



P19:109

Tumor reconstructive surgery using recycled autobone Anticipating the complications

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Background: Joint-saving surgery is the current trend in musculoskeletal tumor surgery. A very important method is reconstruction using recycled autobone. It is readily accessible, facilitating easy reconstruction due to its size and shape specific to the host bone defect and is acceptable in many developing countries with very delicate social and religious beliefs

Purpose: The aim of this study is to evaluate the outcome of reconstructive surgery using either pasteurized or irradiated autograft bone and presenting the possible complications.

Patients and Methods: Sixteen patients of Kyungpook national university hospital over the period of 1995-2010 who had undergone tumor resection and bone reconstruction using pasteurization or irradiation method and a minimum of 2 years follow-up were retrospectively reviewed.

Results: Our graft survival rate is 83.3% and infection rate is 6.3%. There were no local tumor recurrence and graft nonunion in this series. Five patients developed limb length complications necessitating additional surgical procedures.

Conclusion: Our experience is similar to the other reports on reconstructive surgery using recycled autobone. Effective delivery of neoadjuvant chemotherapy, better intraoperative imaging, and the surgeon's surgical skills and mastery of the concepts in both musculoskeletal surgery and osteosynthesis are prerequisite for a successful surgery. Anticipating the potential complications is also very important to maximize the patient's benefits in such procedure.

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