1-lower limb reconstruction between reversed sural flap and free tissue transfer.A short term follow up of 14 cases

Abstract:

Reconstruction of medium to large defect involving lower third of leg, ankle and foot presenting a challenge due to shortage of options and high incidence of complications related to lower limb reconstruction in general. Aim of this study is to evaluate 14 male patients with trauma associated with soft tissue loss ,bone loss, exposure and infection , average age is 20 years, follow up period average is 6 months ,7 patients managed with reversed sural flap in 2 of them delay technique with two stage surgery due to heavy smoking history to cover planter defect ,ankle joint and tendo achillis(3 patients) ,lower third leg with bone exposure (2 patients) only one case (large planter defect) developed about 20 % loss due to distal part necrosis which has been managed conservatively and healing is accomplished ..others cases healed uneventfully (i.e 14.2% complication), 7 patients managed with free flaps(4 L.D flap) 1 for stump reconstruction of traumatic amputation, 1 for exposed ankle joint,2 for lower tibia exposure , 1 developed thrombosis 48 hour re explored but later on non reflow phenomenon (24 hours later) and failure was imminent ,3 cases managed with ALT flap for tibia exposure with uneventful healing course (total success rate 85.7% of all free flaps done)…both techniques are effective but size of defect ,local and general condition ,cost and availability of microsurgery facilities are detecting factors in selecting which technique is implemented.

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