REVISION ANTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT RECONSTRUCTION FOLLOWING SYNTHETIC LIGAMENT FAILURE USING HAMSTRING TENDONS

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Background

- Increasing number of primary ACL reconstructions leads to increase of revision replacements
- The incidence of graft failure following primary ACL replacements is 0.7 20 %
- With every surgical procedure the anatomical and technical conditions become worse
- Restoration of the normal knee kinematics is a challenge after failed ACL ligament replacement
- Results of revision ACL reconstruction are not as favorable as primary ACL replacements

## General Problems at Revision ACL Replacement

- Poor placement of the graft leading to impingement
- Anteriorly placed femoral tunnel
- Inappropriate graft length with loss of motion
- Tunnel enlargement needing bone grafting
- Intraosseous metal fixation devices removal +/- bone grafting
- Staged procedures

#### Introduction

At Mayday University Hospital London
1992 to 2000
29 procedures

 Isolated ACL Revisions were carried out following failed previous ABC prosthetic ligament reconstruction

## Materials & Methods

Algorithm for ACL Revision replacement

- Return of Subjective Instability Giving Way
- KT 2000 Assessment & Physical Examination
- Arthroscopy Tightening / Removal
- Physiotherapy
- Autologous ACL Revision Replacement



## Orthopaedic Principles of Mayday ACL Revision Replacement Technique

- Double Incision Arthroscopically Guided Operation
- Permanent Strong 4 Strand STG BH Polyester Soffix Complex
- Impingement Free Tibial Tunnel with Mayday Jig
- Tibial Tunnel Edge Chamfering

## Orthopaedic Principles of Mayday ACL Revision Replacement Technique

"Straight through" Low Stress Placement

Grooved "Over the Top" Femoral Siting

Firm Monocortical Bollard Fixation

## Failed ABC Ligament



## Revision ACL STG Replacement



Removal of failed ABC Ligament

## ACL STG Replacement Hamstring Harvesting

#### • Surgical Approach



#### • STG Preparation / Stripping



## ACL STG Replacement

#### Hamstring Harvesting



## ACL STG Replacement

#### Harvested STG Tendons with Mayday BH Soffix



## Mayday BH Polyester Soffix

#### Mayday BH Soffix on Frame



## STG / Soffix Complex Tendon Braiding & Fixation with Ethibond Sutures





## 4 Strand STG Mayday BH Soffix Complex



## Tibial Tunnel Placement with Mayday Jig

#### Mayday Jig



# • Jig Placement into the Intercondylar Notch



#### • Mayday Jig in use









## Check the Guide Wire

#### • Position of Guide wire



## Re-Drilling of the Tibial Tunnel

#### **Cross sectional MR from Re-Drilled Tibial Tunnel**



## Tunnel Edge Radiusing & Chamfering

#### Back Radius Cutter







#### Back Radius Cutter in Bone Tunnel

## • Chamfered tunnel outlets





## Graft-Soffix Complex Preconditioning

- 1. Pre-implantation Preconditioning (300 N Maximum Manual Pulling Force)
- 2. Intraoperative Preconditioning
- 3. Fixation under tension (80 N)



## Pulling the Graft into the Tibial Tunnel



## Fixation - Bollard

Poly Sulphone Carbon Monocortical Fixation Device



## **Bollard** Fixation

#### Bollard in Bone Tunnel Spread Bollard in Tunnel





Distal & Proximal Fixation at 15° Knee Flexion
With 50 N Manual Pulling Force
Proximal Femoral
Distal Tibial Bollard
Fixation





## Graft in Straight Through final "Over the Top" Position

#### Coronal & Lateral MR Scan from 4 Strand STG ACL Graft





#### Early Rehabilitation

- Brace Wearing in Full Extension for 2 weeks
- Early Full Weight Bearing
- Closed Chain Exercises for 3 month
- Jogging over 4 month
- Return to full activity, cutting & contact sports over 1 year

#### Patients - Methods



Subjective Assessment

- Modified Lysholm Scoring System
- Tegner Activity Scoring System
- IKDC Patient's Subjective scoring



Lachmann's Test

Pivot Shift Test

Instrumented Measurement
(KT 2000 Arthrometer Side to Side Difference, SSD)

## Tegner Activity Scoring







## KT 2000 Arthrometer



## Pivot Shift



## Multiply Operated Knees (> 4 procedures)

#### 7 cases

- Mean SSD: 2.48 ± 1.09 mm
- Lysholm Score: Mean 72
- IKDC Knee Score
- B:2 C:5

## Conclusion

• Revision reconstruction of the ACL can provide improvement in function and stability in the short to medium term

• The outcome following revision surgery is not as satisfactory as that the following primary procedure.

 We feel that highly accurate low stress, straight through placement of the tibial tunnel and over- the-top routing of the reconstruction avoiding the complications associated with re-drilling the femoral tunnel is the best routing for this type of surgery.

## Conclusion

• Our technique has the advantage of being relatively easy to perform in what is otherwise difficult surgery.

Use of a double looped hamstring tendon graft device can restore stability to the knee following failure of the primary reconstruction and even good results can be obtained in the short term in the multiply re-operated knee.

# Thank you for your attention