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Thrombotic occlusion of a micro-vascular anastomosis in a resistance to activated protein C (APC) patient with incomplete wound healing after high doses of ascorbic acid (Vitamin C)

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A 45-year-old woman underwent a delayed breast reconstruction with a free Deep Inferior Epigastric Perforator Flap (DIEP flap) with total flap failure on the fourth postoperative day. Hematological investigation to exclude thrombophilia revealed a resistance to activated protein C (APC) with a factor V Leiden heterozygous mutation. The post-operative course was further complicated by delayed wound healing probably due to ascorbic acid (Vitamin C) related cytotoxic activity to fibroblasts. The surgeon must be aware of the use of preoperative nutritional supplement administration among patients. Future cost-effectiveness analyses should be made to warrant preoperative thrombophilia screening to prevent free flap failures.

Biography

Martain Pierre Jean Loonen is a specialist of plastic surgery with extensive experience and interest in plastic, reconstructive, cosmetic and hand and wrist surgery. He is a recognized fellow of the Collegium Chirurgicum Plasticum of the Board of Plastic Surgeons of Belgium and holds recognized membership of the Dutch Society of Plastic surgeons. He holds a Doctoral Degree in Plastic Surgery and has achieved his degree with outstanding honors as the youngest PhD candidate to have attained that distinction at his Alma Mater, the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands.

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