

Duke University School of Medicine

ALPSA Lesions Are Associated with High Rate of Early Repair Failure

Benjamin W Hoyt MD, Buddy G Yow MD, Cory A Riccio MD, Zachary J Bloom MD, John-Paul Rue MD, Jon F Dickens MD, Lance E LeClere MD

INTRODUCTION

- Anterior labroligamentous periosteal sleeve avulsion (ALPSA) lesions :
- Occur more frequently in patients with recurrent shoulder instability —
- Associated with higher rates of failure after capsulolabral repair surgery compared to typical Bankart lesions
- Relatively limited data to understand the associated injuries and postoperative course in patients with ALPSA lesions
- The primary research questions were:
 - What are the injury patterns and other patient features most commonly associated with ALPSA lesions?
 - What is the postoperative course and what are the expected 5+ year outcomes after repair for ALPSA lesions?
 - Can this information be used to guide treatment and/or counseling for patients with ALPSA lesions?





Figure 1. MRI arthrogram axial images demonstrating sequential cuts of an ALPSA lesion

METHODS

- Patient population:
 - Patients who underwent arthroscopic shoulder stabilization by either of two fellowship trained sports surgeons at a single facility between January 2010 and December 2015
 - Minimum follow-up of five years after index surgical repair
 - Presence of an ALPSA lesion as identified on arthroscopic exam
- Collected demographics, injury mechanism, ISI scores, symptoms and instability history, imaging, and intra-operative features
- Failure = any recurrent shoulder instability events including subjective subluxation and dislocation, recurrence of pain consistent with instability, or functionally limiting apprehension.



Figure 2. Arthroscopic images at the onset of arthroscopic labral repair for ALPSA lesion taken from (A) the posterior viewing portal and (B) the anterior superior portal

METHODS

- **Outcome Measures:**
 - Rates of associated intra-articular shoulder pathology on MRI or at the time of surgery
 - Rates of failure and time of failure/recurrence
- Analysis
 - Survival analysis for longitudinal outcomes



Figure 3. Arthroscopic images demonstrating (A) medialized labrum, (B) mobilized labral tissue retracted to the appropriate position laterally on the glenoid face, and (C) the repaired ALPSA lesion





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RESULTS

atient /	Factor	Median (IQR)
emographic	Age at Surgery (Years)	20.1 (19.6-22.0)
actors	ISI Score	5 (3-5)
	Instability Events	3 (2-4)
	Time Injury to Surgery (Months)	6.7 (3.2-23.6)
reoperative	Factor	N (%)
ymptoms	Instability	46 (100%)
	Pain	44 (96%)
oncomitant	Factor	N (%)
athology	Posterior Labral Tear	11 (24%)
	SLAP Tear	11 (24%)
	GLAD Lesion	5 (11%)
	HAGL Lesion	0
ear Size /	Factor	Median (IQR)
reatment	Tear Size (Hours)	3.5 (3-4)
	Anterior Anchors	4 (3-4.75)

- Eight failures at median 15.1 months post-index procedure
- 75% of failures occurring before two years
- High rate of failure after revision repair (3/8, 37.5%)



Figure 4. Survival analysis after arthroscopic labral repair in patients with ALPSA lesions

CONCLUSION

ALPSA lesions frequently occur in the presence of other intraarticular shoulder lesions and portend a high rate of recurrent shoulder instability despite repair.

While failure occurs at a high rate, most repair failure for these lesions tends to occur early.