

REVIEW ARTICLE

Summary of hands-on supermicrosurgery course and live surgeries at 8th world symposium for lymphedema surgery

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Abstract

The hands-on supermicrosurgery course provided participants a valuable learning experience of in-depth practices of supermicrosurgical skills with experts. Seven live surgeries were successfully demonstrated at 8th World Symposium for Lymphedema Surgery. Variable donor sites for vascularized lymph node transfer were the submental, supraclavicular, groin, and omental; while the recipient sites included the wrist and axilla in upper limb; and popliteal and groin in the lower limb. The therapeutic and preventive lymphovenous anastomosis was also satisfactorily performed.

KEYWORDS

live surgery, lymphedema microsurgery, lymphovenous anastomosis, supermicrosurgery course, vascularized lymph node flap transfer

1 | INTRODUCTION

The World Symposium for Lymphedema Surgery (WSLS) has established a platform to present the most recent scientific advances and future directions in the development and treatment of lymphedema through the efforts of world-renowned experts in this field. The WSLS has played a key role in leading the progress in basic science research and clinical practices in lymphedema surgery since 2011.¹

The recent successful completion of the 8th WSLS at Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in Taoyuan, Taiwan on April 26 to 27 marked another milestone that experts and young surgeons exchanged and

learned technical expertise, research findings as well as versatile approaches for the patients with extremity lymphedema.

One of the program highlights of the 8th WSLS is the pregress hands-on supermicrosurgery course. This educational activity demonstrates a clinically applicable platform to provide future microsurgeons with a unique learning experience in supermicrosurgical techniques directly with the experts.

The audience was not only impressed by seven live surgery demonstrations with the first-hand observation of comprehensive surgical procedures performed by the extrusive microsurgeons but also enlightened with the real-time interaction with the commentators and operators of each procedure.