Lumbar Plexus Schwannoma

Traditional techniques for resection of lumbar plexus tumors have been associated with approachrelated morbidity. We describe a case utilizing a minimally invasive transpsoas lateral access approach to resect a retroperitoneal tumor of the lumbar plexus. Methods We report a case with an extradural retroperitoneal schwannoma of the L4 nerve root that was treated with a minimally invasive direct lateral transpsoas approach using atraumatic tissue dilators and an expandable tubular retractor. The use of directional and continuous electromyographic monitoring was critical in locating the plexus and positioning the retractor immediately anterior to the tumor. Results The patient tolerated the procedure well without postoperative complications. The operative approach was direct and intraoperative blood loss was negligible. The patient demonstrated improved left leg strength and ambulation and resolution of paresthesias. Conclusions A minimally invasive direct lateral transpsoas access approach is an effective technique to safely and adequately resect extradural retroperitoneal lumbar plexus tumors¹⁾.

1)

Benjamin CG, Oermann EK, Thomas JA, Distaso CT, Sandhu FA. Minimally Invasive Direct Lateral Transpsoas Approach for the Resection of a Lumbar Plexus Schwannoma: Technique Report. Surg J (N Y). 2016 Aug 6;2(3):e66-e69. doi: 10.1055/s-0036-1587692. eCollection 2016 Jul. PubMed PMID: 28824993; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5553498.

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