

Arthroscopic treatment for a persistent hemarthrosis in the shoulder joint due to massive rotator cuff tear: a case report

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Purpose

We report on a case report of an elderly female patient with a persistent hemarthrosis due to massive rotator cuff tear who underwent arthroscopic hemostasis.

Case

82y.o, female with high blood pressure. She suffered from a spontaneous hemarthrosis of her shoulder without any traumatic episode and had pain continuously at night in her left shoulder. Hemarthrosis was aspirated once a week/fortnight with temporary reduction of night pain. After 6 months from the onset, she underwent an arthroscopic hemostasis for the active bleeding point from the massive rotator cuff tear and the synovium with significant pain relief and disappearance of subcutaneous bleeding. Hemarthrosis has not recurred for 3 months postoperatively.

Discussion

Taking into account this patient's activity, the ROM improvement was not intended. Regarding the pathogenesis of the persistent hemarthrosis, the biologic reactions and mechanical attrition of the humeral head and the fragility of the vessels in the elderly are postulated in the literature.

Conclusion

It is possible that arthroscopic hemostasis for a persistent hemarthrosis of the shoulder in the elderly is minimum invasive and will lead to pain relief without obvious complication. (191 words<200 words)