Author's response to reviews

Title: Femoral vein obturator bypass revascularization in groin infectious bleeding: report of two cases

Authors:

Albert Busch (busch_a2@chirurgie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Udo Lorenz (lorenz_u1@chirurgie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Christian Tiurbe (tiurbe_c@chirurgie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Christoph Bühler (buehler_c@chirurgie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
Richard Kellersmann (kellersman_r@chirurgie.uni-wuerzburg.de)

Version: 3 Date: 22 November 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Subject: MS: 4473367727553837
Femoral vein obturator bypass revascularization in groin infectious bleeding: report of two cases

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you very much for considering our manuscript for publication in the Journal of Medical Case Reports and for your kind suggestions on it.

In addition to submitting a revised version of our paper with the changes highlighted, I’d like to comment on your concerns.

Referee 1:
- A brief description of the postoperative treatment and the venous function was added to the case report section. This was left out in the previous manuscript in order to cut the manuscript short. As a matter of fact venous and lymphatic swelling occurred during the first weeks after deep femoral vein removal but seemed not to affect the patients mobility under conservative treatment with physical therapy and lymphatic drainage. Both patients presented with normal leg circumferences at the follow-up. Those results are consistent with our observations from other patients who had their deep femoral veins harvested i.e. for Nevelsteen’s procedure. Additionally, in the second patient parts of the femoral vein were already occluded by thrombosis due to repeated intravenous drug abuse with consecutive phlebitis.

- The drug addict patient had used both his femoral vein and his femoral artery for inguinal substance injection. During the operation only a small part of the femoral vein presented occluded by postphlebitic thrombosis. The venous graft harvested throughout the thigh showed no signs of thrombosis or inflammation.

Referee 2:
- With our previous title we wanted to highlight the systemic septic affection originating from the inguinal site, but this is well mentioned in the case report. You are right suggesting a title specifically referring to the bleeding situation accounting for the need of revascularization. The title was therefore adapted to “Femoral vein obturator bypass revascularization in groin infectious bleeding: report of two cases”

- Specific tips or instructions for the obturator bypass procedure are difficult to describe in a manuscript as those are of course very specific situations and one operative situs can hardly be compared with another.

- By carefully revising our manuscript with a native speaker we tried to provide the language corrections suggested.
I hope our responses to the referees’ comments are clear and sufficient. In case of any further concerns on the manuscript I’m available for correction at any time.

We hope that our manuscript can be further considered for publication.

Sincerely

Albert Busch