Distal Biceps Repair using the BicepsButton™ and Tension-Slide Technique

Surgical Technique
Distal Biceps Repair using the BicepsButton and Tension-Slide Technique

Background
Distal biceps tendon repair using the BicepsButton and tension-slide technique allows the surgeon to tension and repair the biceps tendon through a single anterior incision. The combination of the cortical button fixation coupled with an interference screw creates a strong, anatomic repair.

Surgical Technique
Place the patient in a supine position on the operating room table under a general anesthesia with a tourniquet applied but not regularly inflated. Make a 4 cm transverse incision approximately 3 cm distal to the elbow flexion crease. Identify the lateral antebrachial cutaneous nerve and retract it laterally. Identify the retracted distal end of the biceps tendon and deliver it through the incision. Debride the end of the tendon to remove any degenerative or diseased tissue. The tendon should pass through a 7 mm sizing block to ensure that it will fit through an 8 mm bone tunnel.

Whipstitch 2.5 cm of the distal end of the biceps tendon using a FiberLoop®, making sure to lock the sutures by making the final pass proximal to the previous pass. Cut the FiberLoop near the needle, ensuring adequate length suture limbs. Mark a line on the tendon 1 cm from the end to help visualize the tendon docking into the radial tuberosity.

Thread one limb of suture through one side of the BicepsButton and back through the opposite side. Thread the other suture limb through the button in the same manner, starting on the opposite side as the first suture limb. Make certain that the suture limbs are not tangled. Pull on each suture limb simultaneously to ensure that the button slides freely on the sutures.

With the elbow in full extension and full supination, expose the radial tuberosity and debride it of any remaining soft tissue. Drill a 3.2 mm bi-cortical tunnel through the radial tuberosity, aiming 30˚ ulnar to maximize the distance from the posterior interosseous nerve (PIN). Use fluoroscopy to confirm drill placement in the radial tuberosity.

Drill an 8 mm uni-cortical tunnel over the 3.2 mm guide pin and remove both the pin and reamer. Copiously irrigate the wound to remove bone dust and fragments.
Hold tension on all four suture limbs and insert the tip of the Button Inserter into the end of the Biceps Button. Maintain tension on the sutures and insert the Biceps Button through both cortices of the radial tuberosity. Flexing the forearm 20° to 30° can aid in button and tendon insertion. Use fluoroscopy to verify that the button is deployed through both cortices. Pull the lever back on the Button Inserter to release the button.

Pull on the free suture limbs to seat the button against the radius. Use fluoroscopy to confirm button deployment. Grasp each limb of suture and slowly apply tension to dock the tendon into the bone tunnel. The previously marked line may also aid in visual confirmation that the tendon is fully docked into the bone tunnel.

Once the tendon is fully seated, use a free needle and pass one limb through the tendon and tie a knot, using a knot pusher if necessary.

Load the 7 mm x 10 mm PEEK Tenodesis Screw onto the Tenodesis driver and load one suture limb through the driver. Insert the screw on the radial side of the bone tunnel, pushing the tendon more ulnar. The screw should seat flush with the anterior cortex.

Tie the suture limbs over the screw to complete the repair.

Post-Op Protocol

Place the patient in a soft dressing and allow active supination and pronation of the forearm. Active flexion and extension as tolerated is permitted, but patients should lift nothing heavier than a coffee cup for the first two weeks.
### Ordering Information

**Implants:**

- Distal Biceps Repair Implant System (includes BicepsButton, Button Inserter, FiberLoop, 7 mm x 10 mm PEEK Tenodesis Screw and BicepsButton Drill Pin) AR-2260
- BicepsButton, 12 mm AR-2261
- #2 FiberLoop w/straight needle AR-7234
- PEEK Tenodesis Screw, 7 mm x 10 mm AR-1670PS

**Required Instruments: Included in Bio-Tenodesis Screw System (AR-1675S)**

- Driver for Bio-Tenodesis Screws AR-1670DB
- Tear Drop Handle w/Suture Cleat AR-2001BT
- Headed Reamer, 8 mm, cannulated AR-1408

**Required Disposables:**

- Button Inserter AR-2262
- BicepsButton Drill Pin, 3.2 mm AR-2263
- Nitinol Suture Passing Wire AR-1255-18

**Optional Disposable:**

- Low Profile Reamer, 8 mm AR-1408LP

---


This description of technique is provided as an educational tool and clinical aid to assist properly licensed medical professionals in the usage of specific Arthrex products. As part of this professional usage, the medical professional must use their professional judgment in making any final determinations in product usage and technique. In doing so, the medical professional should rely on their own training and experience and should conduct a thorough review of pertinent medical literature and the product's Directions For Use.

U.S. PATENT NOS. D378,780; 6,544,281; 6,716,234 and PATENT PENDING

© 2013, Arthrex Inc. All rights reserved. LT1-0592-EN_B