

Augmentation and Grafting of Massive Rotator Cuff Repairs with Biceps Tendon

- Dr. Chudik developed and published an arthroscopic method to reinforce the rotator cuff repair site with an extra portion of the biceps tendon to make the rotator cuff tendon thicker, more robust and less likely to fail.

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Arthroscopic Rotator Cuff Repair With Biceps Tendon Augmentation

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ABSTRACT
Arthroscopic rotator cuff repair has become an increasingly popular treatment for rotator cuff tears. For orthopedic surgeons, treating large to massive rotator cuff tears is challenging in many ways. Patients with this pathology do not have the same healing rates and clinical outcomes as patients with smaller tears. Some surgeons have augmented repair with collagen-based grafts, but the success of this method has been limited.

The same patient population may have concomitant biceps tendon pathology. Biceps tenotomy and biceps tenodesis are procedures in the surgeon's treatment armamentarium. Rotator cuff repair and biceps tenodesis or tenotomy are commonly performed simultaneously.

In this article, we describe a technique that incorporates biceps tenodesis into double-row rotator cuff repair with the goal of providing more collagen and, ultimately, more healing potential.

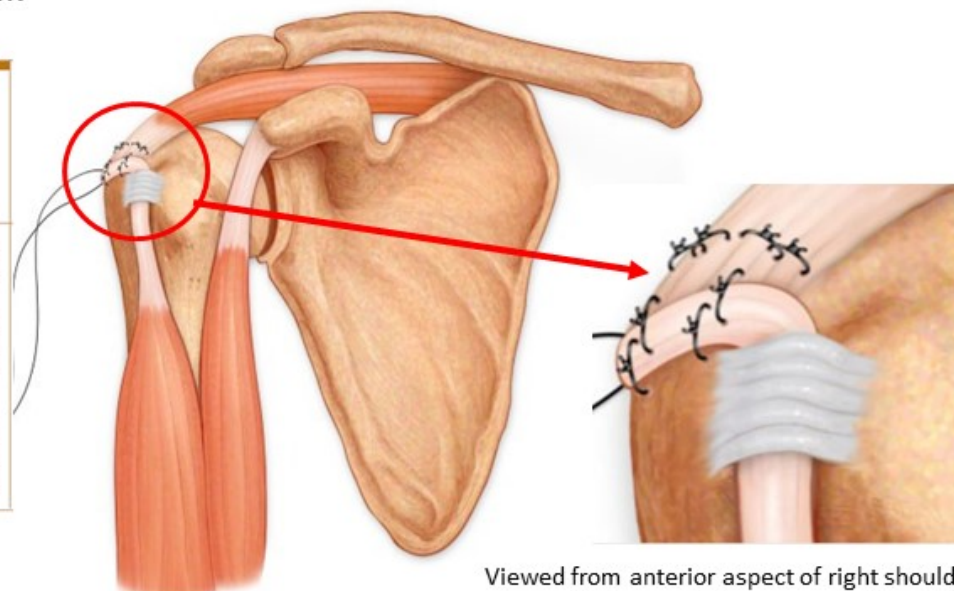
nique that uses the biceps tendon to augment the repair has been reported to have improved rates of postoperative repair integrity.⁷ To our knowledge, this technique has not been described arthroscopically.

In this article, we describe a technique that incorporates biceps tenodesis into double-row rotator cuff repair with the goal of providing more collagen to support the repair.

TECHNIQUE

Standard beach-chair or lateral positioning is used for the shoulder arthroscopy. Dr. Chudik prefers beach-chair positioning after interscalene block, induction of general anesthesia, and administration

“To be determined.”



Viewed from anterior aspect of right shoulder, this schematic demonstrates augmentation of double-row rotator cuff with long head of biceps tendon.

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