

## LIMB SALVAGE IN AN EXTENSIVE AND COMPLICATED VASCULAR LESION IN AN INFANT



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### Abstract

#### Background:

Extensive vascular lesions can endanger the life of a child by their virtue of consumptive coagulopathy or cardiac failure. A conservative surgical approach is difficult and can be life-threatening due to uncontrolled bleeding. We report successful limb salvage in an infant despite an extensive and infected arterio-venous malformation of upper limb, complicated by severe consumptive coagulopathy

#### Case:

A term male, 3.2kgs, presented with a swelling over left arm detected antenatally. Antenatal scan- soft tissue swelling 10.8 x 6.8 x 5.4cm from left shoulder to elbow with heterogeneous cystic spaces and minimal vascularity. O/E- non compressible, no bruit heard.

#### Investigations:

Doppler – hypoechoic lesion+ heterogeneous echotexture, numerous cystic spaces, weak color Doppler signal- S/O- Hemangioma

MRI- lobulated soft tissue mass 17 x 16 x 9.5cm with an intensive enhancement, necrotic and hemorrhagic areas, involving flexor and extensor muscles of the arm. Supplied by branches of axillary and brachial arteries. Diagnosed as- Hemangioma, hence was started on propranolol 0.5 mg/kg/ day. At 4 months of age surgery became an imperative life

saving mode of treatment.

#### Operative procedure:

- Planned for amputation/disarticulation
- Axillary vessels identified and controlled
- Tumor excised in toto
- Flexor and extensor muscles preserved as much as possible
- Radial nerve through the tumor was divided and re-anastomosed
- Disarticulation was hence avoided.
- Arm and hand movements preserved at 10mth follow-up





### ***Biography:***

Dr. Sujata Sai is a resident in surgery at Manipal Hospital, Bangalore. She is passionate about saving and changing lives. She also enjoys blogging about her experiences as a surgical resident. She has consistently done excellently academically, and has excelled in multiple extracurricular activities as well – She has given the Trinity College of Music Piano exams, is a part of several volunteer organisations for social service and participates in several sports as well.

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