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Format: Abstract

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Leukocyte-poor platelet-rich plasma versus bupivacaine for recalcitrant lateral epicondylar tendinopathy.

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Abstract

PURPOSE: To compare a single leukocyte-poor (type-4B) **platelet-rich plasma** (PRP) injection versus bupivacaine injection for recalcitrant lateral epicondylar tendinopathy (LET).

METHODS: 25 patients aged 27 to 50 years with painful and recalcitrant LET of the humerus were randomised to receive leukocyte-poor (type-4B) PRP (n=15) or bupivacaine (n=10) injection. Outcome measures included visual analogue scale (VAS) for pain, modified Mayo clinic performance index for **elbow** (MMCPIE) for **elbow** function, and Nirschl score for activity-related pain at 1, 3, 6, and 12 months by a single assessor.

RESULTS: At baseline, the PRP and bupivacaine groups were comparable in terms of age, sex, duration of symptoms, VAS for pain, MMCPIE score, and Nirschl score. After one month, the percentage of improvement was less in the PRP than bupivacaine group in terms of the VAS for pain (17.7% vs. 26.5%), MMCPIE score (24.0% vs. 27.6%), and Nirschl score (20.7% vs. 31.1%). Nonetheless, improvement in the respective scores was greater in the PRP than bupivacaine group after 3 months (42.5% vs. 30.9%, 34.1% vs. 27.2%, and 50.7% vs. 39.6%), 6 months (67.3% vs. 20.1%, 40.6% vs. 16.3%, and 71.4% vs. 31.1%), and one year (83.2% vs. 45.6%, 47.0% vs. 21.7%, and 76.6% vs. 56.3%). The differences in scores between groups were significant at 6 months and one year only (p<0.001).

CONCLUSION: Leukocyte-poor (type-4) PRP injection for recalcitrant LET enabled good improvement in pain and function.

KEYWORDS: platelet-rich plasma; tennis elbow

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Publication types, MeSH terms, Substances

Publication types Comparative Study Randomized Controlled Trial

MeSH terms

Adult Anesthetics, Local/administration & dosage* Bupivacaine/administration & dosage* Female Glucocorticoids/administration & dosage* Humans Injections Male Middle Aged Platelet-Rich Plasma* Tennis Elbow/diagnostic imaging Tennis Elbow/therapy* Ultrasonography

Substances

Anesthetics, Local Glucocorticoids Bupivacaine

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