The Main Types of Mistakes in the Treatment of Wrist Pathology and The Principles of Their Prevention

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Methods: From more over 12,000 patients treated surgically in one hand surgery center for 8 years – 360 cases of wrist pathology, where the reason or result of surgical treatment were diagnostic or treatment mistakes has been selected. Both the structure of mistakes and the cause-and-effect mechanisms that determine their occurrence was analyzed.

Diagnostic mistakes

Results: Most represented nosologies were mis-treated fractures of distal radius, scaphoid, and perilunate dislocation. In addition, a number of more rare pathologies such as Kienbock’s disease osteod-osteoma, rare fractures, different types of instability or diseases and other pathologies had their distinctive, typical cause-and-error-effect characteristics. Some of mistakes have behavioral origin, some are related to beliefs or the influence of statistical data, and sometimes as a result of social distortions.

Technical mistakes

Conclusions: Thoughtful review of typical mistakes and analysis of their origin will, perhaps, reduce their level. Obedience to the classical chrestomathy approach to patient examination, and practice of the most effective therapeutic options, critical approach to own work, combination of personal and others experience and constant education – will minimize the mistakes. However, they will always accompany any non-theoretic doctor.