



Alicante, 28th - 29th June 2019

I CADAVER WORKSHOP IN LYMPHATIC MICROSURGERY

Chairs: Jaume Masià, Sinikka Suominen

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Reconstructive Microsurgery
European School

 UNIVERSITAS
Miguel Hernández

I CADAVER WORKSHOP IN LYMPHATIC MICROSURGERY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The course is available for residents and specialists in plastic surgery (worldwide) to learn or further refine their skills in lymphatic microsurgery.

Development of a training course in lymphatic reconstructive microsurgery as integrative part of the Reconstructive Microsurgery European School (RMES).

Lymphedema is a chronic debilitating disease affecting actually about 140 million people world-wide (1). Induced either by surgical removal of lymph nodes (e.g. secondary to cancer invasion) or presenting as inherited disease (e.g. primary lymphedema) in both upper and lower extremity, this disease is characterised by progressive lymph stasis which in turn leads to adipose hypertrophy and fibrosis of the subcutaneous tissues. In the advanced stages, can induce life-threatening conditions, exposing the patients to serious complications which untreated can even lead to limb loss.

During the last 40 years, much progress has been made in understanding the mechanisms of disease and the ways to treat it, nevertheless no efficient standardised therapy exists to date. Looking at the actual evidence in terms of ways to treat lymphedema, both microsurgical lymphatic bypass of the obstructed areas as well as redirectioning of the lymph flow into the venous system through lymphovenous anastomosis (LVA) or transplantation

of whole vascularised lymph nodes (LNT) had been shown to significantly reduce the volume of affected limbs. Moreover, actual scientific evidence sustains the concept of “preventive lymphatic microsurgery” to prevent secondary lymphedema in patients undergoing major tumor surgery (e.g. breast, melanoma) involving excision of major lymphatic stations. Microsurgical reconstruction of the lymphatic circulation is performed during the same operation with the tumor excision. As such, the development of secondary lymphedema can be avoided.

However, in-depth knowledge of the aetiology, anatomy of the diseased area as well as extensive microsurgical experience are instrumental prerequisites for successful therapy.

One of the most challenging caveats to achieve success is learning to perform the microsurgical lymphatic procedures from intraoperative identification of lymph vessels to performing lymphovenous anastomoses or harvesting a vascularised lymph-nodes to be used later on the same patient as free tissue transfer.

Such skills can only be learned and mastered in the laboratory on experimental animal models and then further refined on human tissue (e.g. cadavers).





COURSE STRUCTURE AND PROGRAM

Two-days intensive course focused on lymphatic microsurgery including over 15 hours of practical training fresh cadaveric material, with only 2 dissecting participants per operating table

| DAY 1 - 28th June 2019 | | DAY 2 - 29th June 2019 | |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| 08.30 - 10.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anatomy of the lymphedema system Physiopathology of the Lymphatic system Lymphedema classification How to assess the lymphedema patient Mapping the lymphatic system | 08.30 - 10.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to solve problems in lymph-node transfer How to do the follow up in lymph-node transfer Lipedema vs Lymphedema: diagnosis and therapeutic approach How to perform a lipo-aspiration in lymphedema and lipoedema patients Patient selection for lymphedema surgery |
| 10.30 - 10.45 | Coffee Break | 10.30 - 10.45 | Coffee Break |
| 10.45 - 14.30 | Practical Session 1 How to rise the vascularised lymph nodes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submental lymph-node transfer Supraclavicular lymph-node transfer | 10.45 - 14.30 | Practical Session 2 The recipient vessels for lymph-node transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Axillary region, Cubital fossa region |
| 14.30 - 15.00 | Lunch Break | 14.30 - 15.00 | Lunch Break |
| 15.00 - 19.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superficial inferior epigastric lymph node transfer Lateral thoracic lymph-node transfer Mesenteric lymph-node transfer Gastroepiploic lymph- node transfer | 15.00 - 19.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distal upper limb region Medial thigh region Popliteal region Distal lower limb region Lipo-aspiration in lymphedema patients and lipoedema patients |

Performing such surgery requires not only precise microsurgical and supramicrosurgical skills but also structured knowledge about the preoperative examination of lymphatic vessels (e.g. clinical examination, PDE Examination, Lympho-MRI).

These procedures need proper training before being applied clinically.

The Reconstructive Microsurgery European School (RMES) is an established, world-wide known program which offers the unique opportunity to surgeons willing to learn the entire spectrum of reconstructive microsurgery. From basic courses (e.g. microsurgical techniques, flap harvesting) to clinical immersion fellowships, this program provides a one of a kind platform able to train microsurgions in all aspects of reconstructive surgery, from learning basic skills to performing free tissue transfers.

Since lymphatic microsurgery is a field experiencing a continuously growing interest within the plastic surgeons community, introducing a practical course focused on specific technical lymphatic microsurgery skills as well as pre- and intraoperative examination of lymphatics is justified and will be a welcomed addition to this program.

AIMS OF THE PROJECT

To develop a practical training course in lymphatic reconstructive microsurgery in cadaver models. Furthermore the participants should be trained in anatomy, physiology of the lymphatic System focused on lymph-node transfer and lymph-venous anastomoses, indications and treatment options as well as postoperative care.

LOCATION

Human Anatomy Department. School of Medicine
 Universidad Miguel Hernández (San Juan Campus).
 Alicante (SPAIN)



COURSE VENUE

Edificio Severo Ochoa, nº4
 Sector Sup 10, 33-47
 Campus San Juan, Crtra Alicante Km 322
 03550 Alicante

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course consists mainly of practical exercises which will be performed under either loupe magnification. The first practical session starts with a detailed introduction of the Lymphatic System, Physiopathology of the lymphatic system, the way to assess the lymphedema patient and the patient selection of lymphedema surgery followed by the way to rise the different types of vascularised lymph nodes.

The second day is dedicated to solve problems and the follow up in lymph node transfer, the way to perform a lipoaspiration in lymphedema and lipoedema patients and the surgical concepts of the Lymphatic disorders followed by practical exercises in the recipient vessels for lymph-node transfer.



REGISTRATION FEE: 1.650 €

CONTACT DETAILS

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SELECTED REFERENCES/ SUGGESTED READING

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