim succumbs within minutes of arrival.

In a mass casualty scenario we should perhaps introduce a new term: "minimal acceptable care" even though it is alien to our usual striving for excellence. This care would be applied on a temporary basis only, until the mass casualty situation subsides. Within this concept we would concentrate our efforts on a maximal number of salvageable patients. Conservation of critical hospital resources is a key consideration because the eventual number of casualties is unknown. There should be two phases of surgical care:

The initial phase, during which there is an ongoing flow of casualties, when chaos is maximal and the eventual number of victims is still unknown. It is during this phase that we would practice "minimal acceptable care" in a maximum number of patients.

The definitive phase, when no new casualties are arriving, things are under control and optimal surgical care can be provided.

BLAST INJURY: THE ISRAELI EXPERIENCE

Michael Stein

Director of Trauma, Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Hospital, Petach-Tikva, Israel

Most of our experience with blast injuries stems from the difficult period of major urban suicide bombing (between 1994 and 2008). These incidents resulted in unusually severe and challenging patterns of injury, where up to one third of casualties admitted to hospital had an ISS higher than 15. This rate was three times higher than that seen in the typical civilian trauma practice. The overall number of casualties and rate of immediate on-scene mortality are determined by the size of the explosive charge, structural failure of the building, and indoor detonation, which results in a greatly amplified blast wave. Suicide bombers are particularly devastating weapons of urban terror because they specifically target crowded indoors locations or large open space gatherings to maximize the effect of the explosion.

Blast trauma is viewed by trauma surgeons as a multidimensional injury because it often combines blast, penetrating, blunt, and burn mechanisms in the same casualty. The results are injury patterns of higher severity and complexity and a greater burden on the trauma service of the hospital.

Primary Blast Injury: The most common clinical sign of blast injury is eardrum perforation. These perforations usually heal spontaneously but may result in various degrees of hearing loss in up to 25% of patients. Eardrum perforation is a useful marker of the proximity of the patient to the detonation but is not a reliable predictor of lung injury. The blast wave from the detonation disrupts the alveolar-capillary interface of the lung, resulting in a spectrum of

blast lung injury ranging in severity from mild pulmonary contusion with intra-alveolar hemorrhage to severe and rapidly evolving acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS). Severe blast lung injury is uncommon, occurring in only 5% to 8% of live casualties in urban bombings, but its severity is the key determinant of mortality among early survivors. Mild blast lung injury presents with localized infiltrates on chest x-ray. It is managed similarly to a mild lung contusion and has a good outcome. Patients with severe lung injury typically present with rapidly worsening hypoxia, develop bilateral diffuse infiltrates, and require early aggressive respiratory support along the lines of managing ARDS. Pneumothorax should be actively sought and immediately decompressed in these patients. Mortality is in excess of 60% in these severe cases.

Intestinal blast trauma varies in severity from subserosal hemorrhage to full-thickness perforation. Clinically important bowel blast injury is rare in urban bombings, occurring in less than 2% of live casualties, but is the most common form of trauma in an immersion blast from an underwater explosion.

Secondary Blast Injury: Penetrating trauma from fragments of the bomb casing or from metal projectiles added to an improvised explosive device (IED) can cause a wide array of injuries, ranging from superficial skin lacerations to lethal visceral wounds. From the perspective of the hospital trauma service, the key consideration is the need for extensive imaging to locate penetrating fragments and define their trajectories because a physical examination is a poor predictor of the depth of penetration. The most expedient method is to use a helical CT scan to locate multiple projectiles rapidly and delineate their trajectories. However, this makes the CT scanner a bottleneck to patient flow and requires setting priorities and rationing access to the scanner during the initial phase of the hospital response. Whereas classic management principles for traumatic wounds have called for debridement of each wound and removal of embedded foreign bodies, this is often not a realistic option in casualties with multiple (sometimes dozens) of asymptomatic penetrating wounds. A common sense approach is to address only symptomatic or infected projectiles and those in problematic locations (e.g., intra-articular).

Tertiary and Quaternary Blast Injuries: When casualties are propelled against stationary objects by the explosion, the results are standard patterns of blunt trauma. However, these tertiary blast injuries are typically combined with other types of trauma caused by the blast. This complicates the clinical picture and presents unusual dilemmas in terms of treatment priorities and resource allocation. Quaternary blast trauma refers mostly to burns and crush injuries. Superficial flash burns, typically involving large body areas, are caused by the explosion itself, and are markers of proximity to the blast. They are common among casualties found dead at the scene and have also been shown to be predictors of blast lung injury. The ignition of flammable materials and clothes causes deep burns of variable extent, sometimes in conjunction with inhalation injury.

HEMOSTASIS IN TRAUMA

Michael Stein
Director of Trauma, Rabin Medical Center, Beilinson Hospital, Petach-Tikva, Israel

Hemorrhage remains a major cause of potentially preventable deaths. Traumatic injuries with devastating bleeding requiring massive transfusion are associated with coagulopathy secondary to tissue injury, hypoperfusion, dilution and consumption of clotting factors and platelets. The resulting coagulopathy, together with hypothermia and acidosis, forms well known "lethal" triad. In the last two decades there has been a major paradigm shift regarding optimal resuscitation of bleeding trauma patients before definitive hemorrhage control is achieved. We now believe that aggressive fluid resuscitation increases blood pressure, reverses vasoconstriction, dislodges early formed thrombus and causes dilutional coagulopathy and metabolic acidosis that cause further blood loss. Accordingly previous guidelines recommending that fresh frozen plasma (FFP) and platelets (PLT) should be administered only when a whole blood volume or more has been substituted is now considered obsolete. Instead, limiting fluid resuscitation and applying the concept of permissive hypotension with the goal of achieving a palpable radial pulse in the bleeding trauma patient, has been advocated. The only exception is the combined head and hypotensive trauma patient.

Current transfusion guidelines advocate the concept of hemostatic resuscitation, supplementing large transfusions of red blood cells with FFP and PLT to critically injured patients. The rationale for balanced administration of blood products is that it mimics the composition of circulating blood and, hence, transfusion of RBC, FFP and PLT in a unit-for-unit ratio (1:1:1) is likely to both prevent and treat coagulopathy due to massive hemorrhage.

The dilution of coagulation factors and platelets is an important cause of coagulopathy in massively transfused trauma patients. The Advanced Trauma Life Support guideline that recommends aggressive crystalloid resuscitation is losing its scientific basis. This promotes dilution of blood cells and coagulation factors, as well as

acidosis, interstitial edema, impairment of the microcirculation and, hence, compromised oxygenation. Furthermore, synthetic colloid resuscitation fluids influence coagulation competence more profoundly than crystalloids.

Early "endogenous" coagulopathy in trauma patients, not attributed to dilution and hypothermia with shock and hypo-perfusion, was suggested by Brohi and co-workers as a key driver of acute traumatic coagulopathy through widespread activation of the anticoagulant and fibrinolytic pathways. Tissue injury, secondary to trauma, induce immediate activation of the coagulation system through up-regulation of tissue factor expression and extensive thrombin generation, as part of the generalized "genomic storm".

Apart from the new concepts of combating trauma coagulopathy and blood loss by revising the philosophy of fluid and component resuscitation, we still widely use several conventional hemostatic techniques to minimize blood loss. Mechanical means include manual pressure, ligature and the application of a tourniquet. However, conventional methods are less effective in controlling bleeding from complex injuries and where access to the area of bleeding is difficult. Topical hemostatic agents may be particularly useful in such situations. Several topical hemostatic agents are currently available in a range of configurations. They exert their effect in a variety of ways. Some improve primary hemostasis, whereas others stimulate fibrin formation or inhibit fibrinolysis. Some are a preparation of a pro-coagulant substance in combination with a vehicle such as collagen matrix. Others use a matrix to provide a template for the endogenous coagulation cascade to achieve hemostasis. Factors affecting the selection of an appropriate topical hemostat include the type of injury, cost, severity of bleeding, and the personal experience and preference of the surgeons.

In conclusion, our understanding of the complex metabolic and physiologic changes, that develop during the initial phase of exsanguination, have brought about a major change in our management of the bleeding trauma patient. In the past, the only means to reduce bleeding was aggressive surgical control. Very little consideration was given to the developing coagulopathy and inflammatory storm. Today, we try to achieve hemostatic fluid resuscitation, use novel topical hemostatics and search for new agents that will blunt the harmful effects of the inflammatory process. In the future, we may find new topical hemostatics and other means that will arrest bleeding in the pre-hospital phase. Fluid resuscitation will be tailored to the specific needs of the individual and the inflammatory and immunological chaos will be solved by host response targeted new drug treatments.

DEVELOPMENT AND REVOLUTION OF BURN CARE AND TREATMENT IN THAILAND FOR THE PAST 40 YEARS (1970 - 2010)

Chomchark Chuntrasakul, MD

Division of Traumatology, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University

Introduction: Mortality rate of severe burns in the ancient time was extremely high reaching over 50%. It subsequently declined following the recognition and utilization of some topical agents later on with the collaboration of related professionals' basic and clinical research works. The mortality rate varied depending on the regions of the countries. For example, the mortality rate related to fire and burn injuries in South-east Asian countries was 53%, while only 4% and 9% in America and European countries respectively.

Materials, Methods and Results: Prior to 1960 doctors did not know how to treat severe burns due to the lack of knowledge in pathophysiologic changes in burns. In mid 1960ûs they discovered and recognized that silver compounds in the form of silver nitrate solution and silver sulfadiazine were able to kill some germs. Sixty percent of burn patients who were not treated with these topical agents died from wound sepsis while only 28% on treatment with topical agents died from persistent wound sepsis. The period 1970-1990 was called the period of rapid progress of burn care due to the collaboration between plastic surgeons, general surgeons, dietitians and researchers who had worked on both basic and clinical research studies in many aspects of body changes after burn injury, particularly pathophysiologic changes in burns. For management of severe burns, after primary survey immediate treatment of ABC systems was performed and if associated with smoke inhalation, in addition to giving high levels of oxygen, early intubation with endotracheal tube should be considered. Also for circumferential deep dermal or full thickness burn of trunk or torso at the chest and abdominal wall or at extremities, early decompression by Escharotomy should be performed. For patients who sustained high tension electric injury from a current passing through the limbs both escharotomy and fasciotomy should be performed early. At the time when I first started treating the burn patients there was still no burn unit in Thailand. Patients who required hospitalization were isolated from other trauma patients and put in a separate room. In 1978 the first burn unit in Thailand was opened at Siriraj Hospital. It could accommodate 12 to 15 burn patients. As Thailand was one of the developing countries in the Asian region and

our hospitals were not well equipped as the US hospitals, we had to innovate the essential topical medications for our patients such as the silver sulfadiazine cream, a topical agent for the burn wounds. Later on we switched to the silver zinc sulfadiazine cream which has the same antibacterial activity. The topical agents were prepared by our pharmacist. I had the opportunity to work and train with Professor William Monafo who was the pioneer in the use of hypertonic saline solution for initial fluid resuscitation in severe burn patients. However, our preparation was a little lower in sodium containing only 200mEq/L. and was to be given during the first 8 hours of burn injury followed by Ringer's lactate for the next 16 hours. I was the first person in Thailand who introduced the use of amnion to treat burn wounds as a biologic dressing and also created a medical tulle called Siriraj Medical Tulle for general surgical wounds and also the donor site skin grafting which was very efficacious and cost effective. In addition, we had prepared special formulas of diets for our burn and trauma patients. One was the blenderize diet composing of 8 eggs per one liter which was very good for burn and trauma patients and only 2 liters was required daily for adult burns patients, another was a special diet formula which promoted and supported patients' immunity. It was called the immune enhancing diet and was very efficacious for patients with severe burn, severe trauma and also for critically ill patients in the ICU. All research studies were clinically conducted before being allowed to use widely. Early eschar excision by tangential or deep excision by using free hand dermatome either belonging to Gulion or Watson skin graft knives and some small deep burn could be early performed with immediate skin grafting for the full thickness burn less than 20% of total burn surface area (TBSA) or an excision with immediate skin coverage for less than 20% of excised area for each operation in a big burn patient could be done. Skin substitute (Integra) was infrequently used. We had treated severe burn patients averaging 100 cases yearly with mortality rate of 10 %, plus or minus 5%. Using nano crystalline silver especially the Acticoat proved very satisfactory. Also the new eschar removal device using high water pressure called Versajet Hydrosurgery was a very good device and enabled us to remove eschar early with less trauma and less bleeding. In 2009 a new well-equipped burn unit was established. Taking care of burn patients seemed then very feasible for our burn team with less infectious complications and less mortality rate close to 5%.

Conclusion: After completing my residency training in General Surgery (1970), Fellowship in Vascular Surgery and Research (1971) and Fellowship in Burns & Surgery (1972) in the United States, I returned to Thailand in 1972 and started working with trauma and burn patients. My treatment styles of burn and trauma might be a little different from the traditional method applied by a group of plastic surgeons who had been taking care of the burn patients before me. I attempted to educate, encourage and promote our resident surgeons and medical students as well as surgeons working in the provincial hospitals to get more advanced knowledge and skills to keep up with the development of burn and trauma care. For them to achieve the same standards of burn treatment and trauma patient care I helped establish the Thai Society of Trauma Injury in 1973 following by the Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition of Thailand (SPENT) in 1975. Then in 1989 I founded the Thai Society of Burn Injury (TSBI) and the Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Society of Asia (PENSA) in 1995 and finally the Thai Society of Wound Healing (TSWH) in 2005. Due to the similarity of the TSBI and the TSWH, with almost the same group of surgical caregivers, I have put forward my suggestion to combine the TSBI into the TSWH, to decrease the time spent and reduce the expenses of pharmaceutical companies as well as to get more unity between related professionals. It remains our goal that, with appropriate care from related professionals and support from pharmacists and nutritionists, patients will be able to recover and return to their normal lives again.

LOW PRESSURE SUPPORT VERSUS T-PIECE METHOD FOR DISCONTINUATION FROM MECHANICAL VENTILATOR

Kaweesak Chittawatanarat, M.D., FRCST., Thai Board of Critical Care Medicine
Saranat Orrapin, M.D. FRCST., Saritphat Orrapin, M.D.
Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Background: Weaning off ventilator was impact factor in critical patients, low pressure support and T-piece method were two most common methods in weaning off ventilator in critical care units. Both outcomes are still controversy and depend on expertness of doctor in each institute. Previous fashion for weaning off ventilator was the use of low PSV then switched to T-piece method to wean off ventilator. We conducted prospective randomized controlled trial to demonstrate and compare outcome of both methods for weaning off ventilator.

Objective: The purpose of this research was to compare the outcome of discontinuation of mechanical ventilation (weaning off ventilator), between extubation after using low pressure support ventilation and T-piece ventilation method.

Patients and Methods: Randomized clinical trial and prospective study between June 2011 and November 2013 were performed. Five hundred and twenty patients who admitted in Sub-ICU and ICU of general surgery unit that uses intubation with ventilator and ready for ventilator weaning were randomized to low pressure support and T-piece mode. Primary endpoints were ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) rate and reintubation rate in 48 hours. Secondary endpoints were length of Sub-ICU and ICU stay and length of hospital stay.

Results: Rate of re-intubation, infection of the respiratory system and length of intensive care unit were not different in two groups. Moreover hospital mortality was not difference in pressure support and T-piece method. It was remarkable that T-piece required less weaning time for weaning ventilator than pressure support method.

Conclusion: This study shows non-inferiority in outcome and morbidity as well as mortality rate of patients with weaning off ventilator mode both T-piece and low pressure support group. Therefore when patient can tolerate to breathing with low PSV mode, weaning off ventilator under PSV mode can be performed without switching to T-piece method as in previous fashion to decrease weaning time and reduce cost of instruments.

SITES FOR NEEDLE DECOMPRESSION OF TENSION PNEUMOTHORAX: LET THERE BE LIGHT

Jaranpa Samritwilas, Nantaka Kiranantawat†, Khanittha Kaewsaengrueang*, Nannapat Pruphetkaew‡, Burapat Sangthong**

*Department of Surgery, †Department of Radiology, ‡Epidemiology unit Institution: Songklanagarind Hospital, Prince of Songkla University, Songkla, Thailand

Purpose: As per American College of Surgeons Committee's recommendation in Advanced Trauma Life Support, ninth edition, needle decompression in tension pneumothorax is suggested to be performed in the second intercostal space (ICS) in the mid-clavicular line (MCL). But clinical data showed that failure rate of needle decompression in this position is quite high and from recent data by Inaba and colleagues found that needle thoracostomy decompression in this position would be expected to fail in 42.5% of cases. Our study aimed to compare the utility of needle decompression and potential cardiovascular complications by radiologic evaluation of chest wall thickness between the second ICS in the MCL and the fifth ICS in the mid axillary line (MAL).

Methodology: We included a total 132 trauma patients from 2011 to 2013 who had chest CT performed into the study. We measured the thickness of the chest wall and the distance from skin to great vessels and skin to heart at 4 points, the second ICS in the MCL and the fifth ICS in the MAL both sides. Paired *t*-test or Wilcoxon signed rank were used for analysis.

Results: The mean of difference in chest wall thickness between the second ICS at the MCL and the fifth ICS at the MAL were 9 mm and 7 mm, on the right and the left respectively. The second ICS at the MCL was thinner than the fifth ICS at the MAL both sides. There was a stepwise increase in chest wall thickness across all BMI groups. The percentage of patients with chest wall thickness greater than the standard 5-cm decompression needle was 6.06 at the second ICS in the MCL and 31.82 at the fifth ICS in the MAL.

Conclusion: Chest wall thickness at the second ICS in the MCL was thinner than at the fifth ICS at the MAL based on radiologic measurement. This site should be preferred location for needle thoracostomy decompression as the standard recommendation but the potential cardiovascular complications should be concerned.

BLUNT AORTIC TRAUMATIC INJURY: OUTCOME OF OPEN REPAIR VERSUS ENDOVASCULAR REPAIR FROM 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE OF UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Supitchar Vongmanee MD, Kritaya Kritayakirana MD, Rattaplee Pak-art MD, Suvit Sriussadaporn MD

Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University and King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Thai Red cross Society, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Traumatic aortic injury (TAI) remains a leading cause of death after blunt force. Before the endovascular era, the only treatment option was open repair, burdened by high morbidity and significant mortality. Thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR) offers a less invasive alternative to open chest surgery. New reliable and accurate stent grafts have widened the endovascular treatment options. The advantages of this method include avoiding a thoracotomy or aorta cross-clamping and their associated complications.

Objective: The study objective was to present our 10 years of experience and compare the outcome between open and endovascular repair of traumatic aortic injury.

Material and Methods: Thirty five patients (mean age 38.5 years) with an acute traumatic aortic injury were referred to King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital between January 2003 and December 2013. Sixteen patients underwent surgical repair. Since 2008, an endovascular

approach was deliberately chosen; 19 patients underwent endovascular repair. The two groups were statistically comparable. The data of outcome included number of PRC usage, day in ICU, complication and death rate were compared between the two groups.

Results: From 35 patients with traumatic aortic injury, 16 patients underwent open repair, 11 cases with clamp and sew technique and 5 cases were repair under cardiopulmonary bypass. Nineteen patients underwent thoracic endovascular aortic repair (TEVAR). Average usage of PRC was higher in open repair group (8.5 unit and 3 unit in average). Open repair cases spent longer time in ICU (mean 6.5 days and 3 days). There were four death cases in open repair group and one death case in TEVAR group.

Conclusion: Endovascular repair had less morbidity and mortality rate than open repair.

RE-EXPANSION PULMONARY SYNDROME AFTER HEMOTHORAX: A CASE REPORT OF CONTRALATERAL PULMONARY EDEMA

Kraipop Wongwaiyut MD, Osaree Akaraborworn MD
Department of Surgery Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Hatyai, Songkhla, Thailand

Background: Re-expansion pulmonary syndrome is a rare complication that occurs after re-expansion of a collapsing lung. Most of the occurrences happen following drainage of a pleural effusion or pneumothorax. Contralateral re-expansion pulmonary syndrome is very rare and the incidence of re-expansion pulmonary syndrome after hemothorax is uncommon.

Case report: A 38-year-old man fell from the back of an elephant. The patient presented at the emergency department with right maxilla fracture and chest tightness. His initial chest radiograph showed 8th and 9th right rib fractures and widening of the mediastinum. A computed tomography (CT) was done and the results revealed occulted left pneumothorax, minimal lung contusion and minimal hemothorax. The patient was admitted for close observation and was sent to the operating room for open reduction and irrigation of the maxilla.

On the sixth day of the admission, the patient developed dyspnea and on the physical examination dullness on percussion was found. The chest radiograph showed a large homogenous opacity at the right hemithorax. The initial diagnosis was right hemothorax or right clotted hemothorax. The patient was sent for a CT scan and right pleural fluid with passive atelectasis was found. A percutaneous catheter drainage (PCD) tube was inserted by an interventionist. Initially, the fluid output was 1.1 liters of serosanguinous fluid. Then the PCD was clamped due to awareness of re-expansion pulmonary syndrome. Five hours later, he complained of right chest tightness, so 650 ml of fluid during 2 hours was allowed to drain. After that the patient developed progressive dyspnea. The physical examination revealed crepitation at the left lung. A repeat chest radiography found good expansion of the right lung and new patchy infiltration at the left lung which was compatible with unilateral pulmonary edema. The patient was put on high flow oxygen and 20mg of flurosemide was administrated. After eight hours of close monitoring, chest radiography was done again. The infiltration at this left lung had disappeared.

Conclusion: Re-expansion pulmonary syndrome is a rare complication but it can be prevented by a slow release of the effusion and allowing the lungs to re-expand slowly.

UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL SURGERY

GASTRIC MUCOSAL MORPHOLOGY AND CORRELATION WITH HISTOPATHOLOGICAL SEVERITY OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI RELATED GASTRITIS IN THE GASTRIC CORPUS USING CONVENTIONAL NARRO W-BAND IMAGING (C-NBI) ENDOSCOPY

Taweesak Tongtawee MD, Likit Matrakool MD†, Ryan A. Loyd, MD‡*
*,†,‡Endoscopic Unit, Department of Surgery, Institute of Medicine, Suranaree University of Technology, Nakhonratchasima, Thailand.

Background and Aim: To identify the gastric mucosal morphology and histopathological severity of Helicobacter pylori related gastritis in the gastric corpus using Conventional NBI (C-NBI) endoscopy.

Methods: A total of 200 consecutive patients underwent upper gastrointestinal endoscopy for symptoms of dyspepsia. The endoscopist classified the Conventional NBI (C-NBI) endoscopic findings into five morphologies. The gastric mucosal morphology of the gastric corpuses were categorized into 5 types. Type 1: regular arrangement of collecting venules, type 2: cone-shaped gastric pits, type 3: rod-shaped gastric pits with prominent sulci, type 4: ground glass-like morphology and type 5: dark brown patches with bluish margin and irregular border. Biopsies of all of the cases were evaluated by five pathologists

according to the Sydney classification, including chronic inflammation, atrophy, intestinal metaplasia, and activity as well as the presence of *Helicobacter pylori*.

Results: Type 1 and type 2 mucosal morphology were statistically significant in predicting Helicobacter pylori negative status as compared with other mucosal types (58/60, $P < 0.01$). Type 3, type 4 and type 5 gastric mucosal morphologies were statistically significant in predicting Helicobacter pylori positive status as compared with other mucosal types (132/140, $P < 0.01$). Furthermore, the sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative predictive values, likelihood ratio positive (LR+) and likelihood ratio negative (LR-) of type 3, type 4 and type 5 morphologies for predicting Helicobacter pylori positive were 94.28%,96.66%, 98.50%, 87.87%,97.53% and 5% respectively with good correlation with inflammation grading according to the Sydney classification ($p < 0.01$).

Conclusion: Our study suggests that gastric mucosal morphology in the Helicobacter pylori infected gastric mucosa can be reliably identified using Conventional Narrow band imaging (C-NBI) endoscopy in the gastric corpus with good correlation with inflammation grading.

RESECTION OF GASTRIC DUPLICATION WITH PYLORIC-PRESERVING TECHNIQUE: TWO-CASE REPORT AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Khemika Koonpanichkij MD, Mongkol Loahapensang MD
Division of Pediatric Surgery, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Intestinal duplication cyst in children, one of a rare disease, could be present along gastrointestinal tract. Only few reports mentioned pyloric duplication with atypical presentations. Complete resection of the cyst is worldwide accepted as a standard treatment. Due to sharing of the common wall, most surgeons prefer en bloc resection of main pyloric canal with duplication cyst rather than resection of the cyst only. Resection of pyloric canal might create adverse event in long term, for example, dumping syndrome, bile reflux disorder, marginal ulcer, gastritis etc. Hereby we presented the surgical technique to resect duplication cyst without interfering the pyloric canal in two newborns. Submucosal resection of the cyst and reconstruction of the pylorus were performed. The symptoms disappeared without any adverse event related to pyloric dysfunction. They have a good nutritional status at 8 and 16 months after the operation.

Conclusion: Resection of pyloric duplication with pyloric preserved technique is safe and feasible. Patients catch up with normal growth development without any adverse event related to pyloric dysfunction.

FACTORS PREDICTING OUTCOME OF BOUGIENAGE DILATATION IN COMPLEX CORROSIVE ESOPHAGEAL STRICTURES

Pakkavuth Chanswangphuvana, MD, Soravith Vijitpornkul, MD*†, Ajjana Techagumpuch, MD*‡, Dr. Krit Kitisin, MD*, Suppa-ut Pungpapong, MD*, Suthep Udomsawaengsup, MD*, Patpong Navicharern, MD*, Chadin Tharavej, MD**
*Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
†Department of Surgery, Police General Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand
‡Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Less was known of the factors predicting outcome of bougienage dilatation in complex corrosive esophageal strictures.

Objective: To determine the factors predicting outcome of bougienage dilation in complex corrosive esophageal strictures.

Materials & Methods: We reviewed the medical records of all patients who developed corrosive esophageal stricture (between 2007 and 2013).

Results: There were 34 patients diagnosed with corrosive esophageal stricture (100% suicidal intent). All patients received bougienage dilatation with Savary Gillard dilators. Because of previous corrosive related operations (total gastrectomy), history of post-dilatation esophageal perforation and complete esophageal luminal strictures, 16 patients underwent esophageal replacement procedures. Eighteen patients continued dilatation with conversion to esophageal replacement procedure in 10 patients. Perforation occurred in 3 sessions (4.2%) from 72 sessions. We found that conversion groups had more numbers of pharyngeal involvement, high level of stricture, long length of stricture (> 10 cm), more frequency of dilatation (> 6 times per year) and more sessions of stricture tightness (< 12 Fr) ($p = 0.043$, $p < 0.01$, $p < 0.01$, $p < 0.01$ and $p = 0.046$ respectively). We reported failure of dilatation in 76.5% and successful dilatation in 27.8% at a mean follow-up 19.4 months.

Conclusion: Corrosive esophageal strictures with suicidal intent are usually complex. Bougienage dilatation is only moderately effective in terms of relieving dysphagia symptom. Conversion to esophageal replacement procedures is failure of treatment in corrosive esophageal stricture. Factors predicting outcome of bougienage dilatation in complex corrosive esophageal strictures

including pharyngeal involvement, level of stricture, length of stricture, frequency of dilatation and stricture tightness.

TEN-YEAR OUTCOME OF TREATMENT IN ACHALASIA: PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF SURGICAL MYOTOMY AND PNEUMATIC DILATATION, SINGLE INSTITUTE IN THAILAND

Pakkavuth Chanswangphuvana, MD, Soravith Vijitpornkul, MD*†, Ajjana Techagumpuch, MD*‡, Dr. Krit Kitisin, MD*, Suppa-ut Pungpapong, MD*, Suthep Udomsawaengsup, MD*, Patpong Navicharern, MD*, Chadin Tharavej, MD**

*Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

†Department of Surgery, Police General Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

‡Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand

Introduction: Less was known regarding the effectiveness of surgical myotomy and pneumatic dilatation in the treatment of achalasia.

Objective: To compare the treatment outcome of surgical myotomy and pneumatic dilatation.

Methods: Medical records of 85 patients diagnosed as achalasia (2002-2012) were reviewed. Only patients underwent surgical myotomy or pneumatic dilatation were included. Patients lost to follow-up or had treatment other than surgical myotomy or pneumatic dilatation were excluded from the study. Standardized questionnaire of 4 symptoms were prospectively collected before and after treatment (August 2013). These symptoms included dysphagia, regurgitation, chest pain and weight loss. Each symptom was scored range from 0 to 3 depending on symptom severity. Patients who had symptom score more than 2 or underwent second intervention were considered as unfavorable outcome.

Results: There were 46 patients fit to the criteria. Twenty three patients underwent pneumatic dilatation and 23 patients had surgical myotomy. There was no treatment mortality. Ten-year favorable outcome was 80% for surgical myotomy and 43% for single pneumatic dilatation (p = 0.001). If repeated pneumatic dilatations were not considered as unfavorable outcome in pneumatic dilatation and symptom scores after last treatment were analyzed, ten-year favorable outcome of pneumatic dilatation was comparable to that of surgical myotomy (75% vs 80%, p = 0.51).

Conclusion: Surgical myotomy is more effective than single pneumatic dilatation in term of ten-year outcome for treatment of achalasia. However, if repeated pneumatic dilatation are included, ten-year outcome is comparable to that of surgical myotomy.

LAPAROSCOPIC GASTRECTOMY D2 DISSECTION FOR ELDERLY PATIENT WITH POST PERFORATED GASTRIC CANCER

Saipan Khunpugdee MD, FRCST,
Thiravud Khuhaprema MD, FRCST
National Cancer Institute, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Many studies have shown laparoscopic gastrectomy to have better early postoperative outcomes including less pain, a shorter hospital stay, better preserved lung function and improved cosmesis compared to conventional open gastrectomy. The role of laparoscopic gastrectomy in locally advanced gastric cancer remains controversial, however in experience hands as surgeon proficient in both management of gastric cancer and advanced minimally invasive techniques, adequate lymphadenectomy is possible and oncologic outcome can be comparable to open surgery.

Objectives: To clarify the safety and efficacy of laparoscopic gastrectomy (LG) for advanced gastric cancer (AGC) even post laparotomy for perforated gastric cancer if provided by surgeon proficient in both management of gastric cancer and advanced minimally invasive techniques.

Materials & Methods: Case report of male patient 79 year old, ASA2, with hypertension, BMI 19.14, was referring to NCI Thai after 2 weeks of laparotomy and simple suture and biopsy for perforated antral gastric cancer. After investigations and nutritional improvement, two weeks later the patient underwent total laparoscopic distal gastrectomy.

Results: Laparoscopic adhesiolysis and total laparoscopic subtotal gastrectomy with D2 node dissection, Roux En Y gastrojejunostomy were performed. No immediate perioperative complication occurred. Hospital stay was 9 days post operation. Pathological report was anterior wall gastric cancer 5.7 × 3 × 3 cm, free proximal and distal margins, moderately diff. adenocarcinoma, invading into perigastric fat, all 28 lymph nodes were negative for metastases.

Conclusions: For complicated case such as post perforated locally advanced gastric cancer and elderly patient, role of laparoscopic surgery should not be considered as contraindication but should depend on the patient's condition and the surgeon's familiar techniques.

SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY FOR SMALL BOWEL OBSTRUCTION IN GASTRO-INTESTINAL CANCER PATIENTS POST DEFINITE CANCER SURGERY: NCI EXPERIENCE

Saipan Khunpugdee MD, FRCST,
Thiravud Khuhaprema MD, FRCST
Surgical Oncology, National Cancer Institute, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Terrible problems after the completion of definite cancer therapy for intra-abdominal malignancy were recurrence symptoms such as abdominal pain, indigestion, nausea, vomiting, abdominal bloating and weight loss. The possible causes of these symptoms are partial or complete small bowel obstruction due to adhesion band and recurrent cancer disease. Usually unfit health status of patients and difficulty of surgical procedures (if re-operation) are the reasons for delayed surgical treatment and hospitalization with nasogastric tube decompression and parenteral fluid through the end of life. Aim of surgery is to take the chance of dealing with correctable lesions and give the patients the chance to go home and tolerate oral diet.

Objectives: To share our experience in dealing with recurrent gastrointestinal symptoms in patients with intra-abdominal cancer, post definite cancer therapy with surgery and adjuvant therapy. All the patients had preoperative workup and showed patterns of small bowel obstruction and underwent laparoscopic adhesiolysis and bypass.

Materials & Methods: Retrospective review of six cases was performed as follows:

1. 54-year-old male with esophageal cancer post minimal invasive esophagectomy
2. 45-year-old female with left colonic cancer post laparoscopic left colectomy
3. 56-year-old female with gastric cancer post laparoscopic gastrectomy
4. 48-year-old male with synchronous left colonic cancer and low rectal cancer post extended abdomino-perineal resection
5. 54-year-old male with gastric cancer post subtotal gastrectomy
6. 57-year-old male with metachronous left colonic cancer and rectal cancer post 2 open surgery 10 years interval with pelvic radiation at 10 years ago.

Results: No immediate complications occurred postoperatively. Only two case (no.5 and no.6) were benign adhesive small bowel obstruction. The patient number 1, 2 and 4 developed advanced recurrent cancers and survived for 2, 4 months (death with chemo intoxication-2 cases, cancer death-1). The patient number 3 need re-laparoscopic adhesiolysis and bypass for recurrent small bowel obstruction and still survived with disease to date, 1 year from first laparoscopic surgery for small bowel obstruction and 3 years from laparoscopic gastrectomy.

Conclusions: We found that all patients had satisfactory outcome and benefit from the procedures and minimal invasive surgery offers faster recovery.

SURGICAL OUTCOMES AND ONCOLOGIC EFFICIENCY OF LAPAROSCOPIC GASTRECTOMY FOR ADVANCED GASTRIC CANCER PATIENTS AT NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE (NCI) IN THAILAND

Saipan Khunpugdee MD, FRCST
Surgical Oncology, National Cancer Institute, Bangkok, Thailand

Aims: We presented the surgical outcomes and oncologic efficiency of laparoscopic gastrectomy with D2 lymphadenectomy for advanced gastric cancer patients at the National Cancer Institute as first series in Thailand.

Methods: The records of 15 patients who underwent laparoscopic gastrectomy with D2 lymphadenectomy for advanced gastric cancer between 2010 and 2013 at NCI were retrospective reviewed.

Results: The characteristics of the 15 Laparoscopic Gastrectomy patients were as follows: Sex (male/female) = 8/7; Age (year ± SD) = 56.7 ± 16; BMI (kg/m^2 ± SD) = 19.7 ± 2.6; History of recent abdominal surgery = 1; Tumor size (mm±SD) = 67 ± 73; Tumor invasion, depth T1 = 2, T2 = 0, T3 = 4, T4 = 9; Mean total number of harvested lymph nodes = 27 ± 11; Nodal metastasis status, N0 = 4, N1 = 1, N2 = 2, N3 = 8; Differentiations, Differentiated = 4, Undifferentiated = 11; Stage Grouping, IA = 1, IIB = 4, IIIA = 2, IIIB = 2, IIIC = 4, IV = 2; Type of Gastrectomy, Distal gastrectomy/Total gastrectomy = 7/8; Type of procedure, Laparoscopic assisted /Total laparoscopic = 1/14; Adjuvant chemoradiation therapy for all excepted 2 cases of stage IV by patients decision. We had no mortality in 30 days POD period. Follow up to May 2014, 8 patients survived and 6 in 8 patients were still disease free. For 7 death cases, 4 were cancer-related deaths.

Conclusion: Radical gastrectomy with regional lymph node dissection has long been the mainstay curative treatment for gastric cancer, but recently, minimal invasive therapies, such as endoscopic resection and laparoscopic

gastrectomy, have gained wide acceptance as treatment modality for early gastric cancer (EGC). Laparoscopic gastrectomy (LG) for advance gastric cancer (AGC) remains a challenging procedure because of its technical difficulties and possible complications. However, unfortunately, almost all gastric cancers diagnosed in Thai patients were advanced gastric cancer and only a few surgeons with much experience of laparoscopic surgery currently perform laparoscopic gastrectomy with D2 lymphadenectomy for treatment of gastric cancer. This study had shown the safety and technical feasibility of LG with D2 for advanced gastric cancer treatment. All the LG with D2 in this series were operated by a surgeon with experience of more than 300 cases in laparoscopic colorectal cancer surgery, and hence familiar with minimally invasive techniques enough to handle this more complicated procedure.

ESOPHAGEAL RECONSTRUCTION USING SUPERCHARGED INTERPOSITION COLON: THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL EXPERIENCE

*Surajit Awsakulsutthi MD**

*Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Total loss of esophagus and stomach are challenging problems for reconstructions. As a choice, pedicle interposition colons were used. Anastomotic leakage and late stricture were common post-operative complications. Ischemia was believed to contribute significantly to this complication. With the advent of vascular anastomosis, vascular augmentation (as called "supercharge") was adopted as a means of avoiding this problem.

Objective: Using supercharged interposition colon in adult esophageal reconstruction was beneficial in lowering the incidence of anastomotic leakage and late anastomotic stricture.

Materials & Methods: Fifteen esophageal reconstructions with interposition colon at Thammasat University hospital between 2000 and 2009 were performed.

Results: Ten severe suicide corrosive ingestion, one Boehave's injury, three esophageal cancers and one hypopharyngeal cancer were reviewed. Vascular enhancement (as called "supercharge") was done. Only one patient had micro-leakage at pharyngeal anastomosis healed by conservative treatment and no late anastomotic stricture. The procedures are time consuming when carried out by well trained surgeons.

Conclusion: Using supercharged interposition colon in adult esophageal reconstruction was beneficial in lowering the incidence of anastomotic leakage and late anastomotic stricture in spite of longer operative time and skillful vascular surgeons are needed.

HYPERTHERMIA WITH INTRAPERITONEAL CHEMOTHERAPY (HIPEC) IN THE TREATMENT OF CARCINOMATOSIS: SIRIRAJ EXPERIENCES

Asada Methasate, Jirawat Swangsri, Atthaphorn Trakarnsanga, Thawatchai Akaraviputh, Vitoon Chinswangwatanakul, Thanyadej Nimmanwudipong

Division of General Surgery, Department of Surgery, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

In Thailand, many GI tract cancers, especially those with gastric origin, present with peritoneal seeding, the condition known as carcinomatosis. Frequently, the abdominal cavity is the only area involved. However, carcinomatosis is regarded as hopeless condition and most of the time surgery is not offered to the patients. Besides gastric cancer, carcinomatosis can also be seen in appendiceal cancer, pseudomyxoma peritonii, ovarian cancer and colorectal cancer. Systemic chemotherapy shows minimal benefit and survival for carcinomatosis is only a few months.

We have started the hyperthermia with intraperitoneal chemotherapy (HIPEC) at our division in the hope to extend survival to these patients. From March 2011 to March 2014, 33 HIPEC procedures were done at General Surgery Division, Department of Surgery, Siriraj Hospital. There were 4 men and 29 women. Eleven cases (33%) were gastric cancer, 18 cases (54%) were pseudomyxoma peritonei, 3 cases (9%) were ovarian cancer and 1 case (3%) was colon cancer. In all cases, the tumor were confined in the abdominal cavity with varying degree of peritoneal seedings. HIPEC procedures were done using open technique, with perfusion volume at 3 liters and run for 60 minutes at 42°C. HIPEC procedure started with radical tumor resection then total parietal peritonectomy (cytoreductive surgery: CRS) and extensive intraoperative peritoneal lavage (EIPL) using warm saline (10 litres) were performed. After that, HIPEC was started using Mitomycin-C (MMC) with the dose of 12.5 mg/m^2 for pseudomyxoma peritonei, appendiceal cancer and colorectal cancer while Cisplatin (CDDP) with the dose of 50 mg/m^2 was used in gastric cancer and ovarian cancer. No accident regarding chemotherapeutic agent or instrument occurred. There was no operative mortality. Morbidity was found in two cases, diaphragmatic injury in one case and anastomosis leakage in one case. Both cases were managed successfully with conservative treatment. HIPEC with complete

cytoreductive surgery (CRS) was done in 15 cases (45%) while in 9 cases (27%) only HIPEC was done and in 9 cases (27%) laparoscopic HIPEC (L-HIPEC) was performed. Good results could be achieved in cases which HIPEC and CRS were successfully performed with no recurrence in pseudomyxoma peritonei patients and median survival for gastric cancer patients was extended to 17.5 months. HIPEC could offer chance for extended survival in selected patients with carcinomatosis. However, the procedure is complex and co-operation between surgeons and other personnels are crucial to develop successful HIPEC program.

ROBOTIC ASSISTED MINIMALLY INVASIVE ESOPHAGECTOMY (RAMIE): SIRIRAJ EXPERIENCES

Asada Methasate, Jirawat Swangsri, Atthaphorn Trakarnsanga, Thawatchai Akaraviputh, Vitoon Chinswangwatanakul, Thanyadej Nimmanwudipong

Division of General Surgery, Department of Surgery, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Esophageal cancer is associated with massive lymph node metastasis. Surgery is complex and meticulous systematic lymph node dissection are the key in radical esophagectomy. Minimally invasive esophagectomy (MIE) was developed utilizing thoracoscopic and laparoscopic maneuver to achieve radical resection of the esophagus and lymph node dissection. However, dissection of the esophagus is done in mediastinum and sometimes it is difficult to dissect the lymph nodes thoracoscopically. Robotic assisted minimally invasive esophagectomy (RAMIE) offered better view and maneuverability than conventional thoracoscopic approach. With flexible robotic arms, dissection of the upper mediastinum, which usually is spatially small, can be achieved without difficulty. We have done RAMIE in three patients with thoracic esophageal cancer. All patients had squamous cell carcinoma. RAMIE was done in prone position. The operation started with the patient in prone position under one lung ventilation. Docking of the robot was accomplished using three robotic arms into the right chest. Dissection of the lymph nodes was done in paratracheal group, carina group, right and left recurrent nerve group, periesophageal group and diaphragmatic group. After thoracic phase, the patient was turned to supine position and anastomosis was done in the neck. Docking time for robotic arms was completed in 30 minutes and thoracic phase could be finished in 2 hours. There was no complication. We believe that RAMIE could offer equivalent radicality in terms of dissection of the esophagus and lymph nodes compared to open esophagectomy.

UROLOGY

PREVALENCE AND CURRENT TREATMENT OF RENAL CALCULI IN ASIA

Bannakij Lojanapiwat, MD

Division of Urology, Department of Urology, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Factors affecting management of renal stones are stone factors, renal anatomic factors and clinical (patient) factors. The stone composition should be considered before treatment, which is based on patient's history, formal stone analysis or HU in unenhanced CT. Advances in endourologic surgery and ESWL lead to decrease in the indication for open stone surgery. ESWL is the treatment of choice for stone < 2 cm in any location except lower calix. Flexible URS is not recommended as the first choice especially for the stone > 1.5 cm which decreased the success rate.

Several new aspects of percutaneous nephrolithotomy (PCNL) technique such as anesthesia, position, puncture approach, miniperc, and tubeless PCNL are reported. Combined spinal-regional anesthesia is a feasible technique in PCNL operations because the efficacy and safety were not affected. Of supine position, simultaneous retrograde and antegrade endoscopic combined intrarenal surgery, and it is easier from the anesthetist point of view than the traditional prone approach.

The upper-pole approach provides a straight tract along the long axis of the kidney and ensures the ability to reach most of the collecting system while providing easier manipulation of rigid instrument. Tubeless PCNL in selected cases even history of previous surgery and/or supracostal approach is safe with the same outcome of standard PCNL.

Elderly patients are safe with PCNL compared with the young patients. Infectious complication is common following PCNL, the role of intraoperative cultures are very important in managing this complication. Postoperative

pain is the concern issue following this procedure, especially in patients with nephrostomy tube from local inflammation reaction along the nephrostomy tube. Our experiences demonstrate that the peritubal local anesthetic infiltration with 0.25% bupivacaine is effective in alleviating immediate postoperative pain after percutaneous nephrolithotomy. This effect leads to less early postoperative pain (less VAS score), less number of morphine usage and longer time of first analgesic requirement.

PERIOPERATIVE OUTCOMES IN ROBOTIC-ASSISTED LAPAROSCOPIC RADICAL PROSTATECTOMY: INITIAL EXPERIENCE FROM SINGLE-SURGEON AT KING CHULALONGKORN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Suvapong Tantasutthanon, Kamol Panumatrassamee, Apirak Santi-ngamkun

Division of Urology, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

Objective: Robotic-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy (RALP) is an evolving minimally invasive treatment for localized prostate cancer. We analyze the outcomes of RALP from our initial experience by single-surgeon.

Patients and Methods: Between May 2011 and February 2014, 56 consecutive patients with clinical localized prostate cancer underwent RALP by a single surgeon in our institution. All patient's demographic data, perioperative parameters and pathological results were analyzed.

Results: Mean age of the patients was 64.5 (45-80) years. Mean preoperative PSA was 12.3 ng/ml (2-41.7 ng/ml). Six patients had previous abdominal surgery. Mean operative time was 251 min (180-475). Mean estimated blood loss was 765 ml (150-2,500). The overall perioperative complication rate was 37.5% including26.8% of transfusion rate. Only one patient (1.8%) had major (Clavien grade 3a) complication (pelvic collection required percutaneous drainage). No mortality and conversion occurred in this study. There were 39 patients with pT2 and 17 patients with pT3 disease. Overall positive surgical margin rate was 51.8% (35.9% for pT2 and 88.2% for pT3). Only one patient (1.8%) had lymph node metastasis. Fifteen patients (26.8%) required adjuvant radiation or hormonal treatment. Mean catheterization time was 8.1 days and mean postoperative hospital stay was 8.6 days.

Conclusions: RALP is a safe procedure carrying a low risk of complications even during the initial learning curve. Complications are mostly minor and managed conservatively, confirming that RALP is a good choice for clinically localized prostate cancer.

OUTCOME OF ROBOTIC ASSISTED LAPAROSCOPIC RADICAL PROSTATECTOMY: INITIAL EXPERIENCE AT RAMATHIBODI HOSPITAL

Thimachai J, Prasit S*, Kongchareonsombat W*, Kijvikai K*, Sirisreetreerux P**

*Division of Urology, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: Robotic Assisted Laparoscopic Prostatectomy (RALRP) has been shown to improve functional outcomes when compared to open or laparoscopic prostatectomy with similar oncologic results. It has become a famous procedure for treating patients with localized prostate cancer. The program of RALRP has just been started at Ramathibodi Hospital for about a year. The feasibility of this procedure in our institution has to be established.

Objective: To evaluate the feasibility of the RALRP that was performed early at Ramathibodi Hospital.

Materials and Methods: Medical records of 30 patients with clinically localized prostate cancer who underwent RALRP by two laparoscopic-experienced urologists at Ramathibodi Hospital from May 2013 to January 2014 were retrospectively reviewed including outcomes, complications, and cost per admission for RALRP.

Results: Mean operative time was 4.2 hours (range 2.0 to 7.3) and mean estimated blood loss was 527 ml (range 100 to 2200) without blood transfusion requirement in 80% of all patients. There were no intra-operative complications and no conversions to open surgery. Twenty-four patients (80%) had pT2 disease and 6 patients had pT3 disease. Positive surgical margin rate was 53%. There were 20% minor post-operative complications, and no major post-operative complications and mortalities. Mean length of hospital stay was 8 days (range 5 to 19) and mean duration of urethral catheter indwelling was 11 days (range 5 to 22). Mean post-operative serum PSA level was 0.08 ng/ml (range 0.00 to 1.12) with mean follow-up duration of 86 days. Total cost per admission for RALRP was 126875 baht (range 50968 to 343027).

Conclusion: RALRP for prostate cancer at Ramathibodi Hospital is safe but additional studies are needed to indicate the feasibility of this procedure.

VASCULAR SURGERY

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF NATIVE FISTULA (AVF)

John Swinnen
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Unit, Westmead Clinical School, Sydney, Australia

The AVF is a very different circuit from the Fistula Graft in its anatomy, physiology, pathology, creation, management and complications. An AVF can be formed and maintained in over 90% of patients requiring hemodialysis. To achieve this goal, a thorough knowledge is required of the patient's "venous real estate", the many different configurations of AVF that can be created, and the importance of assessing the donor artery as well as the prospective fistula vein.

AVF maturation is artery driven, and a diseased artery may lead to failure of maturation. Furthermore, AVF growth can be excessive and lead to a number of problems including cardiac "high output states". This excessive AVF growth (giant fistula) is common and needs to be anticipated and treated. Clinical steal syndromes are related to inadequate inflow arteries to the AVF circuit, and again need to be anticipated and treated. The "choke" procedure on the swing vein is the mainstay of treating both Giant Fistula and Clinical Steal.

The normal function of the AVF needs to be understood to understand the cause, diagnosis and management of the very common inflow and outflow stenotic problems seen in the AVF circuit. Furthermore, different AVF circuits have different physiology, anatomy and complications.

Ultrasound is the Gold Standard in the investigation of the AVF circuit, and ultrasound scanning at all stages of AVF management, from creation, to maturation, to needling to troubleshooting is essential to achieve good results. The definition of a fistula stenosis is an absolute diameter as determined on Duplex U/S imaging or angiography. Percentage stenosis and velocities are rather meaningless in the native fistula circuit as shown by our research*.

DUPLEX ULTRASOUND IN HEMODIALYSIS ACCESS

John Swinnen
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Unit, Westmead Clinical School, Sydney, Australia

Duplex ultrasound (U/S) is the Gold Standard imaging modality in the native fistula circuit (AVF). Its accuracy is comparable to that of fistulography as shown by our study comparing the two modalities*. In addition to anatomical information, U/S provides valuable physiological information about the AVF. A stenosis in the fistula circuit is defined in terms of absolute diameters rather than velocities and percentages, as defined in our Westmead Study**.

Fistula U/S is needed at all stages of access planning, formation, needling, maintenance, troubleshooting and surveillance. All members of the Hemodialysis Access Team should be familiar with the use of U/S. For the more accurate/sophisticated scans, specialised high end equipment and high frequency probes are required, as well as specialised U/S skills.

The measurement of AVF diameters is performed using colour duplex, power duplex and greyscale. AVF flow measurements (Qa) are also very useful, but less accurate than diameter assessment.

Modern Hemodialysis Access Surgery is not possible without the use of good duplex U/S at all stages of management.

CREATING THE NATIVE FISTULA

John Swinnen
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Unit, Westmead Clinical School, Sydney, Australia

An AVF can be formed and maintained in > 90% of patients requiring dialysis. This requires careful planning, specialisation and attention to detail at all stages. A "fistula planning scan" should be obtained whenever the possibility of future hemodialysis is entertained: this will allow the patient to protect his BEST veins and arteries (as opposed to the protecting the non-dominant side).

The Access Surgeon must then create the best possible fistula (in elective circumstances) OR the quickest possible fistula (in established renal failure/Vascath already in place), based on the planning duplex ultrasound (mandatory) and physical assessment of the patient.

The patient's medical status should be optimised pre-operatively, and he should be well hydrated. The procedure should not be done as an emergency; if the patient requires urgent dialysis, a vascath should be placed and the patient's physiology should be optimised prior to fistula creation.

The Surgeon must be familiar with the many different possible native fistula circuits, and how to create and

mature them: Radio-Cephalic, Brachio-Cephalic, Brachio-Basilic, Loop Cephalic Forearm fistulas, Long Saphenous Vein Fistulas, Superficial Femoral Vein fistulas, and others. Ultrasound should be performed in theatre immediately before surgery to review the proposed fistula circuit, and to choose optimal anastomotic sites.

Intraoperatively, the use of magnification (2x - 4x) is necessary to achieve the best results. Technique, especially the avoidance of twisting, is critical. Fistulas are best created under GA or arm block; local anaesthesia is suboptimal because of "water logging" of the tissues and because of vasospasm in the vein and artery. Vasodilators are helpful, including GTN, Papaverine and Verapamil. Careful post-operative care is essential, including arm elevation, hand exercises and hydration.

MATURATION OF THE AVF

John Swinnen
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Unit, Westmead Clinical School, Sydney, Australia

Failure of AVF maturation has several causes: inadequate planning, bad surgery and inadequate maturation - all must be addressed. Inadequate Planning: The patient's best veins and arteries need to be assessed and protected as soon as ESRF is anticipated as a possibility, by early duplex mapping scan. All fistula creation must be preceded by duplex assessment as well as clinical evaluation.

Surgery needs to be done by a Surgeon specialised in hemodialysis access, using magnification and careful technique. Twisting of the vein is the commonest surgical problem. Fistula maturation is not a passive "wait & see" process. It is an active process involving regular clinical and ultrasound assessment, looking for problems and correcting them with open and endovascular techniques.

Once created, the fistula must be nurtured to maturity, using duplex ultrasound assessment and open or endovascular revision as needed. Problems preventing maturation include excessive depth, tortuosity, inaccessibility and most commonly, fistula stenosis. The commonest site of stenosis is in the swing vein.

Treatment to correct the above problems include the open procedures of superficialisation, transposition, straightening and patch plasty. Endovascular techniques include angioplasty and bare Nitinol stenting. With careful planning and surgery, and aggressive maturation techniques, the great majority of native fistulas can be brought to hemodialysis.

STEAL IN THE NATIVE FISTULA

John Swinnen
Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Unit, Westmead Clinical School, Sydney, Australia

"Steal" is a normal phenomenon in the hemodialysis access fistula. "Clinical Steal", where there is critical ischemia, is unusual in the native fistula circuit (as opposed to the fistula graft), and occurs most commonly in diabetics. The cause of steal is a failure of the fistula's inflow artery to enlarge as the fistula develops, usually due to Diabetic Runoff Atherosclerosis. Clinical presentation can be obvious when there is severe critical ischemia and tissue loss, but may be more subtle when the patient presents with rest pain. This rest pain can be confused with the many other causes of pain in the fistula arm, including diabetic neuropathy, carpal tunnel syndrome, nerve damage and Median Nerve Neuropathy.

Diagnosis is clinical - Berger's test is very useful - and can be supported with finger plethysmography and / or nerve conduction studies. Duplex ultrasound is essential in the management of steal syndrome as it determines whether the fistula can be salvaged with a "choke" or needs to be sacrificed. There is no place for the "DRIL" procedure.

A synthetic patch is placed around the swing vein, narrowing this down to 3 or 4 mm. This restricts the amount of blood going to the fistula, and increases the hand perfusion to supra-critical levels. If a patient loses their fistula from intractable steal, creating a new fistula is usually not indicated as a similar steal problem will develop in the new fistula. These patients generally have advanced arterial disease and a short life expectancy and are best managed with a vascath.

PITFALL IN MANAGEMENT IN PATIENTS WITH DIABETIC FOOT ULCER

Kittipan Rerkasem, MD, PhD
Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

The diabetic foot tends to be numb, ischemic and deformed, which is likely to lead to sepsis and necrosis of the foot. At our hospital, during 2000 - 2004, ischemia and infection due to diabetes have been the causes of 55% of amputation. In three years, the mortality rate was 56% in patients with diabetic ischemic ulcer. All deaths were due to coronary artery disease. This lecture will cover various pitfalls including diagnosis, treatment and prevention. Diabetic foot infection will be also highlighted in practical problem.

Since our previous study showed high mortality in diabetic patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD), it is very important to identify such cases. This lecture will include our recent survey to identify the prevalence of PAD in June 2014 by using ankle brachial index. PAD was diagnosed when ABI < 0.9. There were 446 diabetic patients in this study of which 58.3% were females with the mean age 64.1 years. The percentage of hypertension, chronic kidney disease, dyslipidemia was 84.2, 20.6 and 86.9. ABI < 0.9 was15.2. All of these PAD cases will be followed up in three years focusing on the risk factors associated with cardiovascular morbidity and mortality. This will give a chance to modify these risk factors intensively and consequently reduce the mortality in such patients. We will present our update in the future RCST meeting.

RADIOFREQUENCY TREATMENT OF INCOMPETENT PERFORATING VEIN

Kittipan Rerkasem, MD, PhD
Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

The purpose of this study was to report the short-term outcomes especially perioperative period associated with interruption of incompetent perforator veins (IPV) using radiofrequency ablation (RFA) as adjunctive therapies in the management of patients with chronic venous insufficiency (CVI). The study cohort included our initial experience with 5 patients with CVI stage C5 or C6 who underwent minimally invasive perforator interruption with RFA of IPV (RFA-IPV) as part of the management of their CVI. All patients were evaluated after having failed conservative treatment with compression dressings. Relevant patient characteristics and comorbidities were recorded. In this subset (n = 6 IPV) 5 patients with CVI who had adjunctive IPV treatment, underwent RFA-IPV along with ablation of the great saphenous vein for C5 or C6 disease. There were 3 midthigh IPV and 3 posterior tibial IPV. All IPVs were done by using pull technique except one posterior tibial IPV, which was performed by using focal technique. All patients were treated under local anesthesia together with tumerescent anesethesia. Procedural major complications were not found in this case series. No recanalisation was seen in this series during follow up by ultrasound except the IPV which was done by focal ablation technique. This study supports the premise that in patients with advanced venous disease, there may be a benefit directly attributable to perforator interruption with RFA-IPV. There was low perioperative complication rates in patients undergoing RFA-IPV which made this procedure more attractive in patients with multiple comorbidities. However, long term study is needed to evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of RFA IPV in Thailand.

INCIDENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF SUBCLINICAL CENTRAL VEIN OR PROXIMAL VEIN STENOSIS IN ACUTE ARTERIOVENOUS GRAFT AND FISTULA THROMBOSIS IN DIALYSIS PATIENTS

Kwanchai Lawanwong, MD, Wiwat Tirapanich, MD, Sopon Jirasiritham, MD, Piyanut Pootrakool, MD, Suthas Horsirimanont, MD, Panuwat Lertsithichai, MD
Vascular and Transplantation Unit, Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Background: The incidence and risk factor of proximal vein or central vein stenosis in Thailand has not been documented.

Objective: To evaluate incidence and risk factor of subclinical central vein or proximal vein stenosis in acute arteriovenous graft and fistula thrombosis in dialysis patients at Ramathibodi Hospital and to determine rethrombosis rate and risk factor of early rethrombosis after vascular access revision.

Methodology: Between April 2013 and December 2013, 62 out-patients who need revision of thrombosed hemodialysis access in Vascular and Transplantation Unit, Ramathibodi Hospital, were included in this study. Intraoperative venogram were performed in all patients who underwent AV graft or fistula revision to detect proximal vein and central vein stenosis by using criteria of 50% or more luminal narrowing. In this group additional treatment is balloon angioplasty. Demographics data, timing of access and dialysis, previous central catheter and rethrombosis rate after revision were analyzed.

Results: From 62 Pts., 1 Pts. was excluded due to contrast allergy. Eighteen patients have central or proximal vein stenosis (30%). Eleven (61%) patients have proximal vein stenosis and 7 (39%) patients have central vein stenosis. Those patients were treated by balloon angioplasty; technical success rate is 83% (15/18). Follow up period for a median time of 2.3 months (range; 0.38 month to 11 months), rethrombosis rate is 37.7% (23/61). Independent risk factors for rethrombosis consist of presence of central vein and proximal vein stenosis (hazard ratio 3.74), diabetic mellitus (DM) (hazard ratio 3.07).

Conclusion: The incidence of central vein or proximal vein stenosis in acute arterovenous graft and fistula is not low. In this study, there is no significant risk factor for development of central vein or proximal vein stenosis. After revision, early rethrombosis is associated with DM and central vein or proximal vein stenosis.

PATTERN OF INITIAL PERMANENT VASCULAR ACCESS IN NEW HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS AT SONGKLANAGARIND HOSPITAL

Sutatip Saemu, MD
Department of Surgery, Prince Songkla University, Songkla, Thailand

Background: Arteriovenous fistula (AVF) provides the best access for longevity and the lowest association with morbidity and mortality. The 2006 National Kidney Foundation's Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) clinical practice guidelines for vascular access strongly recommended AVF use, aiming that the AVF prevalence will be more than 65 percent and the use of permanent cuff catheters less than 10 percents, which impacts the surgeons' practice pattern on the type of vascular access created. The present practice should initiate AVF as much as possible and lower the use of central venous catheters.

Objective: To compare the types of vascular access initiated on hemodialysis patients at Songklanagarind Hospital, the practice pattern characteristics that may influence vascular access use and survival.

Materials and Methods: This retrospective descriptive study enrolled 470 new hemodialysis patients receiving an AVF and AVG in Vascular unit of PSU Hospital. Vascular access data were collected from each patient at study entry from 2008 to 2011. Practice pattern data were also analyzed.

Results: Total 846 operations for vascular access were performed from 2008 to 2011, 470 patients received the initial vascular access. AVF and AVG were planned for 336 (71.5%) and 134 (28.5%) patients, and at the operation time, AVF and AVG were performed on 337 (71.7%) and 133 (28.3%) patients, respectively. Two hundred and five (43.6%) patients had the catheter at first visit and increased to 231 (49.1%) on the operation time. The primary failure rates were 27.4 and 7.3 ($P < 0.01$), complication rates were 40.6 and 62.2 ($P < 0.01$) in AVF and AVG, respectively.

Conclusion: The AVF is the first initiated vascular access for suitable patient in PSU hospital which is compatible with the KDOQI guideline 2006, but still resulted in a high rate of catheter used. However, the primary failure rate of AVF is higher than AVG while the complication rate is lower significantly.

HYBRID PROCEDURE AND COMPLEX ARTERIAL BYPASS FOR CRITICAL LIMB ISCHEMIA: EXPERIENCE AT NAKORNPATHOM HOSPITAL

Prasopchai Kongsakphaisal, MD
Division of Surgery, Nakornpathom Hospital, Nakornpathom, Thailand

Background: Endovascular treatment and surgical bypass usually are used to treat critical limb ischemia (CLI). However, multilevel arterial occlusive disease may be difficult to treat with endovascular treatment or surgical bypass alone. Hybrid procedure and complex arterial bypass are necessary for limb salvageability in this condition.

Objective: To report patients with CLI treated with hybrid procedure and complex arterial bypass at Nakornpathom hospital.

Materials and Methods: Seven patients treated by four hybrid procedures and three complex arterial bypass operations for CLI with multilevel arterial occlusion were enrolled in a retrospective study. Early and short-term outcomes were analyzed.

Results: During September 2012 and April 2013, 7 patients were treated with hybrid procedure and complex arterial bypass (6 males and 1 female); the mean age was 68.2 years (range, 46-83 years). All patients presented with CLI (Fontaine stage 4). Mean preoperative ankle-brachial index was 0.40 (range, 0.31-0.62). Hybrid procedures included (1) angioplasty of right iliac artery with femoropopliteal arterial bypass; (2) left femoral endarterectomy with angioplasty of superficial femoral and tibial arteries; (3) aorto-uni-iliac stent graft with femorofemoral crossover and femoro-anterior tibial arterial bypass. Complex arterial bypass included (1) aorto-bipopliteal arterial bypass; (2) left axillo-profunda femoris-popliteal arterial bypass; (3) left common femoral to right profunda femoris-popliteal arterial bypass; (4) left common femoral to right profunda femoris-popliteal arterial bypass. Mean operative time was 5.55 hours (range, 4.25 - 7.55 hours). Neither perioperative mortality nor serious perioperative complication was identified. There was no major amputation in all seven patients. The short-term graft patency rate was 100% (mean follow up 4 months, range 1-8 months).

Conclusion: Hybrid procedure and complex arterial bypass might be an appropriate and effective treatment for CLI with multilevel arterial occlusive disease.

FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE OF CONVENTIONAL VENOUS STRIPPING FOR VARICOSE VEINS AT LAMPANG HOSPITAL, THAILAND: IT'S STILL WORKING

Boonsap Sakboon, Nuttapol Arayawudhikol, Jareon Cheewinmathasiri, Angsu Chartrungson
Lampang Hospital, Thailand

Objective: To study the result of conventional venous stripping for varicose veins at Lampang Hospital; a new

cardiac center in the local hospital in the north of Thailand that had to deal with varicose disease without endovascular laser.

Methods: Data of venous stripping procedure by CVT unit at Lampang Hospital were collected from July 2009 to May 2014. All of 60 patients came with symptom of leg pain and result of retrograde (reversed) venous flow of GSV. Everyone was discharged in the morning after the day of surgery and was followed up at two weeks and one month.

Results: All 60 patients could be followed up in accordance with the protocol. The treatment was successful in all patients, no wound complication nor recurrence. The symptoms of all patients were improved completely.

Conclusion: Conventional venous stripping for varicose veins is still practical. Our results were promising and satisfactory for both surgeons and patients even with limited time and facility in an advance choice.