

"Enhancing Comfort and Precision: Bone Curettage with Wide Awake Local Anesthesia, Minus the Tourniquet"

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INTRODUCTION:

Bone curettage involves scraping tissue from bones for diagnosis or treatment. It aids in detecting abnormalities like infections or tumors, guiding treatment decisions for orthopedic and oncological conditions. It can be done under general anaesthesia or even local anaesthesia. We would like to report a case bone curettage of 3rd mcb under WALANT.

REPORT:

A 38-year-old man presented with a swelling on the dorsal aspect of his left hand, spanning the 2nd and 3rd metacarpal bones, which had gradually increased in size over four months.

Initially treated with antibiotics and drainage by a general practitioner, the swelling persisted, leading him to seek orthopedic advice after ten months. On examination, the swelling exhibited ulcerated skin with erythematous changes and tenderness, limiting the range of motion, particularly at the middle finger's metacarpophalangeal joint. X-rays revealed a lytic lesion with sclerotic bone around the left 3rd metacarpal head.

Under Wide Awake Local Anesthesia No Tourniquet, bone curettage was performed, ensuring patient comfort and stability throughout the 45-minute procedure. Histopathological examination revealed caseating granulomatous inflammation with positive Mycobacterium tuberculosis culture, prompting anti-tuberculosis treatment initiation.

The specimen was sent for histopathological examination, which revealed caseating granulomatous inflammation suggestive of an infectious etiology, potentially Mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB). The MTB culture and sensitivity (C&S) test confirmed the presence of MTB. Consequently, the patient was initiated on anti-tuberculosis treatment.

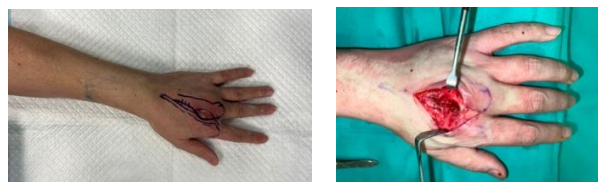


Figure 1: Intraoperative pictures



Figure 2: Image intensifiers images postoperative picture

CONCLUSION:

Wide Awake Local Anesthesia No Tourniquet (WALANT) for bone curettage enables surgeons to administer anesthesia while the patient is awake, ensuring real-time assessment of functions and minimizing complications. It provides symptomatic relief, aids in tissue sampling, and facilitates prompt diagnosis, as seen in our reported case. WALANT reduces bleeding rate and enhances surgical site visibility. Its effectiveness underscores its value in orthopedic surgery for diagnosing and treating musculoskeletal conditions, including infectious diseases like tuberculosis.

REFERENCES:

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