





VADAR group, Portsmouth



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Buttonhole PTFE 20 Months on...©

VASBI, Leeds, Sept 22nd and 23rd 2016

Background

Button Hole technique for AV fistulae is GOOD

- Prolonged life span
- Reduce aneurysms
- Less haematoma
- Less pain
- Less bleeding
- Promotes self-cannulation

BUT – some report more infections

Background

Button Hole technique in AV Grafts is <u>BAD</u> (NB This is not a recommended technique)

- Increased risk of infection? foreign material
- More severe consequences of infection
- Can they tolerate repeated blunt needling?
 - Will they tear/shred?

Button Hole in AV Grafts: is it *really* that bad?

- VASBI 2015 I reported our experience of button holing grafts:
 - 5 patients with established button holes
 - 1 forearm PTFE
 - 2 Leg Loops
 - 2 UA PTFE
- Total weeks experience was: 88

Progress to date

- Number of patients
- Number of complications
 - Infection
 - Clotted
 - Stenosis
 - Any other
- Number of procedures
 - Any procedure

Progress to date

Patient	Graft	Drop out Date	Graft Age (weeks)	Button hole legnth (weeks)	No. BH interventions	Weeks to first Intervention
1	FA		353.57	41.57	0	
2	Leg		304.29	39.71	0	
3	Leg	20/11/2015	207.71	79.43	1	18
4	Leg		197.71	6.00	0	
5	UA		143.86	50.71	2	8
6	Leg		107.86	90.00	1	80
7	Leg		61.86	14.57	0	
8	Leg	14/04/2016	61.71	48.86	0	
9	UA		51.86	45.86	0	
10	Leg		37.86	10.00	0	
11	Leg		29.86	26.71	0	
12	Leg	03/07/2016	6.86	4.71	0	
13	UA	18/06/2016	Unknown	20.86	1	15
14	L UA		8.71	5.29	0	

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Total no. Patients: 14

Total no. of weeks: 484

Total no. of interventions:

Weeks per intervention: 97

Not one single BH infective complication in 484 weeks

Drop out reasons

- RIP Chest infection
- RIP Ischaemic heart disease
- Graft removed due to abscess adjacent to incision site causing infection
- 1 patient choice preferred rope ladder

In patients purely Button Holed:

- 82 weeks of BH life
- No infections to date
- No interventions



How does this compare to Rope Laddering Grafts?

- Currently 36 patients rope laddering PTFE grafts
 - 5488 weeks
 - 87 interventions
 - 2 infections (grafts excised)
 - Weeks per intervention 63

Discussion

Button Hole in AV Grafts: is it *really* that bad?

- Limitations
 - Single centre experience
 - Still (relatively) small numbers?
 - Possible selection bias (we try not to)?
- Is the data convincing yet or have we been lucky?
- Do we need more data?
- If so, what data? Trials or more units trying it?

Conclusions

Our experience suggests:

- 1. Using Button Hole technique in AV grafts is safe
- Button hole method appears to prolong AV graft patency

18months on! Button Hole or......



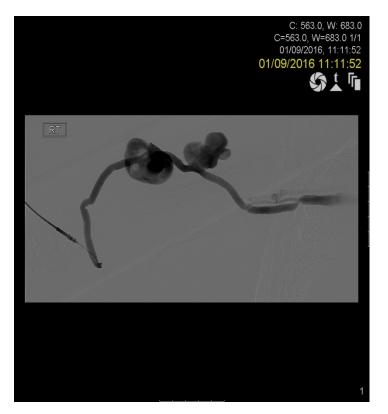


September 2015

September 2016

.....bad area puncture?





Thank you for you attention!