Elevation or Retunneling for Second Stage Basilic Vein Transposition

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Disclosures

• Specific Disclosures
  – None

• General Disclosures
  – None

Transposition: the dissection, transection and retunneling of the Basilic Vein to the superior aspect of the upper arm as a primary or staged procedure

Superficialization: the dissection and elevation of the Basilic Vein to the superior aspect of the upper arm as a primary or staged procedure

Technical considerations

1– One stage Vs. two stages procedure
   – Vein size 2.5 - 4 mm, Two stages
   – Vein size > 4 mm, One stage

2– Open Vs. endoscopic harvesting

3– Transposition Vs. superficialization
Conclusions: Two-stage BVTs are more durable and cost-effective than one-stage procedures, with significantly higher patency and lower rates of failure among comparable risk-stratified patients.

Meta-analysis of the existing literature comparing one-stage and two-stage basilic vein transposition suggests no difference in failure and patency rates, despite the two-stage procedure’s being used in patients with smaller basilic veins.

More studies seem to favour the two-stage BVT approach, evidence in the literature is not sufficient to draw a final conclusion. The difference between the one-stage and the two-stage approaches is not statistically significant in terms of:

- the overall maturation rate
- postoperative complications
- Patency rates (primary, assisted primary and secondary) were comparable in the majority of studies.

Conclusion: There is evidence to suggest that two-stage brachio-basilic vein fistula achieve higher maturation rates compared to one-stage brachio-basilic vein fistula.

Superficialization and Transposition
The re-anastomosis site in transpositions was the location of 74% of high grade stenoses requiring intervention, while none of the superficializations had problems with the AV anastomosis.

**Conclusion**

- Basilic Vein Transposition is a successful configuration.
- One and two stage procedures carry equally successful outcomes when appropriate selection criteria are used.
- Primary patency of superficialization is equivalent to transposition.
- Cumulative patency of superficialization is equivalent to transposition.
- There is no apparent difference in complications, maturation or access duration.