The Relationship between Resorption and Recurrence of Instability in the Latarjet Procedure – A Systematic Review of Studies

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INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this study is to systematically review the evidence in the literature to ascertain information about the relationship between resorption of transferred coracoid bone graft in those undergoing the Latarjet procedure and postoperative recurrent instability.

METHODS: Two independent reviewers performed the literature search based on PRISMA guidelines, utilizing the EMBASE, MEDLINE, and The Cochrane Library Databases. Studies were included if they were on patients that underwent the Latarjet procedure, included radiographic follow up, and reported on resorption, absorption, osteolysis, or remodeling. A correlation coefficient of 0.3, 0.5, and 0.7 were considered to be a weak, moderate, and strong correlation, respectively.

RESULTS:

Overall, 44 studies with 3,162 patients were included. The mean age was 28 years old, 84.6% were male, and the average follow-up time was 58.3 months. Resorption was present in 770 patients (24.4%), with recurrent instability in 196 patients (6.2%). The correlation coefficient between presence of resorption and recurrence was 0.33, which was a weak correlation.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:

Postoperative recurrence was shown to have a weak correlate with graft resorption in those undergoing the Latarjet procedure. Thus, graft resorption appears to be a physiologic process, and not necessarily pathologic nor predictive of a worse outcome.