

The Direct Carotid Approach with a Small Skin Incision for Carotid Angioplasty and Stenting

Masanori TSUTSUMI, Kiyoshi KAZEKAWA, Minoru IKO, Tomonobu KODAMA,
Kouhei NII, Masanari ONIZUKA, Shuko MATSUBARA, Hiroshi AIKAWA,
Makoto TOMOKIYO and Akira TANAKA

Department of Neurosurgery, Chikushi Hospital, Fukuoka University, Chikushino, Japan

Abstract : Back ground : One major limitation of carotid angioplasty and stenting (CAS) is the inaccessibility of the lesion due to systemic atherosclerotic changes. This report introduces a new technique for performing CAS utilizing a direct carotid approach with a small skin incision. Method : This technique was used in five patients in whom a transfemoral approach was not appropriate. The proximal common carotid artery was exposed and directly cannulated with a 7-French sheath, and then the CAS procedure was performed with cerebral protection. The sheath was withdrawn and the puncture site was sutured to achieve definite and quick hemostasis. Results : In all cases, the CAS procedures could be successfully carried out. None of the patients experienced any complications attributable to the direct carotid approach. Conclusions : The direct carotid approach with a small skin incision for CAS is therefore considered to be a safe and effective treatment in cases in which the transfemoral approach is either inappropriate or difficult to perform.

Key words : Carotid stenosis, Direct carotid approach, Endovascular, Skin incision, Stent