Osteochondral autografts in full thickness patella cartilage lesions

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to evaluate clinical, functional and imaging results of full thickness patella cartilage lesions treated with osteochondral autografts (OCA). We studied a consecutive case series of 10 patients. At follow-up, Lysholm and International Knee Documentation Committee (IKDC) scores were obtained. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) evaluation was performed at an average of 8 months post-op. The average cartilage lesion area was 1.2 cm(2). An average of 1.9 grafts was used per patient. The average Lysholm scores were: pre-op 73.8 +/- 8.36; post-op 95 +/- 4.47 points ($p < 0.05$). The average IKDC post-op score was 95 +/- 1.74 points. No postoperative complications were registered. In the MRI analysis we found that in all cases. OCA presented flush characteristics when compared with adjacent cartilage. The majority of cases presented no fissures in the graft-receptor interface (60%). In 80% we observed mild bone marrow edema around the graft. According to the International Cartilage Research Society (ICRS) cartilage lesions classification, all grafts were considered 1A; in the periphery cartilage was classified as 1A in 60%. We conclude that patellar OCA is a good alternative for the treatment of full thickness patellar cartilage lesions, offering good clinical, functional and imaging results at midterm follow-up. (C) 2010 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Palabras clave

Palabras clave de autor: Patellar cartilage lesion; Full thickness; Osteochondral autograft; Clinical follow-up
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