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Outcome analysis of T4 sympathectomy in the treatment of primary palmar hyperhidrosis

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Purpose: To analysis the outcome of T4 sympathectomy in the treatment of primary palmar hyperhidrosis.

Methods: From September 2004 to February 2008, eighty patients with primary palmar hyperhidrosis, including 45 males and 35 females with average age of 17.1 years, underwent T4 sympathectomy, in which the sympathetic chains were transected at the level of the forth ribs.

Results: The procedures were successful. There were no severe intro-operative complications or mortality. Post-operative complication included mild pneumothorax in two patients and pneumoderma.in six patients. A mean follow-up of 16.5 months (6~29) showed all patients relieved in their palmar sweating, with effective rate of 100%. 46 patients (57.5%) resulted in mild moisture hand of no influence to daily life, and 4 patients (5%) got partial remission. Compensatory sweating occurred in 31 patients (38.8%), but only 2 cases (2.5%) complained with this side effect. Over-dry hands occurred in 1 case(1.25%). 95% patients were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the outcome of the operation. 5% patients were "partially satisfied". "Very satisfied" rate was much higher in patients with mild moisture hands than patients with dry hands (73.9% vs 33.3% ($p < 0.01$)).

Conclusion: T4 sympathectomy is a simplified method with little side effect and high satisfactory rate. It should be recommended for the treatment of primary palmar hyperhidrosis.

Biography

Li Xinjian has completed his Bachelor of Medical Science at the age of 23 years from Zhejiang Medical University. He is the Director of Department of Thoracic Surgery, Ningbo First Hospital, and he is the member of Group of Mini-invasive surgery in treatment of Palmar hyperhidrosis of China. He completes over 500 operations each year, including about 20 cases of sympathectomy. He has published more than 11 papers in reputed journals and serving as an editorial board member of repute.

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