

Comparative Study Between Gluteal Artery Perforator Flaps and Local Fasciocutaneous Flaps in Reconstruction of Gluteal Pressure Ulcers

Thesis

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ABSTRACT

Background

Pressure ulcers are a common problem that are associated with great morbidity and cost . They are localized mainly in the gluteal region , and their main surgical treatment is debridement with excision of the underlying bursa , followed by tissue coverage . Gluteal fasciocutaneous flaps and gluteal perforator flaps are commonly preferred , because they preserve the gluteal muscle , allowing for revision in cases of recurrence.

Objective

The aim of this study was to evaluate the differences between gluteal artery perforator flaps and gluteal fasciocutaneous flaps in reconstruction of gluteal pressure ulcers regarding flaps aesthetic outcome, operative time, postoperative hospital stay and wound complications .

Patients and Methods

This prospective comparative study was conducted on 30 patients with grade III or IV gluteal pressure ulcers . Patients were randomly classified into two equal groups : each group involved fifteen patients . Group (A) was treated with gluteal artery perforator flaps , and group (B) was treated with gluteal fasciocutaneous flaps .

Results

There was significant short operative time and long hospital stay in fasciocutaneous flaps when being compared to perforator flaps . Also , there was no significant differences between both techniques when evaluated by the likert scale . In addition , a comparable insignificant postoperative outcome was noticed for both techniques , with a higher rate of complications among fasciocutaneous group , and an overall complication rate of 30 % . Most patients were satisfied in both groups.

Conclusion

Both techniques are safe , reliable , effective and can be considered as a first line options in reconstructing pressure ulcers of the gluteal region.

Keywords

Gluteal artery perforator flaps ; fasciocutaneous flaps ; gluteal pressure ulcers reconstruction .