

Abstract

Thumb Reconstruction with Rib Transplantation

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Recommendable reconstructive surgery in the patient with thumb amputation through base of the first metacarpal bone is pollicization. Some patients who do not agree with harvest sound finger as a new thumb, we can consider other options as toe transplantation or osteoplastic thumb reconstruction for creating thumb. Toe transplantation to the thumb is effective procedure in the amputation of distal to metacarpal shaft, it is rarely indicated in the cases of proximal to base of the first metacarpal bone.

We performed three cases of modified osteoplastic thumb reconstruction with free vascularized rib that combined with scapular free flap or radial forearm flap. The length of transplanted rib ranged from 7~11cm, the donor vessels are posterior intercostal artery and vein which anastomosed to radial artery. The grafted rib wrapped with additional free flap for creating new thumb.

Result of that procedure was not much encouraging, aesthetic appearance and mobility of thumb were not so satisfactory but reconstructed thumb gave improvement of the hand function without sacrificing toe or other digit. That gave reasonable stability for powerful side pinch and three pod pinch and opposable thumb with normal carpo-metacarpal joint motion that can give much function to the thumb absent hand.

In spite of those disadvantages, thumb reconstruction with rib transfer can be useful for patients who do not want to lose another part of the body for creating thumb in basal amputation of the thumb metacarpal.

Key Words : Thumb, Reconstruction, Rib transplantation

가 가
1-3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13)

(wrap-around procedure)
(metacarpal bone)
가 가

9, 11, 12, 14, 17, 23)

(pollicization)

(abdominal pedicle graft)

8), 가
3cm
가
13)

3

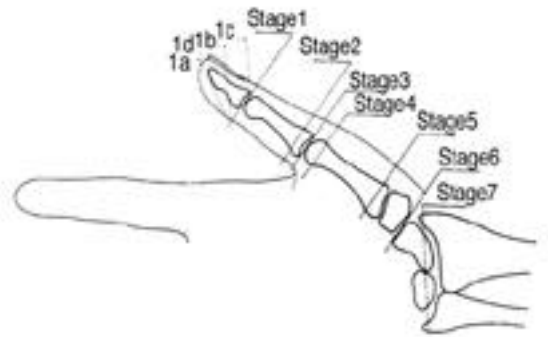


Fig. 1. Merle classification of amputation of the thumb according to level

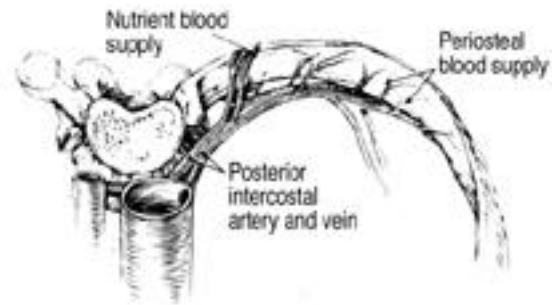


Fig 2. Rib site with intercostal vessels

(Fig. 1). 6~7

2

(scapular free flap) 1

4.5

1994 2
1

가

가

3

2

(scapular free flap)

43

26, 35,

, 1

(radial

forearm flap)

(pollicization)

. 1

(end-side anastomosis)

2

6

7

Merle⁽⁵⁾ 7가 stage
Stage 5 1

7~10cm

(posterior intercostal vessel)



Fig 3. Vascularized rib with posterior intercostal vessels has very small vessels with short pedicles

(Fig. 3).
 (thoracotomy)
 (anterior surface)
 (groove)

가
 (Fig. 2).

(periosteal blood
 supply)

K- (Fig. 4)



Fig. 4. Harvested eighth, rib with posterior intercostal vessels without thoracotomy. Donor rib and free vascularized scapular flap ready to transfer to the recipient site.

1
 (circumflex scapular
 artery)

가
 (curve) 가

(Fig. 5).



Fig. 5. Rib in position on metacarpal base following thumb amputation. Rib and wrapped free scapular flap after microvascular anastomosis with radial vessels.

(Fig. 6),
 6 가
 1
 3 6 가 , 1
 가 가 가 가 가
 (opposition) 가 가
 가



Fig. 6. The rentogenography shows that a vascularized rib is fixed to the remnant metacarpal bone with K-wire and wiring techniques



Fig. 7. Eight weeks after surgery, the grafted rib has sufficient stability and length to improve the function. The patient was satisfied with his new thumb except for the inconvenience caused by the lack of a sensitive finger pad.

(carpometacarpal joint)
 (side pinch)가 가
 , 가 1 (first web
 space)

(Fig. 7).

가
 (pneumothorax)

가 1

40%¹³⁾
 가
 (amputation level)¹⁵⁾
 가 가
 1/3(middle third), 1/3(distal third),
 1/3(proximal
 third)

Merle¹⁵⁾ 7 stage
Stage 1 1 a-d

가 가

가

(Fig. 1).

가

가

6~8

, 가

1.5~2mm

(posterior

1-3,5,6,10,11)

stage 5

intercostal artery)

1.2~2.5mm

1

가

(posterior intercostal vein)

(endoosteal circulation)
(nutrient vessel)

(pollicization)

(thenar muscle)

16)

(Fig. 2),

3~5cm

1cm

1

가

7)

5

4,10)

stage thoracostomy)

8~11cm

(tube

(curve)

tubed pedicle graft)

가

(abdominal

(thenar

가 10cm

area)

3,7,8) 가

가

3cm

4

가

13)

(pollicization)

(pinch) 1
(side pinch)가 가

가

가

1994 2
가 1
3

가

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