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Low-energy shock wave therapy in the management of wound healing following Fournier's gangrene – a new approach

This is a report on postoperative management of wound healing in four cases of Fournier's gangrene which have been successfully carried out by use of Low-intensity Shock Wave Therapy (Li-ESWT). In three cases, with Li-ESWT (3 sessions per week with 2000 shock waves at 3 Hz applying 0.25 mJ/mm²) we were able to close wound dehiscence secondary to plastic surgery with skin flaps. In one patient, Li-ESWT resulted in complete closure of the extended wound with restoration of the local scrotal and penile skin. This is the first report on successful application of Li-ESWT for this indication. The restoration of local skin rather than closure of the wound by fibrous tissue could be related to promotion of stem cells, which has been discussed previously for other indications, such as treatment of chronic ulcers respectively restoration of the pelvic floor.

Recent Publications

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4. Haupt G, Haupt A, Ekkernkamp A, Gerety B, Chvapil M. Influence of shock wave healing. Urology 1992; 39: 529-532
5. Rassweiler J et al. Re: Extracorporeal shock wave therapy (ESWT) in Urology: A systematic review of outcome in Peyronie's disease, erectile dysfunction, and chronic pain. (Words of Wisdom) Eur Urol 2018; 74: 115-117
6. Lin G, Van Kuiken M, Wang G, Banie L, Tan Y, Zhou F, Wang Z, Chen Y, Zhang Y, Lue TF. Microenergy acoustic pulse therapy restores function and structure of pelvic floor muscles after simulated birth injury. Transl Androl Urol. 2022 May;11(5):595-606.

Biography

Jens Rassweiler started his Urological Education in 1982 at Katharinen hospital, Stuttgart. From 1988 to 1994 he was the Vice-chair of the Department of Urology, Medical School Mannheim. He was involved in the clinical introduction of extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy including three generations of lithotripters. In 1992, he was the first German Urologist to perform a laparoscopic nephrectomy. In 1994, he became the Chairman of the Department of Urology and Pediatric Urology at SLK Kliniken Heilbronn, University of Heidelberg. In 2020, he was president of the German Society of Urology (DGU). He was elected as the Chair of the faculty of Urology and Andrology of the Danube Private University in Krems, Austria in the year 2022.

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