CONCLUSION: Using Integra and NPWT we were able to achieve limb salvage for a year in a patient with otherwise threatened limb with exposed bypass graft and no other options available.

DISCLOSURE/FINANCIAL SUPPORT: None of the authors has a financial interest in any of the products, or drugs mentioned in this manuscript.

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Delayed Human Bite Presenting as Extensive Skin Necrosis Requiring a Posterior Interosseous Artery (PIA) Flap – A Case Report

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INTRODUCTION: Human bites have been reported as the third most common type of mammalian bites, after dog and cat bites. The polymicrobial nature of human bites can result in severe soft tissue infections. Early debridement, irrigation and antibiotics administration can often limit progression. Few cases outlining severe complications of human bites have been documented in the literature.

CASE: We report the case of a 71-year old retired gentleman with a background of Schizophrenia who presented to the Emergency Department with a nine-day old infected human bite to the dorsum of his non-dominant left hand. This resulted from an occlusion bite from the patient’s wife. Extensive skin necrosis and epidermolysis affecting nearly half of the dorsum as well as significant pus collection were observed. Microbiology culture was positive for Streptococcus Anginosus. Aggressive debridement and multiple washouts were performed before a posterior interosseous artery flap was fashioned to reconstruct the resulting defect.

DISCUSSION: Human bites are associated with a higher infection rate than animal bites. Human bites occur most commonly on upper limbs. Hand wounds exhibit a higher rate of infection due to the avascular nature of tendons and joints. The common mistaken assumption of a seemingly innocuous injury often delays presentations, which can result in significant soft tissue damage requiring extensive reconstruction.

Disproportionate Availability between Emergency and Elective Coverage: a National Trend?

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BACKGROUND: Traumatic hand injuries represent approximately 20% of emergency department visits, yet access to emergency hand care remains inadequate. Recent surveys from several states report a wider availability of hand specialists providing elective care. The authors aim to examine this phenomenon in the state of New Jersey, and whether there is a national trend towards disproportionate availability between emergency and elective hand coverage.

METHODS: A survey was conducted by telephone, email, and fax in August 2014. To assess the availability of hand surgery coverage, the following questions were asked to the medical staff coordinator or director of emergency department: (1) does your hospital provide elective hand surgery? and (2) is there a hand specialist/surgeon on call always, sometimes, or never?

RESULTS: A total of 59 hospitals were called with a 63% response rate (n = 37). 82% of hospitals offered elective hand surgery while only 63% provided immediate hand coverage. 8% of hospitals had a hand surgeon on call occasionally and 18% never did. Less than 50% of the hospitals
located in the same county as a level 1 trauma center provided 24/7 hand care.

CONCLUSIONS: There is a discrepancy between emergency and elective hand care in New Jersey. Similar findings across Florida, Massachusetts, upstate New York, and Tennessee suggest a concerning trend of gaps in access to hand healthcare. As disproportionate availability between emergency and elective care lead to suboptimal patient care and unnecessary transfers, a nationwide system that can appropriately triage and treat patients is warranted.

Effect of Absorbable Skin Stapler in Autologous Breast Reconstruction Patients: Approach Through Economic and Cosmesis

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INTRODUCTION: In abdominal based autologous breast reconstructions, abdominal closure is a time-consuming procedure. The time cost of the skin closure process is difficult to reduce. However, skin suture using absorbable subcuticular staples, which allow for increased rapid closure can provide equivalent healing capacity in various situations of incision closure.1 The purpose of this study was to evaluate the economic efficacy and cosmetic satisfaction of wound closure with an absorbable subcuticular stapling system, and compare these results obtained with conventional dermal sutures in breast reconstruction patients.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: The A total 94 patients undergoing autologous breast reconstruction were included the study. Of these, INSORB® was used in 64 patients and we compared 30 patient’s clinical data as a conventional suture group. We provided a controlled surgical environment for evaluate effect of choice of closure material. For exclude the possibility of surgical procedure variety, we divide into free flap and pedicle flap groups and each group has stapler and control groups. For analysis of cost-effectiveness we applied endotracheal anesthesia expenses, and objective assessment by resident and questionnaire by patient was made for scar evaluation.2

RESULTS: Using paired t test, statistical analysis was made. An pedicle flap group represents 387.2hrs (stapler), 480.5hrs(control) (t-value -2.031, p-value 0.043) and free flap group represents 442.0hrs(stapler), 514.8hrs(control) (t-value -2.037, p-value 0.025) as average anesthesia time. A gap of time reduction is 93.3hrs in pedicle flap group and 72.8hrs in free flap group for absorbable stapler used groups. These reduce time of total general anesthesia in absorbable groups, which is equivalent to a 135.67$ in pedicle group and 128.35$ in free flap group. In regards to the expenses of INSORB®, only the group that used 1 stapler is significant. The complication rate, duration of healing period and the patient’s satisfaction of the scar did not differ between each group.

CONCLUSION: An absorbable staples are effective materials that allow cost-effective closure when used appropriately. While dealing with cutting-edge technology,3,4 we need to consider patients benefits that would get overwhelming his expenses. In that point, only 1 stapler used in abdominal closure is effective not to be two used. And also we could find this is no way inferior to conventional suture. The availability of time reduction with equivalent cosmetic results is appealing aspects for applying reconstruction operation.

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Effect of Oasis-Ultra Matrix on the Healing Rate of Stage IV Pressure Wounds

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INTRODUCTION: (Oasis-ultra) is an extra cellular collagen rich matrix derived from porcine intestinal sub-mucosa. A