Reduction of groin lymphatic complications by application of fibrin

glue: preliminary results of a randomized study.

Authors: Giovannacci L, Renggli JC, Eugster T, Stierli P, Hess P, Gurke L

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Abstract:

Lymphoceles and lymph fistulas are common complications after exposure of the common femoral

artery in the Scarpa triangle because of operative transsection of overlying lymphatics. The purpose

of this prospective randomized study was to determine the incidence of groin lymphatic

complications and to assess the impact of routine application of fibrin glue on lymphatic structures

and subcutaneous tissue prior to closure. All patients undergoing exposure of the common femoral

artery in the Scarpa triangle were included in this study. They were divided into two groups

according to closure technique. In group A, closure was performed without fibrin glue. In Group B,

fibrin glue was applied to lymphatic structures prior to closure. The efficacy of fibrin glue application

was estimated on the basis of two criteria: incidence of local complications and amount of lymphatic

fluid in the Redon drain. The preliminary findings suggest that application of fibrin glue leads to a

significant reduction in the incidence of lymphatic complications after femoral artery exposure in the

Scarpa triangle.