

QUADRICEPS MUSCLE RUPTURE RARE COMPLICATION OF TOTAL KNEE ARTHROPLASTY : A CASE REPORT

Mohd Shahir Aziz¹, Muhammad Warith Effendi¹, Mohamad Fauzlie Yusof¹, Mohd Norfahmi Md Hashim¹, Ammar Abdol Hamid¹

¹Hospital Melaka

Introduction: Tears of the quadriceps tendon following total knee arthroplasty (TKA) are less common. Jigar et al reported quadriceps tendon rupture is relatively rare injury following total knee arthroplasty (0.1-1.1%) (1). Outcomes were reported to be poor for the patients with complete quadriceps rupture (1).

Discussion: A 66-year-old female presented with severe valgus knee OA. She ambulates with wheelchair for the past 6 months. Then she decided underwent TKA for her left knee OA. The operation uneventful. When reviewed at 2 weeks postoperatively, she was ambulating with walking frame. After 1-month post TKA, patient came to the clinic for her appointment and noted left knee swollen. She had hit her knee during transferring from wheelchair to the car on the same day. Clinically, she had mild swollen of the knee, quadriceps wasting, no obvious quadriceps defect. Range of motion was 20° to 90° flexion with 10° extension lag. She unable to walk with walking frame. Physical examination revealed a defect over the quadriceps tendon and reduction in active extension, with a passive range of motion 30° to 90°. Patient was admitted and underwent operation. Intraoperative finding of a left complete full thickness quadriceps tendon tear. Krackow repair was performed. The patient subsequently recovered well and was able to perform active quadriceps extension.

Conclusion: Quadriceps rupture is an uncommon but devastating complication of TKA. Postoperative quadriceps weakness can potentially mask the diagnosis of quadriceps rupture. In the background of trauma, any quadriceps weakness even without a palpable gap or reduction in range of active motion should be taken as a red flag for possible quadriceps tendon rupture.