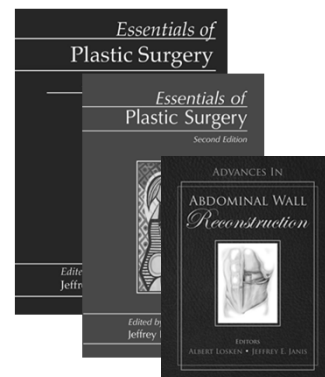


## The Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches

**Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS**  
 Professor of Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery,  
 Neurology and Surgery  
 Executive Vice-Chairman,  
 Department of Plastic Surgery  
 Chief of Plastic Surgery, University Hospitals  
 The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

## Disclosures

- Royalties – Quality Medical Publishing/CRC Press
- Consultant – LifeCell
- Honorarium – Pacira



## Migraine Headaches

- 35 million people in the U.S. alone
- Affect 18% of women
- Affect 6% of men
- Cumulative lifetime incidence:
  - 43% women
  - 18% men
- 1 in 4 households have at least one person who suffers from migraine headaches



Lipton RB, Stewart WF, Diamond S, Diamond ML, Reed M. Prevalence and burden of migraine in the United States: Data from the American migraine study II. *Headache*. 2001; 41: 646-657.  
 Stewart WF, Wood C, Reed ML, Roy J, RB Lipton; AMPP Advisory Group. Cumulative lifetime migraine incidence in women and men. *Cephalalgia* 2008;28:1170-8.

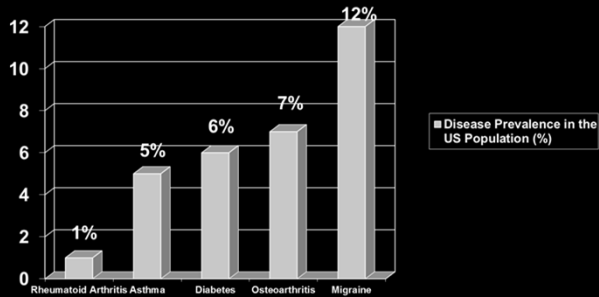
## Impact of Migraines

- Single most disabling neurologic disorder
- 5th leading cause of visits to the emergency room
  - 4 million emergency room visits annually
- 6 million prescriptions for anti-migraine drugs



Leonardi M, Raggi A. Burden of migraine: International perspectives. *NeuroSci* 2013;34:S117-8.  
 Smitherman TA, Burch R, Sheikh H, Loder E. The prevalence, impact, and treatment of migraine and severe headaches in the United States: A review of statistics from national surveillance studies. *Headache* 2013;53:427-36.

## Migraine Headaches

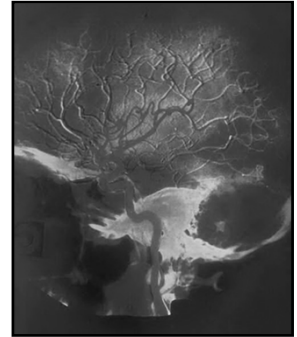


**Migraine is more common than asthma and diabetes combined**

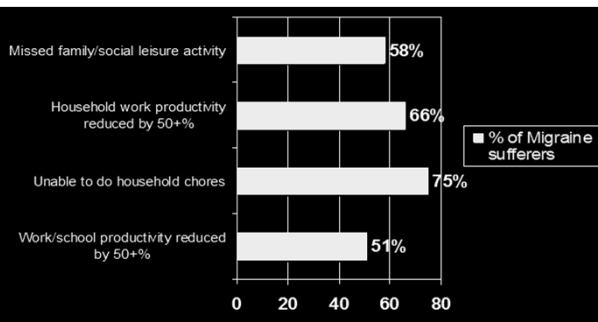
Data from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. U.S. Census Bureau, and the Arthritis Foundation

## Migraine Headaches

- 1/3 of the patients are not helped by standard therapies
- Even the most efficacious medications only reduce their severity and frequency, rather than eliminate them



## Migraines Affect Patients' Abilities to Perform ADL's



Lipton RB, Stewart WF, Diamond S, Diamond ML, Reed M. Prevalence and burden of migraine in the United States: Data from the American migraine study II. *Headache*. 2001; 41: 646-657.

## Economic Consequences

- 112 million collective workdays lost
- \$14-\$17 billion in productivity lost



Author: TaxRebate.org.uk

Hu XH, Markson LE, Lipton RB, Stewart WF, Berger ML. Burden of migraine in the United States. *Arch Internal Med*. 1999; 159: 813-818.  
Goldberg LD. The cost of migraine and its treatment. *Am J Manag Care* 2005;11:S62-7.

## Traditional Treatments

- Abortive
  - Goal: To prevent a migraine attack or to stop it once it starts
- Preventative
  - Goal: To lessen the frequency and severity of the migraine attacks.

## Traditional Treatments

- Abortive Examples
  - Sumatriptan (Imitrex)
  - Zolmitriptan (Zomig)
  - Eletriptan (Relpax)
  - Naratriptan (Amerge, Naramig)
  - Rizatriptan (Maxalt)
  - Frovatriptan (Frova)
  - Almotriptan (Axert)



## Traditional Treatments

- Preventative Examples
  - Beta-blockers (propranolol [Inderal])
  - Calcium channel blockers (verapamil [Covera])
  - Antidepressants - Amitriptyline (Elavil), nortriptyline (Pamelor)
  - Antiseizure medications – Gabapentin (Neurontin), valproic acid (Depakote), topiramate (Topamax)
  - Some antihistamines and anti-allergy drugs, including diphenhydramine (Benadryl) and cyproheptadine (Periactin)



## Traditional Treatment Disadvantages

- Must be taken on a regular basis
- Can be expensive, even with co-pays
- Time to take effect



## Traditional Treatment Disadvantages

- Can have side effects
  - Drowsiness
  - Weight gain
  - Hair loss
  - Difficulty concentrating/memory issues
- Contraindications:
  - Some contraindicated with pregnancy, history of coronary artery disease, stroke, etc.

## Alternative Treatments

- Acupuncture
- Menthol patches
- Electrical Stimulation
- Magnesium
- Massage therapy
- Chiropractor
- Biofeedback
- Botulinum toxin
- Nerve Blocks
- Surgery



## History of Botox and Surgery for Migraines

- 1<sup>st</sup> 2 patients in 2000
  - Dr. Bahman Guyuron – Case Western Reserve University
  - Unexpected outcome after cosmetic browlifts – improvement of migraine headaches



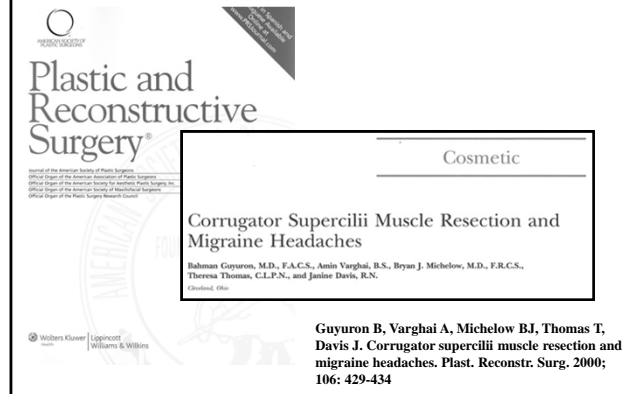
## Evolution of Thought

- “*Carpal tunnel syndrome of the head*”
  - Nerve compression, irritation, entrapment by surrounding tissues
  - Thought to be supraorbital and supratrochlear nerve entrapment by the corrugator supercilli muscle

## Etiology of Migraine Headaches

- **Traditional**
  - **Centrally-mediated neurovascular phenomenon**
- **New Concept**
  - **Peripherally-mediated “trigger points”**
    - **Branches of the trigeminal nerve and their muscular investments**

## First Publication



## First Publication

Corrugator Supercilii Muscle Resection and Migraine Headaches

Bahman Guyuron, M.D., F.A.C.S., Amin Varghai, B.S., Bryan J. Michelow, M.D., F.R.C.S., Theresa Thomas, C.L.P.N., and Janine Davis, R.N.  
Cleveland, Ohio

- **Retrospective Questionnaire**
  - **Sent to 314 patients who had undergone resection of corrugator for cosmetic reasons**
  - **Found 79.5% of those patients who had pre-op migraines had elimination or improvement**

## Evolution of Technique

- **Can't perform corrugator resection on everyone with a migraine headache**
- **Introduction of botulinum toxin as a test**



## Translational Anatomical Investigation

- Migraine patients tend to have pain in typical locations:
  - Periorbital area
    - Supraorbital and supratrochlear nerves (SON/STN)
  - Temples
    - Zygomaticotemporal branch of the trigeminal nerve (ZTN)
  - Back of neck
    - Greater, lesser, and third occipital nerves (GON, LON, TON)

## Major Peripheral Trigger Points

- Supraorbital
- Supratrochlear
- Zygomaticotemporal – Muscle, Fascia
- Greater Occipital Nerve – Muscle, Fascia, Vessel
- Nasoseptal (SPG) - Cartilage



Muscle,  
Fascia, Bone,  
Vessel

## Minor Peripheral Trigger Points

- Auriculotemporal
- Lesser Occipital Nerve
- Third Occipital Nerve

## Putting It All Together

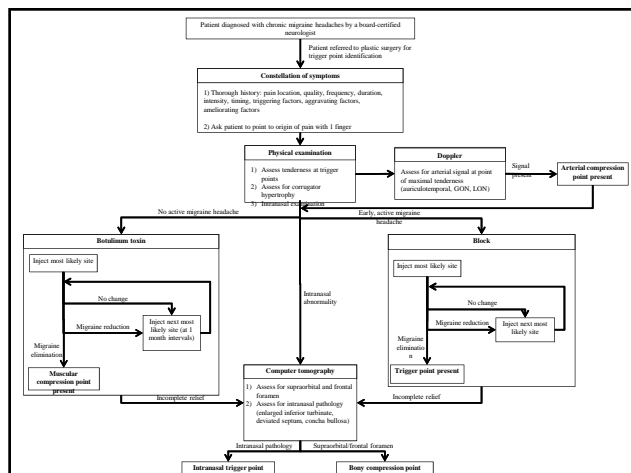
- Patient Selection
  - Officially diagnosed with migraine headaches by a neurologist
  - Failure or intolerance of traditional medications
  - Disability

## Choosing Injection Sites

- Guided primarily by where the headaches usually begin:
  - Periorbital region
  - Temple
  - Back of neck
    - GON/LON/TON
  - Retroorbital

## Choosing Injection Sites

- Augmented by use of:
  - Nerve blocks
  - CT scan
  - Doppler



## Surgery

- Endoscopic or transpalpebral glabellar muscle resection
- Zygomaticotemporal nerve avulsion
- Greater occipital nerve release with fat flap transposition
- Septoplasty with ITR/outfracture

## Evidence and Outcomes

### Further Publications



- PRS Sept 2004
- Austrian experience

#### Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches by Corrugator Muscle Resection

Franz Diebenberger, M.D., and Klaus Becker, M.D.  
Vienna, Austria

Diebenberger F, Becker K. Surgical treatment of migraine headaches by corrugator muscle resection. *Plast. Reconstr. Surg.* 2004; 114: 652-657

#### Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches by Corrugator Muscle Resection

Franz Diebenberger, M.D., and Klaus Becker, M.D.  
Vienna, Austria

- Prospective study on 60 patients who underwent migraine surgery
  - 28.3% complete elimination
  - 40% significant improvement
  - 31.7% minimal to no change

### The Early Landmark Publication



- PRS Jan 2005
- Prospective study on migraine surgery

#### Comprehensive Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches

Bahman Guyuron, M.D., Jennifer S. Kriegler, M.D., Janine Davis, R.N., and Saïd B. Amidi, Ph.D., M.B.A., J.D.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Guyuron B, Kriegler JS, Davis J, Amidi SB. Comprehensive surgical treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast. Reconstr. Surg.* 2005; 115: 1-9



## Comprehensive Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches

Rahman Guyuron, M.D., Jennifer S. Krieger, M.D., Janine Davis, R.N., and  
Saeed B. Amin, Ph.D., M.B.A., J.D.  
Cleveland, Ohio

- 89 patients underwent surgery
- 25 patients were controls (no surgery)
- 92% who underwent surgery had benefit
  - 35% complete elimination
  - 57% significant improvement
- Only 15.8% of controls had benefit
  - 0% elimination

Guyuron B, Krieger JS, Davis J, Amin SB. Comprehensive surgical treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2005; 115: 1-9

## Comprehensive Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches

Rahman Guyuron, M.D., Jennifer S. Krieger, M.D., Janine Davis, R.N., and  
Saeed B. Amin, Ph.D., M.B.A., J.D.  
Cleveland, Ohio

- Mean follow-up 396 days
- Mean annualized cost for migraine care:
  - Treatment group: \$925
  - Control group: \$5,530
  - Baseline: \$7,612
- Mean # of days lost/month from work:
  - Treatment group: 1.2
  - Control group: 4.4
  - Baseline: 4.41

Guyuron B, Krieger JS, Davis J, Amin SB. Comprehensive surgical treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2005; 115: 1-9

## Proven Socioeconomic Benefit

RECONSTRUCTIVE  
Outcomes Article

### A Socioeconomic Analysis of Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches

Guerrero, M.D.,  
Ryan M. Garcia, M.D.,  
Janine Davis, R.N.,  
Rahman Guyuron, M.D.,  
Saeed B. Amin, Ph.D., M.B.A., J.D.  
Cleveland, Ohio

**Background:** This study is meant to compare the direct and indirect cost of migraine headache care before and after migraine surgery and to evaluate any comparative changes in patient participation in daily activities.  
**Methods:** Eighty-nine patients enrolled in a migraine surgery study of total cost of care for the Migraine-Specific Quality of Life Questionnaire, the Migraine Disability Assessment questionnaire, and a financial cost report prospectively and 1 year postoperatively.  
**Results:** Mean follow-up was 61.9 months (range, 56.5 to 72.5 months). Migraine medication expenses were reduced by a median of \$197.25 annually. Median cost reduction for alternative treatment expenses was \$455 annually. Patients had a median of three fewer annual primary care visits for migraine headache treatment, resulting in a median cost reduction of \$105 annually. Patients missed a median of 8.5 fewer days of work or childcare annually.

- Median total cost reduction of **\$3,949/year**
  - ↓ med costs
  - ↓ primary care visits
  - ↓ # of work days missed with regained productivity time

Faber, C., et al., A socioeconomic analysis of surgical treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2012; 129(4): p. 871-7

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- Average surgical cost: **\$8,378**
- Expense of medical management exceeded up-front cost of surgery shortly after 2 years post-operatively

Faber, C., et al., A socioeconomic analysis of surgical treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast Reconstr Surg*. 2012; 129(4): p. 871-7

## Corroborative Evidence



- PRS July 2008
- Poggi et al demonstrated reproducibility
- Retrospective review of 18 surgical patients

Poggi JT, Grizzell BE, Helmer SD. Confirmation of surgical decompression to relieve migraine headaches. *Plast. Reconstr. Surg.* 2008; 122: 115-122

## Corroborative Evidence



- 17% elimination
- 50% significant improvement
- 33% minimal to no change
- Mean follow up: 16 months

## Corroborative Evidence



### DISCUSSION

- The nasoseptal trigger point was not addressed in this cohort, which may have led to artificially low success rate
- Still an invaluable addition to the literature

Janis JE. Discussion: Confirmation of Surgical Decompression to Relieve Migraine Headaches, by Poggi, J.T., et al. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 122(1):123-124, 2008.

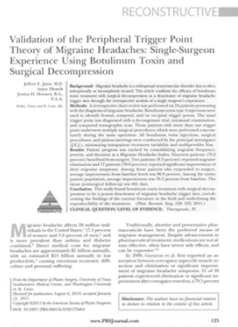
## Corroborative Evidence



- Single surgeon study
- 2005-2009
- 96 patients
- 24 operations
- 63 trigger sites decompressed

Janis JE, Dhanik A, Howard JH. Validation of the Peripheral Trigger Point Theory of Migraine Headaches: Single-Surgeon Experience Using Botulinum Toxin and Surgical Decompression. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 128(1):123-131, 2011.

## Corroborative Evidence



- **100% response rate to Botox**
  - Average of 87.5% improvement in MHI over baseline
- **80% response rate to surgery**
  - Average of 96.6% improvement in MHI over baseline

Janis J.E., Dhanik A., Howard J.H. Validation of the Peripheral Trigger Point Theory of Migraine Headaches: Single-Surgeon Experience Using Botulinum Toxin and Surgical Decompression. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 128(1):123-133, 2011.

## The Definitive Publication



- **PRS August 2009**
- **IRB-approved prospective sham surgery study**
- **75 patients**
  - 26 sham surgery/49 actual

Guyuron B, Reed D, Krieger JS, Davis J, Pashmini N, Amini S. A placebo-controlled surgical trial for the treatment of migraine headaches. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 2009; 124:461-468.

Janis, J.E. Discussion: A Placebo Controlled Surgical Trial for the Treatment of Migraine Headaches. by Guyuron, B. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 124(2):469-470, 2009.

## The Definitive Publication



- **57.1% complete elimination in actual surgery vs. 3.8% in sham surgery (p<0.001)**
- **83.7% significant improvement in actual surgery vs. 57.7% in sham surgery (p<0.05)**

## Longevity Addressed



- **PRS Feb 2011**
- **5 year follow-up**
- **61/69 (88%) - positive response to the surgery after 5 years**
  - 20 (29%) - complete elimination
  - 41 (59%) - significant decrease
  - 8 (11%) - no significant change
- **All measured variables at 60 months improved significantly (p<0.0001)**

Guyuron, Bahman; Krieger, Jennifer S.; Davis, Janine; Amini, Saied B. Five-Year Outcome of Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches. *Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery.* 127(2):603-608, 2011.

Janis, J.E. Discussion: Five-Year Outcome of Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches. by Guyuron, B. *Plast Reconstr Surg.* 127(2):609-610, 2011.

## Factors for Success and Failure

RECONSTRUCTIVE

### • Success:

- Older age of migraine onset
- No lightheadedness or sensitivity to bright light/loud noises
- Surgery on SON/STN/ZT
- Deactivating all four operative sites at same time

#### Factors Contributing to Migraine Headache Surgery Failure and Success

**Objective:** The purpose of this study was to identify factors that contribute to success or failure of migraine surgery. **Methods:** A retrospective analysis was conducted of patients who underwent migraine surgery between 2005 and 2010. Data were collected on patient demographics, surgical technique, and postoperative outcomes. **Results:** A total of 100 patients were included in the study. 50 patients achieved long-term success (50%), while 50 patients experienced failure. Factors associated with success included older age of onset, no lightheadedness or sensitivity to bright light/loud noises, and surgery on SON/STN/ZT. Factors associated with failure included younger age of onset, lightheadedness or sensitivity to bright light/loud noises, and surgery on fewer than four sites. **Conclusion:** The study identified factors that contribute to success and failure of migraine surgery. These findings can be used to guide surgical planning and patient counseling.

Larson, Kelsey; Lee, Michelle; Davis, Janine; Guyuron, Bahman  
Factors Contributing to Migraine Headache Surgery Failure and Success  
Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, 128(5):1069-1075, November 2011.

## Factors for Success and Failure

RECONSTRUCTIVE

### • Failure:

- Increased intraoperative bleeding
- Surgery on fewer trigger sites (1-2 vs. 3-4)

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## Anatomical Conclusions

- Complete CSM resection (and portion of procerus and depressor)
- Branch patterns and asymmetries can lead to failures (SON/STN/ZT/GON)
- Release of foramen or notch, as indicated
- Complete release of GON
- Compression can take different forms (muscle, fascia, bone, vascular, etc.)

## Current Body of Evidence

- 3 case series
- 8 retrospective cohort studies
- 3 prospective cohort studies
- 2 randomized controlled trials



Janis, J.E., Barker, J.C., Javadi, C., Ducic, I., Hagan, R., Guyuron, B. A Review of Current Evidence in the Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches. Accepted for publication, Plast Recon Surg

## Summary of 17 Clinical Studies

- **Average success rate: 90%**
  - **Either elimination or >50% improvement**
- **Reproduced by multiple surgeons**
- **Reproduced at multiple institutions**

Janis, J.E., Barker, J.C., Javadi, C., Ducic, I., Hagan, R., Guyuron, B. A Review of Current Evidence in the Surgical Treatment of Migraine Headaches. Accepted for publication, Plast Recon Surg

## Summary of 17 Clinical Studies

- **F/U > 1 year in all but 1 retrospective study**
- **Adverse events reported in 10/17 studies**

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## Systematic Review



- **Examined prevalence, efficacy and complication rates**
  - Peripheral nerve decompression – 86%
  - Radiofrequency therapy – 55%
  - Peripheral nerve stimulation – 68%
- **Decompression with highest success and lowest complication rate**

Ducic, I., J.M. Felder, 3rd, and S.A. Fantus, A Systematic Review of Peripheral Nerve Interventional Treatments for Chronic Headaches. Ann Plast Surg. 2013.

## Conclusions

- Botox, blocks, and constellation of symptoms can be used to diagnose peripheral trigger points
- Surgical decompression is effective in the treatment of migraine headaches

## Developments in Plastic Surgery

**Rajiv Chandawarkar, MD**  
Director of Plastic Surgery, University Hospital East  
Associate Professor of Plastic Surgery  
Adjunct Associate Professor of Orthopedics  
Department of Plastic Surgery  
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

## Mission

*"We restore and make whole those parts which nature or ill fortune have taken away, not so much to delight the eye, but to buoy up the spirit of the afflicted."*

Gaspare Tagliacozzi, 1597

## The Clinical Need

Common diagnoses that threaten limbs include:

- Diabetic foot ulcers
- Vascular disease
- Surgery especially high risk patients with joint replacements
- Chronic osteomyelitis with open wounds,
- Non-healing ulcers (vascular or neuropathic) and
- Tumors both acute and chronic trauma

## **The Clinical Need: Fast Facts**

One in four diabetic individuals develops peripheral vascular disease that, when severe, may require amputation

More than 60 percent of non-traumatic lower-limb amputations occur in people with diabetes.

Incidence of initial amputation due to diabetes would be 179 per 100,000 person-years (compared to amputation in peripheral arterial disease in non-diabetic individuals is 10 per 100,000 person-years).

## **What is the CWC Limb Preservation Program?**

- **Multidisciplinary Team**
  - Said Atway- Podiatry
  - Rajiv Chandawarkar – Plastic Surgery
  - Michael Go -Vascular Surgery
  - Jeff Janis – Plastic Surgery
  - Gayle Gordillo – Plastic Surgery
  - Richard Schlanger – General Surgery
- **Objective – prevent amputations**
- **Patient-Centered Care**
  - Combined Vascular and Podiatry evaluation
  - PT, orthotist, labs, dietician – available on site
  - Wound care expertise
  - Complex Plastic Surgical reconstruction for limb preservation

## **Significance**

- A COMBINED TEAM APPROACH is the best treatment strategy.
- Vascular restoration: accurate evaluation and minimally invasive repair (interventional techniques)
- Orthopedic debridement and salvage
- Plastic Reconstructive Surgery: The soft tissue surrounding the bone injury is the vascular envelope - nurturing bone back to health
- Wound Care
- Hyperbaric O2

## **Principles**

- **Step 1: identify nature of the defect: Characterize Vascular, Orthopedic and Soft Tissue needs**
- **Step 2: Outline a treatment plan that simultaneously treats blood supply, bone and soft tissue synergistically.**
- **ASK THE CRITICAL QUESTIONS**



## Principles

### CRITICAL QUESTIONS

- Is the limb salvageable
- If so, what is the algorithm of reconstruction

## Amputation Versus Salvage

- In complex extremity injuries, the treating physician must always first determine whether limb salvage is feasible.
- Are neurovascular structures are injured, are they repairable?
- Is normal sensation obtainable?

## Amputation Versus Salvage

- Does a compartment syndrome exist? Unless a compartment syndrome is recognized and treated, muscle ischemia and muscle death will occur, converting potentially viable soft tissue to infarcted muscle and scar
- Is the FINAL outcome functional?
- Will the patient tolerate rehabilitation?

## Amputation Versus Salvage

***“A fantastic operation not worth doing, is not worth doing well.”***

***- Ashok Shaha MD, MSKCC***

### **Plastic & Reconstructive Service Timing of Soft Tissue Reconstruction**

- Early soft tissue reconstruction reduces the nosocomial contamination and secondary necrosis of exposed tissues.
- Late soft tissue reconstruction is associated with a significantly higher infection and flap complication rate – but allows for wound and patient stability.

### **Timing of Soft Tissue Reconstruction**

**INITIAL Debridement is a must. If soft tissue reconstruction needs delayed, employ well established temporizing measures.**

### **Timing of Soft Tissue Reconstruction**

- Vacuum-assisted closure (VAC)
  - Seals the wound
  - Exposes a wound to sub-atmospheric pressure.
  - It is extremely effective in treating a wide spectrum of wounds including traumatic wounds as well as dehiscent incisions with or without exposed hardware
- Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO)
  - Promotes formation of granulation tissue and stimulate angiogenesis in wounds that are compromised, usually by impaired arterial inflow or venous outflow

### **Timing of Soft Tissue Reconstruction**

– Vacuum-assisted closure (VAC)



## WOUND CLOSURE



- Composite free flaps (e.g. osteocutaneous fibula flap)
- Free flaps e.g. Gracilis flap
- Perforator flaps e.g. Propeller flap
- Pedicled regional flaps e.g. Pectoralis major flap
- Local fasciocutaneous flaps
- Full thickness skin graft
- Split skin graft
- Direct closure
- Healing by secondary intention (+/- negative pressure therapy)

## WOUND CLOSURE

- This is a continuum of procedures ranging from the simplest to the most complex (free flap transplantation).
- As a general principle the procedure with the greatest chance of success and lowest risk is chosen, often being one of the simpler techniques.
- The more complex procedures are required in larger wounds with exposed bone, fixation devices or poorly vascularized tissues.

## WOUND CLOSURE

- Muscle Flaps
- Fasciocutaneous Flaps

EACH HAS ADVANTAGES

## WOUND CLOSURE

- Muscle Flaps
  - Compromises donor function
  - Bulky, many times non-pliable
  - Usually microvascular surgery
  - Typically needs skin cover/graft
  - Complex, time consuming and resource-rich

## **WOUND CLOSURE**

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## **WOUND CLOSURE**

- **Fasciocutaneous Flaps**
  - Easier to perform
  - Skin is composite to the flap
  - Less expensive
  - Donor function is preserved
  - Needs local vascular supply

## **TEAM APPROACH TO EXTREMITY RECONSTRUCTION**

- Reconstruction is a coordinated effort among orthopaedic surgeons, vascular surgeons, traumatologists, infectious disease and plastic surgeons.
- Subsequent involvement of rehabilitation specialists and prostheticians

## **TEAM APPROACH TO EXTREMITY RECONSTRUCTION**

- It is not uncommon in practice for an orthopaedic traumatologist to stabilize a fracture, a vascular surgeon to perform an arterial interposition graft, and a microsurgeon to do a free tissue transfer.

## TEAM APPROACH TO EXTREMITY RECONSTRUCTION

- Communication and careful preoperative planning are important to ensure successful reconstruction.
- The ability of the reconstructive plastic surgeon to deliver the correct tissue at the correct time with the correct composite nature enhances limb salvage.

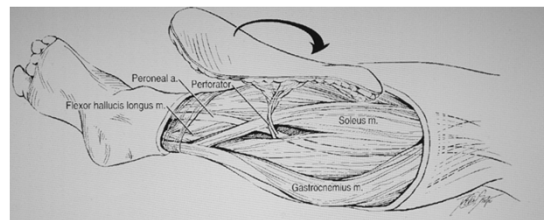
## Novel Fasciocutaneous Flaps for the Reconstruction of Complicated Lower Extremity Wounds

- Fasciocutaneous perforator flaps can be used as an elegant alternative to other local or free flaps to treat the loss of tissues of the leg, once risk, benefits and expected results are understood.
- Novel fasciocutaneous flaps nourished by perforator vessels have been developed and are increasingly used as a valuable local alternative to the local flaps, with their high complication rates, and to the microsurgical flaps, with their more difficult and specialized technique.
- They provide local tissue, replacing like with like, but they harvest it from a distant, undamaged, region of the leg, which means healthy and well-vascularized tissue.

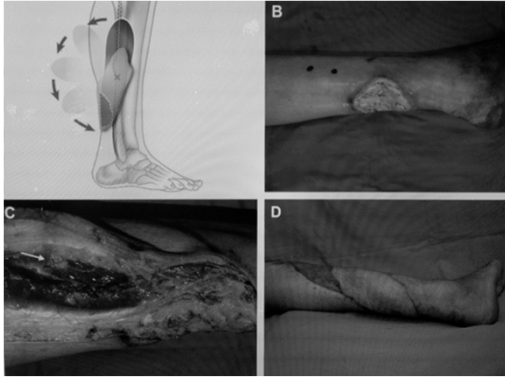
## Novel Fasciocutaneous Flaps for the Reconstruction of Complicated Lower Extremity Wounds

- They do not need microsurgical facilities and skills, which may not be available everywhere. However, it is vital that the vessels are handled with great care and meticulous attention to detail in their preparation for the rotation.
- The known anatomic exiting sites of the perforator from the fascial plane will guide the planning of the flap, aided by the Doppler ultrasound and an exploratory incision. the surgical technique of perforator flaps harvesting and flap design, complications and solutions.

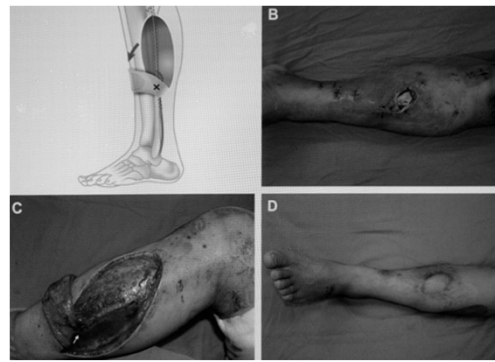
## Sural Flaps



## Sural Flaps

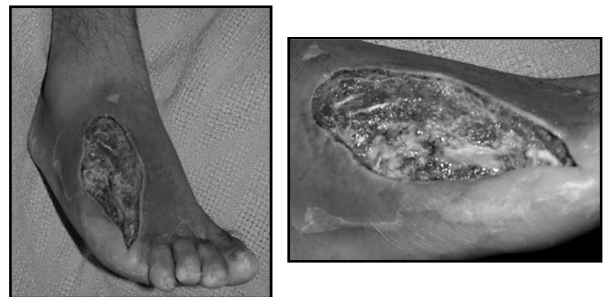


## Sural Flaps

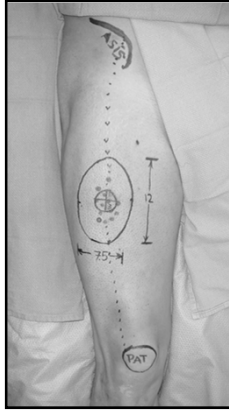


Photos courtesy of Rajiv Chandawarkar, MD

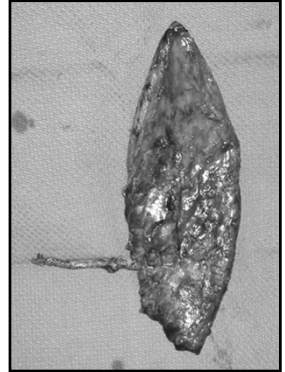
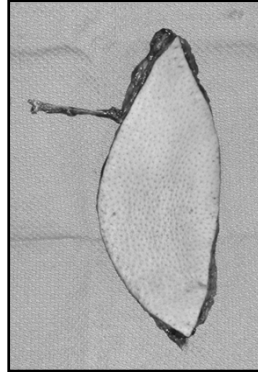
## Free ALT Perforator Flap



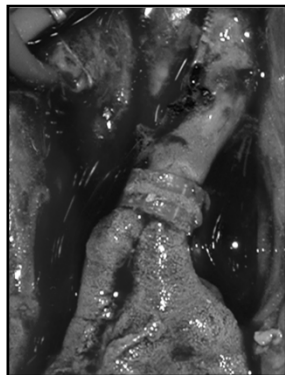
Photos courtesy of Jeffrey Janis, MD



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## Overall Challenge

**THINK CREATIVELY ON DISEASE MANAGEMENT  
RATHER THAN EPISODE MANAGEMENT**

**EMPLOY INNOVATIVE COST CUTTING –  
QUALITY ENHANCING METHODS**

**MONITOR/MEASURE/INCENTIVIZE**

**SAVE 700B IN 10 YEARS.....  
.....WHOSE COST CURVE WILL BE BENT**