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Review of Donor Site Complications Among Different Intra-Abdominal Vascularized Lymph Node Free Flaps: Future Tendency of Application Based on Anatomical Considerations

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Running Head: Intra-abdominal Vascularized Lymph Node Transfer

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Transfer of lymph node flap (LNF) has become popular in surgical management of lymphedema as a means of providing physiologic lymph drainage. A variety of donor site options have been reported, and their effects are still under investigation, but a consensus is to minimize the donor site complications. Among them, iatrogenic lymphedema is one of the least desirable complications. Therefore, the intra-abdominal options, theoretically free of iatrogenic lymphedema, is getting more accepted. We review the current options and discuss their precautions and indications.

A literature search was performed in the PubMed, Scopus, and Embase database using “lymphedema” and “vascularized lymph node transfer” as keywords in February 2018. Only human studies were taken into consideration. For the purpose of this study, only intra-abdominal options were included. A total of seven articles were identified (**Table 1**). All of them were in English. The donor site complications were compared and discussed. Statistical analysis was conducted with Stata 9.1 (StataCorp, Inc., College Station, TX). Chi-squared

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