Single vs Double Bundle ACL Recon?

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Historical

- Originally the 2 incision technique was most popular
- Endoscopic single bundle technique became the standard
- Double bundle technique has recently evolved as an option

Normal ACL Anatomy

- There are 2 bundles of the ACL.
- Anteromedial Bundle
  - Tight in flexion
- Posterolateral Bundle
  - Tight in extension

Starman et al, 2007
Normal ACL Anatomy

Anatomic ACL Reconstruction

- Goal is to as nearly as possible recreate the normal ACL with anatomic reconstruction
- Surgeons disagree on the best way to do this

Goals

- Provide the patient a stable, relatively painless knee, that does not swell
- Eliminate the translational (Lachman) and rotational (Pivot Shift) instability of the knee
Current Controversies

- How to drill the femoral tunnel
- Graft type
- Rebirth of 2 incision
- Single vs Double Bundle Reconstruction

Current Literature

- Karikas et al, AJSM, 2016
  - Prospective Randomized study w HS autograft w 5y f/u
  - DB not better at improving pivot shift test
- Sasaki et al, AJSM, 2016
  - Prospective RCT DB HS vs, SB PT
  - No sig diff at 24 mo
  - Comparison of SB versus DB min of 3-year follow-up:
    a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.
  - No diff at long term f/u

Historical

- Data originally was all over the map
- Could get a study to support any position
- There may have been increasing data supporting objective increased stability in DB knees, but no clinical differences
Single Bundle ACL Reconstruction

- Goal is to put the graft in between the two bundles on both sides of the joint
  - Femoral side
  - Tibial side

Single Bundle

**Advantages**
- Straightforward
- Known
- Reproducible
- One larger graft
- Less instruments
- Predictable

**Disadvantages**
- Less total collagen
- Can be difficult to get graft perfectly isometric
- No individual isometry of separate bundles

Single Bundle Uses

- Most ACL R
- Graft choices
- Effective
- Save secondary stabilizers
- Previous contralateral successful SB surgery
Double Bundle ACL Reconstruction
- Goal is to recreate the individual bundles with 2 separate grafts
- Two tunnels on femur
- Two tunnels on tibia
- Both isometric

Double Bundle
- Abundant collagen
- Isometrically recreates both bundles
- Usefulness in Revision cases
- Technically demanding
- Individually smaller grafts
- Abundant instruments
- Abundant fixation
- Longer surgery

Double Bundle Uses
- Revision surgery
- Loss of secondary stabilizers
- Previous Double Bundle Surgery
- Marked instability
Contralateral DB Recon

- Go with previous success

Contralateral DB

Loss of Secondary Stabilizers

- Posterior Horn Medial Meniscus
- Both menisci
- Marked instability
Revision Surgery

- More collagen
- Already failed once (twice)
- Often have secondary stabilizer deficiency
  - PH MM
- Be prepared
Conclusions

- Data for DB vs SB surgery was conflicting
- Is a role for DB surgery?
  - Evidence may be dwindling
- Another tool for difficult/revision cases

Pearls

- Abundant data regarding the anatomy of the ACL
- Data supports technical error and tunnel malposition as a very common etiology of failure of ACL recon
- Put the tunnels where you want them
- This requires visualization
- Bone graft in revision if any?
Tibial Tunnel

- Create lateral portal as proximal as possible
- AHLM is most predictable landmark

2 incision

- Inability to hyperflex
- Long patellar tendon
- Peds
- Revisions

Thank You