Current trends in ACL Reconstruction



ANATOMY







Dense band of collagen type I - length of 31 mm (range 29 to 35 mm) - width of 9 mm (range 7 to 11 mm)

- synovial membrane envelope

Major blood supply: from <u>middle genicular artery</u>

Nerve supply: receives innervation from Posterior articular nerve (branch of tibial nerve)

infiltrates the capsule posteriorly

Proprioceptors (golgi tendon type mechanoreceptors) at insertion sites





FUNCTION





BUNDLES





ANATOMY

The AM bundle of the ACL primarily controls anterior (forward) movement of the tibia underneath the femur, and the PL bundle controls rotational stability of the knee, such as in pivoting, twisting, running, and jumping





INJURY MECHANISM



Q. The movement involved in a torn ACL
A. Femur moving back on tibia
B. Tibia moving forwards on femur
C.Both movements contribute
D. ACL tears occur from rotational injuries



INJURY MECHANISM

ARGE

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(C)





RISK FACTORS

ENVIRONMENTAL: Hard surface, inappropriate footwear

ANATOMICAL/ GENETIC: High Q angle, knee valgus, foot pronation, high BMI, abnormal bone morphology (narrow notch), Steep tibial slope

N/M FACTORS: Abnormal muscle activation patterns

HORMONAL FACTORS: Relaxin may affect mechanical properties of ACL?





NOTCH WIDTH INDEX

Souryal and Freeman



Normal : 0.231



? Partial tear





- A. O'Driscoll
- B. JS Torg
- C. John Lachman
- D. William C.Clancy

John Lachman

- Graduated from Temple University and Temple School of Medicine
- Discovered ACL integrity was more easily determined with the knee closer to extension than in the position used in the classic anterior drawer test







PIVOT SHIFT TEST











EMPTY NOTCH SIGN







Incidence



Mall Argehambers PN et al. Incidence and trends of an erior partiale ligement reconstruction in the United Dates. And Df Sports Medicine. 2014 Oct;42(10):2363-70

Why repair the ACL?

More normal knee movements

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- ✤ No instability (and less pain)
- Better proprioceptive sense
- Decreased risk of osteoarthritis

ACL RECONSTRUCTION AND OA



The prevalence of osteoarthritis (OA) increased threefold after ACL tear knee compared with a normal contralateral knee.

The strongest predictor of the development of OA are associated meniscal and osteochondral injury, obesity, return to aggressive sports, and the nonanatomical placement of the ACL graft.

Q. COMAPRTMENT OF KNEE INOVLED IN OA (after an ACL tear) is:

A. Antero medial compartment
B. Antero lateral compartment
C.Postero medial compartment
D.Postero lateral compartment



HOW TO RECONSTRUCT THE ACL WITH PERFECTION !!!





- 1917: Ernest Hey Grooves (ACL repair + IT band reinforcement): Ivory nail for fixation
- 1936: William Camphbell (Patellar tendon graft): Graft sutured to periosteum
- 1939: Harry B. Macey (Semitendenosus graft): Distal part left attached, proximally re routed and turned back to be weaved to distal
- 1963: Kenneth Jones (Patellar tendon with bone block) → 1982 William Clancy
- 1970s: Macintosh, Lemaire and others (Over the top repair + Extra articular reconstruction)
- 1980s: Arthroscopic techniques (PT and ST): Lipscomb, Friedman and others
- 1990s: Fixation devices and techniques (Transtibial to Transportal technique)

Edit P2060s (2008-10): Anatomical ACL and Double

HISTORY



EVOLUTION OF ACL SURGERY

- Extra articular to Intra articular reconstruction
- Open to Arthroscopic techniques
- Non anatomic to Anatomic reconstructions
- Transtibial to Trans portal tunnel placement
- Single to Double bundle reconstruction







ANATOMICAL ACL

Defined as the functional restoration of the ACL to its native dimensions, collagen orientation and insertion sites.

KARLSON PRINCIPLES

- 1) Restoring native insertions by correct (anatomical) tunnel placements
- 2) Restore two functional bundles
- 3) Provide appropriate tension
- 4) Provide appropriate graft diameter, size and type



- Timing of surgery
- Graft choices
- Fixation methods/ devices
- Surgical Technique
- Remnant preservation
- All Inside technique
- Double bundle reconstruction
- Healing augmentation methods
- Synthetic devices

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CURRENT TRENDS





TIMING OF SURGERY

Time of surgery	Early (<3wks)	Late (>1yr)
Complications	Arthrofibrosis Prolonged rehabilitation	Osteoarthritis Meniscal injury Osteochondral damage Ligament tear Decay of proprioceptors

Resolution of inflammation around the knee and return of full motion reduce the incidence of postoperative knee stiffness.





AUTOGRAFTS

Bone-patellar tendon-bone Quadrupled hamstrings (Grac & Semi-T) Quadriceps tendon-bone



ALLOGRAFTS

Bone-patellar tendon-bone Achilles' tendon Hamstrings Quadriceps tendon Fascia lata



ALLOGRAFT PROBLEMS

- With allografts
 - There is risk of viral disease transmission (1:1million)
 - Deep freezing leaves some cells (10%)
 - Freeze-drying & cryo weaken graft; limited self-life
- Graft incorporation & remodeling is faster with autografts (graft is weakest @ 8-12 wks)
- Sterilization: Gamma radiation (1-3.5 M-rad)



AUTOGRAFTS



Quadruple hamstrings possess the greatest ultimate tensile load (4090 N) and stiffness (776 N/mm).

Bone-patellar tendon-bone grafts have an ultimate tensile load of 2977 N and a stiffness of 620 N/mm.

Quadriceps tendon-bone grafts have an ultimate tensile load of 2352 N and a stiffness of 463 N/mm.







STAGES OF GRAFT INCORPORATION

STAGE	HISTOLOGY	TIMING
INFLAMMATORY PHASE	Partial graft necrosis	3 - 6 weeks
PROLIFERATIVE PHASE	Neo- vacularization	6 - 8 weeks
MATRIX SYNTHESIS	Collagen formation	8 - 12 weeks
REMODELING PHASE	Tendon to bone healing	6 - 9 months



FIXATION DEVICES

There are mainly two types of fixation devices used in ACLR in bone tunnels:

 Aperture fixation means the fixation of a graft at the opening of the bone tunnel (interference screws)

Suspensory fixation means fixation of the graft
 that is remote from the intra-articular space
 BRIDE Outure discs)

Preferred on Femoral side to avoid graft pull out



Viih Heimstrings

Preferred on Tibial side to avoid tunnel widening





Various types of interference screws used for ACLR (Titanium, Bio, HA-coated: Right to left)







SURGICAL STEPS GRAFT FIXATION



15 mm posterior to anterior tibial edge

✤ 7 mm anterior to PCL

In line with posterior edge of anterior horn of lateral meniscus

Centre in between the tibial spines

TIBIA

SURGICAL STEPS GRAFT FIXATION





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Femoral Tunnel REAMING





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INTERNAL BRACE

ARTHREX [NAPLES, FA]

The surgeon stitches the torn ACL ligament together and then protects it using a 2.5mm polyethylene FIBER Tape (the Internal Brace), which protects the ligament during the critical phase of healing!

The Internal Brace augmentation can withstand additional forces (up to 64%) at peak loading.

Creep is addressed at time zero Reduces dynamic elongation up to 51%

Scope for adjustable loop to length also goes down!





EVOLUTION

LIGAMENT AUGUMENTATION DEVICES [LADs]

Kennedy Ligament Augmentation device [1980s]: The augmentation with the LAD was based on the concept of load sharing and was meant to protect the native ACL graft during the post-transplantation phase when there is decrease in strength of the autograft. However, the polypropylene polyester structural units of the ligament met with an exceedingly high number of synovitis reports that let to out favouring of this device.

1983: Riel KA used the LAD in ACL reconstructions in 856 patients. In 63 cases he had to treat complications like infection, recurrent effusions, arthrofibrosis. The overall results are good with respect to stability, regain of strength and sports activity but 73 cases needed re-surgery eventually because of synovitis.

Stiff nature led to 'stress shielding' resulting in delayed integration of the arctive grafts eventually ending with higher rates of surgical failure.

REVIVAL

Arthrosc Tech. 2018 Apr; 7(4): e385–e389. Published online 2018 Mar 26. doi: 10.1016/j.eats.2017.10.010 PMCID: PMC5982687 PMID: 29868409

Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction With Suture Tape Augmentation

Matt Daggett, D.O., M.B.A., a.* Andrea Redler, M.D., b and Kevin Witte, D.O., M.B.A.a

The use of a suture tape augmentation has been published in the repair/reconstruction of medial knee injuries, ulnar collateral ligament, and ACL repair or reconstruction with allograft.



REMANANT PRESERVATION

SAMBBA



Arthrosc Tech. 2014 Dec; 3(6): e689–e693. Published online 2014 Nov 24. doi: 10.1016/j.eats.2014.08.007 PMCID: PMC4314548 PMID: 25685675

Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction and Preservation: The Single– Anteromedial Bundle Biological Augmentation (SAMBBA) Technique

Bertrand Sonnery-Cottet, M.D.," Benjamin Freychet, M.D., Colin G. Murphy, M.D., Barbara H.B. Pupim, M.D., and Mathieu Thaunat, M.D.

ACL remnant preserving

- Intact remnants played an important role in mechanical strength in the early postoperative period
- Reservation of the blood supply aid in the healing process of the graft
- Maintenance of proprioceptive innervation with evident benefits for the subjective outcome and return to sports
- Optimization of the accuracy of the procedure by improving the arthroscopic orientation and bone tunnel placement at the insertion site

ALL INSIDE ACL RECONSTRUCTION

- Closed-socket tunnels
- Decreased bone removal
- Dual suspensory graft fixation
- Smaller skin incisions
- Less post operative pain
- Faster rehabilitation and return to sport





DOUBLE BUNDLE ACL RECONSTRUCTION

DB ACLR is to reconstruct both the AM and PL bundles, more closely reproducing the native knee anatomy and kinematics

MAIN ADVANTAGE GAINED

Lower Pivot shift Grades And hence, better Rotational stability!

Biomechanical promise of DB fails to translate into clinical significance and may predispose the graft to impingement and excessive tension through the PL buncle during knee extension, resulting early graft rupture or attenuation

SB vs. DB ACLR

SB ACL reconstruction	DB ACL reconstruction	
Small knee (no room for the DB technique)	Large enough knee	
Thin hamstring tendons	Good quality of the hamstring tendons	
Non-athlete or	High-level athlete	
Recreational athlete	Pivoting sports	
Isolated ACL injury	ACL injury combined with meniscal injury	
10		

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SB VS DB ACL

Single bundle (SB) reconstruction is indicated for

- tibial insertion sites less than 14 mm in length,
- narrow notches (less than 12 mm in width)
- concomitant ligamentous injuries
- severe bone bruising
- severe arthritic changes (KL3-4)
- in the setting of open physis



Double bundle (DB) reconstruction - considered in patients with

- a large tibial insertion site (anteroposterior length >14 mm)
- large intercondylar notch (length and width >14 mm)
- absence of concomitant ligament injuries
- absence of advanced arthritic changes (KL <3)
- absence of severe bone bruising
- closed physis

DB ACL





Q. Man behind DOUBLE BUNDLE ACL ??

A.Lemaire B.Laprade C.Lafosse and Hughston D.Friedi Fu





CONCEPT OF ALL (ANTERO LATERAL LIGAMENT)















HEALING AUGUMENTATION

ROLE OF PRP

- There was slightly less tunnel widening in PRP group, however, there was no noticeable difference in the clinical outcome of PRP versus non-PRP groups. Radice, et al.
- With the use of PRPG (PRP gel), a complete homogeneity of the ACL graft can be seen earlier on MRI (in 179 days) compared to the non-PRPG group (in 369 days). Thus, there was a reduction of the timing of 48% with the use of PRPG in the incorporation of the graft.
- So far, most published studies have not been able to show any significant role of PRP in the acceleration of healing of soft tissue graft in bone tunnel in ACLR, while only a few studies have shown its beneficial role in the acceleration of the acceleration of ORTHO
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SYNTHETIC DEVICES

- Gore-tex: PTFE
- LADs: Polypropylene/ PE
- Leids-Keio Artificial Ligament: Polyester mesh (Fujikawa and Seedhom)
- LARS (Ligament Advanced Reinforcement System: Polyethylene Tetraphthalate (PET)



four BROAD CATEGORIES

COMPLICATIONS

Infection (Intra operative graft contamination)

Recurrent instability

Decreased ROM

Extensor mechanism dysfunction

Molina et al

4% chlorhexidine Double antibiotic solution (neomycin and Polymyxin B)

Sobel et al 4% chlorhexidine gluconate x 30 min





RECURRENT INSTABILITY

Vertically placed tunnels

Failure to address associated ligament injuries [15 %]

Tensioning/ fixation related issues

Re-ruptures Fresh traumatic injury Limb mal-alignment Graft impingement





FAILURE ??

DECREASED ROM

Cyclops

CAPTURED KNEE - An anteriorly placed femoral tunnel shortens effective graft length and limits ROM

NUTCRACKER KNEE - An anteriorly placed tibial tunnel limits extension with graft impinging on notch

Arthrofibrosis [2-35%] Loss of > 10° extension, > 25° flexion, Patellar mobility

CRPS Poor patient compliance TAR®Eolonged immobilization ORTHO

Tibial Tunnel Malposition



REHABILITATION

Pre-op rehabilitation – preserve Q strength and knee ROM
 Post-op rehabilitation

- Acute phase restore ROM ,maintain Q strength, reduce inflammation (o-3 wks.)
- Recovery phase improve lower limb muscle strength and functional stability (3-6 wks.)
- Functional phase return to previous level of activity and reduce risk of re-injury (6+ wks.)

Early open chain isotonic QUADRICEPS NOT to be allowed !



Q. Which of the following is not a criteria for return to play for a professional athlete

A. Time since surgery > 8 months
B. Iso-kinetic quadriceps strength > 85% of contralateral
C. Vertical jump test → no dynamic valgus
D. One leg hop test strength > 75% of contralateral



RETURN TO PLAY !!!

- Isokinetic muscle strength > 85% of contralateral
- One leg hop test > 85% of contralateral
- Drop vertical jump \rightarrow no dynamic valgus
- Negative Lachman and Pivot < grade I
- ROM comparable to contralateral
- No knee pain and effusion
- Time since surgery > 8-12 months























