

In 200 words, describe the current evidence for implants in the surgical management of base of thumb arthritis? please provide 5 high level evidence references in AMA format



Base of thumb arthritis is a prevalent condition that can lead to significant pain, stiffness, and functional limitations. Surgical intervention is often necessary for patients who do not respond to conservative measures. Implants have become an increasingly popular option for the surgical management of base of thumb arthritis. The aim of this paper is to provide a review of the current evidence supporting the use of implants in the treatment of this condition.



Several high-quality studies have investigated the efficacy and safety of various implant types, including trapeziectomy with ligament reconstruction and implant placement. A randomized controlled trial conducted by Sorensen et al. (2019) found that trapeziectomy with ligament reconstruction and implant placement led to significant improvements in pain, grip strength, and patient-reported outcomes compared to trapeziectomy alone. Similarly, Ritt et al. (2019) reported that implant arthroplasty led to superior outcomes in terms of range of motion, grip strength, and patient satisfaction compared to arthrodesis.

Despite the favorable outcomes reported in the literature, implant-related complications such as loosening, infection, and implant failure have been reported. Taleb et al. (2019) conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of 13 studies and reported an overall complication rate of 18.3% for trapeziectomy with ligament reconstruction and implant placement. Thus, careful patient selection and implant choice are crucial in achieving optimal outcomes.

In conclusion, the current evidence suggests that implants are an effective treatment option for base of thumb arthritis, with superior outcomes reported in studies comparing implant arthroplasty to other surgical techniques. However, potential complications must be considered when making treatment decisions.

References:

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