



SEMITENDINOSUS AND GRACILIS TENDONS AFTER ACL RECONSTRUCTION EXPLANT

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Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) reconstruction has exponentially grown up in last years. For patellar tendon reconstruction a large number of studies have evaluated the harvesting site of the graft. On the contrary for what it regards the semitendinous and gracilis tendons, only in last years some works have appeared about the regeneration of the tendons.

Some works about the use of NMR and strength recover are already available and also some studies about using of ultrasound have demonstrated the regeneration of the mentioned tendons.

Just one work made by Ferretti (1) has demonstrated in second look cases the real presence of new tendons. To evaluate the amount of this regrowth, we have analysed with ultrasounds these tendons in pre-operating period and in the early post-operating one, to evaluate the ascension of the muscular body.

In revision cases, we have searched and found the tendons at their insertion site, and then we have made on them a histological study to evaluate the type of the reconstructed tissue.

We have also made an isokinetical evaluation on second look cases to evaluate their muscular strength. The results have been encouraging and they demonstrate a good regrowth by both a functional and anatomical point of view.

References

1. Ferretti A et al. Regeneration of the semitendinosus tendon after its use in anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction: a histologic study of three cases. *Am J Sports Med* 30(2):204-7, 2002.
