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Nerve entrapment syndromes in the upper extremity

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Abstract

Compression neuropathies have become one of the more common chronic conditions seen by hand surgeons. It is typically the complaint of numbness in the hand, forearm, or upper arm that prompts most primary care physicians to seek consultation for their patients. The term "carpal tunnel" has become increasingly commonplace, especially in this new era of typing and texting, and has become the catchall term for numbness in the hand. But as we can all remember from the many hours spent in the anatomy lab dissecting the brachial plexus, there are numerous nerves with various connections and branches that travel distally from the upper arm to the fingertip, leaving various areas for injury, degeneration, and entrapment. Thus it is our job as physicians to accurately diagnose the cause of our patients' loss of sensation and properly treat our findings. The goal of this presentation will be to discuss nerve anatomy, injury to the nerve, nerve studies and EMG testing, specific nerve entrapment syndromes, and their treatment regimens, both non-surgical and surgical.

Biography

Mangonon is the Chief of Hand Surgery at Plancher Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine (Manhattan, NY and Cos Cob, CT). He completed his orthopaedic hand surgery fellowship at The University at Buffalo (Buffalo, NY), his general surgery residency at The Lutheran Medical Center (Brooklyn, NY), his medical studies at The Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Fort Lauderdale, FL), and his undergraduate studies at The Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD). Dr. Mangonon treats diseases of the upper extremity in the adult and pediatric populations. His research focus has been on nerve entrapment and its management.

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