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Title: Needle aponeurotomy for Dupuytren’s contracture, the HULC experience.

Patients with Dupuytren’s disease (DD) have increasing access to internet information regarding needle aponeurotomy (NA) as a minimally invasive treatment for Dupuytren’s contracture. It is likely that patients will request this treatment modality in increasing numbers. To investigate the indications and safety profile of this treatment method, we reviewed the experience at the Hand and Upper Limb Centre in the use of this treatment modality.

Methods:

Consecutive patients treated with NA since Jan 2008 were reviewed and analysis is still ongoing.

Results:

NA is a safe and effective modality for MP joint contractures with a precentral cord
NA is less useful in the treatment of PIPJ contractures with diffuse proximal phalangeal disease
NA is useful to relieve a sense of tightness in patients with mild disease without joint contractures

Conclusions:

NA may be a rapid and useful adjunct in the treatment of DD, in particular for mild disease and disease affecting the MPJ only.