Left Atrial Femoral Bypass Set-up for Descending Aortic Aneurysm Using the Cardiotomy Reservoir

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ABSTRACT

An oxygenator is not needed for bypass of the descending thoracic aorta from the left atrium to the femoral artery. This technique has been utilized on several occasions and found to be very satisfactory.

The cardiotomy reservoir can be used as a receptacle when pumping the blood from the left atrium to perfuse the body below the descending aorta. With this technique a cardiotomy sucker can be used so any pooled blood from bleeding during or after the bypass can be transfused to the patient. (See Figure 4).

Figure 3: Disposable tubing holder.
ABSTRACT

To avoid suturing tubing to cloth drapes or skin, we have fashioned a tubing holder using a Discard-a-Pad which is used in surgery for discarding used needles. The adhesive side of the pad will stick to the plastic skin drape and will stay in place once it is applied.

A convenient tubing holder can be adapted from the Ethnor Sharps Disposal Discard-a-Pad. The Discard-a-Pad is a piece of foam-rubber coated cardboard with an adhesive coating on one half of the pad. By folding the pad in half, adhesive side outward, and stitching heavy sutures through the folded pad, a stationary tubing holder can be fashioned. The pad can be positioned as desired. As the tubes are handed off the operative field to the perfusionist, they are tied in place to the pad. (See Figure 3)

Figure 4: Left atrial femoral bypass set-up for descending aortic aneurysm using the cardiotomy reservoir.