Psoas Muscle Mass are Maintained and No Progression of Fatty Degeneration after Lateral Lumber Interbody Fusion

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Background

The effect of surgical dissection through the psoas muscle on muscle volume and fatty degeneration from lateral lumbar interbody fusion (LLIF) is not well understood.
The aim of this study is to determine the effect of dilation through the psoas muscle during LLIF as assessed by MRI following a year of postop recovery.
Subjects

✓ 2016-2017, Scripps Clinic La Jolla

✓ Degenerative Lumbar Disease

✓ L4-5 single level LLIF & bilateral PPS fixation
  Transpsoas approach, triggered electromyography

✓ Pre- and 1 y post-Op MRI

✓ Exclusion Criteria: Past surgical Hx, contraindication for MRI
Muscle Measurement

- Pre- and 1y post-Op MRI, T2 axial image at L4/5
- Cross sectional area (CSA) of psoas muscle
- Fat area (red area) with threshold method

Pre- and 1y Post-Op

- Psoas CSA
- Fat area (FA)
- Oswestry Disability Index (ODI)
- Numeric Rating Score (NRS) for back and leg pain
Statistical Analysis

Paired T test, Chi squared test, Pearson’s correlation, Partial correlation,
P<0.05 considered significant
Results
## Patient’s Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N</th>
<th>20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male, female</td>
<td>7, 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>67.8 ± 8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>166.8 ± 8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (kg)</td>
<td>78.4 ± 15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI (kg/m²)</td>
<td>28.0 ± 4.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Clinical Symptoms before and after Surgery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre-Op</th>
<th>1y Post-Op</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ODI</td>
<td>40.6 ± 14.9</td>
<td>16.7 ± 17.3</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRS for back</td>
<td>5.4 ± 3.4</td>
<td>1.1 ± 1.1</td>
<td>&lt; 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRS for leg</td>
<td>5.9 ± 3.1</td>
<td>1.7 ± 2.6</td>
<td>&lt; 0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CSA of Psoas Muscle

Not significant
Fat Area of Psoas Muscle

Not significant
## Correlation between muscle parameters and outcome measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ΔCSA</th>
<th></th>
<th>ΔFA</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>P value</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>P value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ipsi</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔODI</td>
<td>-0.18</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>0.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>ΔNRS for back</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔNRS for leg</td>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contra</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔODI</td>
<td>-0.09</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>-0.52</td>
<td>0.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔNRS for back</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>-0.21</td>
<td>0.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ΔNRS for leg</td>
<td>-0.28</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>-0.45</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No significant correlations
Discussion
Postoperative Muscle Volume

Past report

Ghiasi. Eur Spine J. 2016

✓ Laminectomy, N = 6
✓ Multifidus Muscle,
✓ −11%

Current Study

✓ LLIF, N = 20
✓ Psoas Muscle
✓ Ipsi, +3%
✓ Contra, +4%

Muscle detachment from bone

VS

Sequential dilation of muscle belly
Muscle Fatty Degeneration

✓ Progressed after lumbar laminectomy.

✓ Progressed with aging.
  Lee SH, Spine J. 2017
  Davison, Aging Clin Exp Res. 2017

✓ More fatty in degenerative lumbar disease.
  Lee JC, Spine. 2008

Current Study

✓ Not progressed after LLIF
Conclusions

After LLIF,

✓ Psoas muscle volume was NOT decreased.

✓ Fatty degeneration was NOT progressed.