



# ANALGESIC EFFECT OF ADDING POPLITEAL PLEXUS BLOCK TO STANDARD SAPHENOUS NERVE BLOCK IN PATIENTS SCHEDUELED FOR ELECTIVE ARTHROSCOPIC ANTERIOR CRUTIATE LIGAMENT RECONSTRUCTION: RANDOMIZED OBSERVER BLIND CLINICAL TRIAL

BY

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### RANDOMIZED OBSERVER BLIND CLINICAL TRIAL

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** ACL injury is traumatic and debilitating and is typically repaired using an arthroscopic technique performed as an outpatient surgical procedure. However, many patients complain that the postoperative pain is severe for the first 24 hours following the ACL reconstruction (ACLR). Adductor canal block (ACB) shows conflicting results for postoperative pain control after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction. Popliteal plexus block (PPB) is a novel sensory block to posterior knee compartment.

**Aim of the work:** we investigated in our study the effect of supplemental PPB to ACB on post-operative pain outcomes in comparison with ACB alone in patients scheduled to ACLR with hamstring graft operation.

**Methodology**: Patients scheduled to knee arthroscopy with ACLR using a graft from the ipsilateral hamstring were randomised in two groups . Subjects in Group A received adductor canal block only while subjects in Group B received combined ACB and popliteal plexus block

**Results:** In 60 subjects scheduled to ACLR, there were significant differences between 2 groups. The time of the first hour analgesic request (TFR) was higher for the combined adductor and the Popliteal plexus block (median = 8 hours) compared to the adductor block only (median = 0.5 hour). Morphine consumption was lower for the combined adductor and the Popliteal plexus block (median = 12 mg) compared to the adductor canal block only (median = 30 mg). No of requested dose was lower for the combined adductor and Popliteal plexus block (median = 3 doses) compared to the adductor block only (median = 7 doses).

**Conclusion:** The addition of popliteal plexus block to ACB results in a significant reduction in pain or opioid consumption after ACLR with ipsilateral hamstring graft.

**Keywords:** Adductor canal block, Popliteal Plexus Block, Arthroscopic Anterior Crutiate Ligament Reconstruction, post-operative pain