INTRODUCTION

Tendon transfers (TT) are a common procedure utilized for brachial plexus birth palsy (BPBP) patients to improve shoulder function, specifically abduction and external rotation. The traditional use of two tendons in C5-7 patients may result in loss of midline function. Therefore, we assessed the outcomes of transferring a single tendon (1TT) versus the traditional method (2TT) for patients with C5-7 injuries.

METHODS

• Retrospective review
• 4 year period
• C5-C7 Injuries that underwent tendon transfers to improve external rotation

• Outcomes assessed utilizing the Modified Mallet and ROM
• 8th category of hand to belly

RESULTS

CONCLUSIONS

• 1TT and 2TT procedures result in substantial gains in upper extremity function for patients as measured by the MM score

  • Specifically   global abduction and external rotation subcategories
  • Cost   significant loss in internal rotation for both groups

• 1TT and 2TT procedures have similar outcomes   Consider performing 1TT surgery in C5-7 patients if they have poor midline function preoperatively