

Flowchart for monitoring free flaps by use of Microdialysis



Introduction

“Microdialysis has been the standard procedure for surveillance of all free flaps at our Department of Plastic Surgery since 1998. We analyze glucose, lactate, pyruvate and glycerol every half hour for the first 24 hours and with longer intervals until removal of the catheter after 5 days. Glucose, lactate and glycerol are the main metabolites of significance. Standard alarm limits for evaluation of the patient and the flap are: glucose below 1 mM and lactate above 10 mM or a clear trend in the values. Standard alarm limits for re operation are: Glucose below 0.1 mM and lactate above 15 mM or continuously ischemic trend without effect of interaction.”

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