

The Anatomy of the Posterior and Posterolateral Corner of the Knee

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Introduction

To confirm the complex structures of the deep layer of posterolateral corner and the safe range of the posterior capsule incision.

Material and Methods

Seven cadaveric knees were obtained ranging in age from 39 to 55 years and male to female ratio was 5 to 2.

Result

The lateral collateral ligament was inserted on anteroinferior lateral part of the fibular. The popliteofibular ligament was identified in all cases and 6 of 7 ligaments were separated into anterior and posterior fascicle. The direct attachment of the popliteal tendon to the tibia was not identified. Safe range of the posterior capsular incision to protect the oblique popliteal ligament and the popliteal tendon was very narrow.

Conclusion

The third layer of the posterolateral ligament should be dissected preciously with a sharp blade. It is an important findings that the lateral collateral ligament was inserted on anteroinferior lateral portion of the fibular head and the popliteofibular ligament was inserted on posterosuperior medial portion of the fibular. The direct attachment of the popliteal tendon to the tibia could not be identified. Surgeons should be careful to protect the popliteal tendon.

Key word: Knee, posterior, posterolateral corner, anatomy