# Return to Preinjury-Level Sports After Arthroscopic Latarjet for Recurrent Anterior Shoulder Instability in Professional Athletes

Roman Brzoska,\* MD, PhD, Hubert Laprus,\*<sup>†</sup> MD, PhD, Shahbaz S. Malik,<sup>‡</sup> BSc(Hons), MBBCh, MSc(Orth Engin), LLM, Wojciech Solecki,\* MD, Barlomiej Juszczak,\* MD, and Adrian Blasiak,\* MD, PhD

Investigation performed at St Luke's Hospital, Bielsko-Biala, Poland

**Background:** The Latarjet procedure is recommended to treat recurrent anterior shoulder instability with glenoid bone loss. Longer return-to-sport (RTS) times have been reported after the open Latarjet when compared with the arthroscopic Latarjet.

Purpose: To assess the clinical outcomes and RTS in athletes who underwent an arthroscopic Latarjet.

Study Design: Case series; Level of evidence, 4.

**Methods:** This study included 46 professional athletes with recurrent anterior shoulder instability who underwent an arthroscopic Latarjet between 2010 and 2016. Patients were divided by type of sport: noncollision and nonoverhead (n = 22), collision and martial arts (n = 13), and overhead (n = 11). Sport activity was evaluated with the Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic (KJOC) score, Subjective Patient Outcome for Return to Sports score, and RTS time. Clinical results were evaluated by Constant-Murley score, Walch-Duplay score, and range of external and internal rotation. Complication rates, recurrence of shoulder instability, and number of revision procedures were recorded. Correlation tests were used to assess the relationship between measured parameters.

**Results:** The mean ± SD patient age was 27.1 ± 7.3 years, and the mean follow-up was 50.7 ± 18 months. Overall, 44 patients (95.7%) returned to their previously practiced sports, and 40 (87%) returned to their previously. The RTS time was 5 ± 1.4 months, with no significant difference among sport types. KJOC and Subjective Patient Outcome for Return to Sports scores were  $95.2 \pm 5.6$  and  $9.5 \pm 1$ , respectively. Significant pre- to postoperative improvement was seen on the Constant-Murley score (from  $54.3 \pm 9.4$  to  $87.9 \pm 8.2$ ; P = .001) and Walch-Duplay score (from  $53.7 \pm 7.3$  to  $88.1 \pm 10.7$ ; P = .001). Mean postoperative external and internal rotation was 72.8° ± 18.6° and  $81.3° \pm 11.3°$ . Procedure-related complications occurred in 10 patients (21.7%); recurrence of shoulder instability was observed in 4 (8.7%); and 4 (8.7%) underwent revision surgery. A worse Walch-Duplay score was significantly associated with longer RTS time (r = -0.39; P = .019) and lower KJOC score (r = 0.29; P = .03).

**Conclusion:** There was a 95.7% RTS rate after the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure, although the procedure was not free from complications.

Keywords: shoulder instability; professional athletes; athletes; arthroscopic Latarjet; return to sport after shoulder surgery

Recurrent anterior shoulder instability is a common pathology in young active patients, particularly those playing contact sports.<sup>27,38</sup> Surgery is indicated after failure of nonoperative treatment in posttraumatic recurrent anterior instability, especially in professional athletes. Over the years, several surgical techniques have been described to stabilize the shoulder. The main goals of these procedures are to restore glenohumeral joint stability and function and to allow athletes to return to sport (RTS) at a competitive level and as early as possible with minimal surgery-related complications.

Traditionally, the most popular procedure was the open Bankart repair,<sup>4</sup> which was superseded by the arthroscopic technique.<sup>3</sup> However, the results of arthroscopic Bankart repair reflect a high recurrence rate in young athletes, with some studies reporting recurrent instability in 48% of the patients aged  $\leq 20$  years during long-term follow-up.<sup>9,17,32,33</sup> Moreover, for the combined Bankart and Remplissage procedure, 71% of patients were able to return to restriction-free sport,<sup>8</sup> and 77.8% were able to return to their previous levels.<sup>16</sup> To meet the expectations of such a high-demand group of patients, bony augmentation

The Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine, 11(5), 23259671231166371 DOI: 10.1177/23259671231166371 © The Author(s) 2023

This open-access article is published and distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution - NonCommercial - No Derivatives License (https://creativecommons.org/ licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/), which permits the noncommercial use, distribution, and reproduction of the article in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. You may not alter, transform, or build upon this article without the permission of the Author(s). For article reuse guidelines, please visit SAGE's website at http://www.sagepub.com/journals-permissions.

techniques have gained popularity in recent years, especially the open Bristow-Latarjet method,<sup>26</sup> later developed as an arthroscopic technique.<sup>25</sup>

Several studies have been published on RTS after the open Latarjet procedure in athletes.<sup>1,5,6,10,12,20-22</sup> Because the classic Latarjet procedure is performed as open surgery, it constitutes a difficulty of deeper exposure, a bigger risk of bleeding, as well as damage to the subscapularis muscle, and it can require a longer time to RTS. As such, there is an increasing interest in the arthroscopic Latarjet.<sup>10,19,20</sup> However, there is currently only 1 study reporting results and RTS after the arthroscopic Latarjet.<sup>10</sup>

The aim of this study was to report the outcome of the arthroscopic Latarjet in professional athletes in terms of function, complications, time from surgery to RTS, and RTS rate and level. We hypothesized that there will be a high rate of RTS at the preinjury level and that RTS times will be shorter when compared with the open Latarjet.

# METHODS

Ethics committee approval was received for the study protocol. Professional athletes with recurrent anterior shoulder instability who underwent an arthroscopic Latarjet procedure between 2010 and 2016 were eligible for inclusion to the retrospective study. Professional athletes were regarded as athletes who treat sport as a primary occupation and source of income. All surgical procedures were performed by 2 surgeons (R.B. and A.B.), both of whom had >8 years of experience in performing arthroscopic shoulder surgery. The final examination was conducted by 2 authors who were not engaged in performing the surgery (H.L. and W.S.). Exclusion criteria were as follows: voluntary instability, moderate or severe osteoarthritis per the Samilson and Prieto classification,<sup>34</sup> and any previous operative and nonarthroscopic shoulder instability treatment. In addition, patients with follow-up <2 years were excluded.

Preoperative radiologic assessment included plain anteroposterior and axial radiographs and 1.5- or 3.0-T magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to analyze the presence of osteoarthritis and concomitant pathologies, such as rotator cuff tears, long head of biceps tendon pathology, or Hill-Sachs lesion. Sagittal MRI cut, as described by Owens et al,<sup>31</sup> was used to assess glenoid bone loss (GBL) and the glenoid track.<sup>15</sup> The indication for an arthroscopic Latarjet was a GBL of  $\geq$ 15% resulting in a lack of anterior curvature, thereby creating a straight vertical cutoff line called a "flatline"<sup>9</sup> and/or an off-track Hill-Sachs lesion.<sup>15</sup>



**Figure 1.** Particular tendinous cords (white arrows) in the subscapularis muscle as viewed from a posterior portal.

#### Surgical Technique

Surgery was performed with the patient in the beach-chair position under general anesthesia and an interscalene nerve block. The arthroscopic Latarjet procedure performed in our hospital was a modified technique of the one described by Lafosse et al.<sup>24,25</sup>

During the initial arthroscopic examination, labral injury, GBL, and Hill-Sachs lesion were confirmed, and concomitant pathologies, such as a SLAP lesion (superior labrum anterior and posterior), rotator cuff tear, or posterior labrum tear, were identified and repaired in the case of their presence. By viewing through the posterior portal, electrocautery was used to resect the rotator interval at the upper border of the subscapularis. The anteroinferior labrum between 2 and 5 o'clock was resected to expose the glenoid neck. The inspection hole in the capsule between the glenoid neck and the subscapularis was performed to find the proper place of the subscapularis muscle split. The middle glenohumeral ligament was preserved if it did not interfere with creation of the inspection hole in the capsule. While making a decision on the subscapularis split location, we sought to find particular tendinous cords within the subscapularis muscle (Figure 1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Address correspondence to Hubert Laprus, MD, PhD, St Luke's Hospital, Bystrzanska 94B 43-309 Bielsko-Biala, Poland (email: Hubert.laprus@gmail. com).

<sup>\*</sup>St Luke's Hospital, Bielsko-Biala, Poland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust, Worcester, UK.

Final revision submitted December 12, 2022; accepted January 27, 2023.

The authors declared that there are no conflicts of interest in the authorship and publication of this contribution. AOSSM checks author disclosures against the Open Payments Database (OPD). AOSSM has not conducted an independent investigation on the OPD and disclaims any liability or responsibility relating thereto.

Ethical approval for this study was obtained from the regional ethics committee of Bielsko-Biala (No. 2019/05/30/2).



**Figure 2.** Preoperative (A) coronal and (B) sagittal magnetic resonance imaging planning with tendinous cords (1-5) within the subscapularis muscle.



**Figure 3.** (A) A glenoid neck preparation fly bur is introduced through a parallel portal. (B) Graft-shaping procedure by a bur inserted through accessory superior portal.

Only proper visualization of the tendinous cords from the articular side allows one to perform the split between the desired cords, defined as the lower third of the subscapularis muscle, as this "tendon junction" provides compression against the anteroinferior glenoid rim. Preoperative planning based on the MRI helps to predict the number and position of tendinous cords (Figure 2).

The arthroscope was moved from the posterior to anterolateral portal, and the anterior portal was used as a working portal to liberate the anterior and lateral parts of the conjoint tendon. The soft tissue pouch between the subscapularis and conjoint tendon was opened to find a prepared split and to visualize the axillary nerve to avoid any nerve injury. The subscapularis muscle was retracted anteriorly, and a new superior portal parallel to the glenoid was performed to introduce the bur and to prepare the glenoid neck more conveniently. The same portal was also used to prepare the contact surface for the coracoid graft (Figure 3).

When intra-articular preparation was completed, the arthroscope was moved to the anterior portal to finish preparation of the conjoint tendon and coracoid process. The medial border of the coracoid was released from the portal made just above the center of the coracoid process. After the coracoid was harvested, the graft was fixed to the custom-made graft provider (Figure 4) inserted through the anteroinferior portal.

After the coracoid process was harvested, a subscapularis split was performed. The switching stick was introduced through the posterior portal and then, under the control of the camera, through a previously prepared



Figure 4. Custom-made graft provider.



**Figure 5.** Performing the subscapularis split as viewed from an anterior portal. (A) A switching stick, as inserted through the posterior portal and under control of the arthroscope in the anterior portal, is introduced into a previously prepared aperture in the capsule. (B) Afterward, external rotation is performed, resulting in blunt dissection of the subscapularis muscle fibers by the switching stick.

inspection hole in the capsule and subscapularis muscle (Figure 5A). Afterward, external rotation (ER) was performed, resulting in blunt dissection of the subscapularis muscle fibers by the switching stick (Figure 5B).

Given the many cases of osteolysis of the superior part of the graft described in the literature, <sup>24,25,39</sup> the procedure of graft shaping was modified. The graft was shaped into a "half water drop" shape by a burr through the accessory superior portal (Figure 3B). After that, with a custommade graft provider, the coracoid process was transferred to the anteroinferior glenoid. The position of the graft was controlled by the switching stick introduced through the posterior portal to protect the prominent position of the graft. After measurement, 2 titanium screws for fixing the bone block were fastened, and graft placement,



**Figure 6.** Coracoid process (black star) fixed to the anterior rim of the glenoid. (A) The musculocutaneous or axillary nerve (white star) is often located within the subscapularis split and close to the conjoint tendon (black arrow). (B) A switching stick is inserted through the anterolateral portal, and under control of the camera, the musculocutaneous nerve is liberated from adjacent tissues to prevent the nerve from excessive sling tension.

mobility, and stability were examined. Finally, the axillary nerve and musculocutaneous nerve were liberated by the switching stick to minimize the risk of musculocutaneous nerve entrapment, as found in 66% cases within the subscapularis split<sup>18,37</sup> (Figure 6).

### **Rehabilitation Protocol**

The postoperative rehabilitation protocol consisted of a simple shoulder arm sling to prevent pain for 3 to 4 weeks after surgery. During the time in the sling, isometric deltoid exercises and passive ER and internal rotation (IR) exercises were performed twice a day. Active range of motion movements were introduced from the third to fourth week. After 4 weeks, routine radiographs were taken to check graft and hardware position. At this time, stretching exercises were introduced as well as exercises with weightbearing. Each patient was thoroughly examined by the same author (H.L.), different from the surgeon, and the extent of full loading was assessed according to the patient's preoperative load-bearing capability. The loadbearing examination protocol did not differ among patients and consisted of several loaded shoulder exercises performed under supervision of an examiner. Starting from week 10, gradually forced active movements were introduced to restore muscle strength and full range of motion. Three months after surgery, a control radiograph of the shoulder was performed to check for any problems with the graft or hardware. RTS was allowed in cases with radiographic signs of graft union (graft and glenoid rim bone structure continuity), satisfactory range of motion, ability to maintain strengthening exercises, and a negative apprehension test result. All athletes were introduced with occupationspecific workouts before complete RTS.

# **Outcome Measures**

*RTS and Sports Activity.* We defined RTS in this study as the ability to perform full-load training without pain or

significant limitation of the range of motion. We recorded the RTS rate, time of RTS, and whether athletes returned to their preinjury levels. To assess the relationship between RTS rate and type of sport, patients were divided into 3 groups:

Group 1: noncollision and nonoverhead (eg, weightlifting, skiing)

Group 2: collision (eg, hockey, soccer) and martial arts Group 3: overhead (eg, volleyball, handball).

Patients were allocated to groups of sport respectively to patient-related prevalence of 1 of the aforementioned sports. Previous studies showed a 76.8% rate of RTS after arthroscopic stabilization for overhead athletes<sup>11</sup> and 90% for collision athletes.<sup>13</sup>

A 10-item Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic (KJOC) score<sup>2</sup> and Subjective Patient Outcome for Return to Sports (SPORTS) score<sup>7</sup> were used at final follow-up to assess the possibility and quality of sport performance. The KJOC score (maximum, 100) aids in accurate assessment of overhead athletes after injury, treatment, and/or surgery and provides a performance-based measure of outcomes in a high-demand population.<sup>2</sup> The SPORT score is a simple yet validated tool to assess athletes after surgery for shoulder instability.<sup>7</sup> It measures pain, performance, and effort, with a maximum score of 10.

*Functional Outcomes.* Objective shoulder assessment was carried out with pre- and postoperative comparison of the Constant-Murley score<sup>35</sup> and Walch-Duplay score.<sup>36</sup> The postoperative Subjective Shoulder Value (0-100) was also assessed. Postoperative range of ER and IR, which is crucial in many sport activities, was measured in adduction with the use of the goniometer (EasyAngle; Meloq) and compared with the contralateral side. A positive outcome in this study was defined as full restoration of joint stability in terms of the absence of any dislocations and subluxations and an RTS at the same level as before dislocation.

*Complications*. Complication rates, recurrence of shoulder instability, and number of revision surgical procedures per patient were recorded.

# Statistical Analysis

All data were collected and analyzed using PQStat software version 1.8.4 (PQStat Software). The normality of distribution for each parameter was checked with the Shapiro-Wilk test. Outcome comparisons among sport groups were performed by analysis of variance. Pearson correlation analyses were performed to assess the relationship between outcome measures. Statistical significance was set at P < .05.

# RESULTS

Initially, there were 57 shoulders and 57 patients. During the follow-up, 11 patients were lost to follow-up; thus, 46 patients (41 male and 5 female) with a mean  $\pm$  SD age of 27.1  $\pm$  7.3 years were included in the final analysis. The mean follow-up was 50.7  $\pm$  18 months (Table 1). The

TABLE 1
Patient and Surgery Characteristics $(N = 46)^{a}$

Characteristic	No. (%) or Mean ± SD
Sex, female:male	5:41
Side affected, dominant:nondominant	23:23
Age at surgery, y	$27.1\pm7.3$
No. of dislocations <sup><math>b</math></sup>	3.5 (1-20)
Concomitant shoulder pathologies	9 (19.6)
SLAP lesion	4 (8.7)
Posterior labrum lesion	2(4.3)
Supraspinatus tear	2(4.3)
HAGL	1(2.2)
Glenoid bone loss, %	
15-25	12 (26)
$>\!25$	34(74)
Operation time, min	$118.3\pm30.7$
Follow-up time, mo	$50.7 \pm 18$
Revision surgery after arthroscopic Bankart repair	5

 $^a\mathrm{HAGL},\mathrm{humeral}$  avulsion of the glenohumeral ligament; SLAP, superior labrum anterior and posterior.

<sup>b</sup>Mean (range).

TABLE 2Overall Postoperative Sports and Functional Outcome $^{a}$ 

Variable	No. (%) or Mean $\pm$ SD
RTS	44 (95.7)
At the same level	40 (87)
Time, mo	$5\pm1.4$
KJOC	$95.2\pm5.6$
SPORTS	$9.5\pm1$
Functional outcomes	
KJOC	$95.2\pm5.6$
SPORTS	$9.5\pm1$
Walch-Duplay	$88.1\pm10.7$
Constant-Murley	$87.9\pm8.2$
External rotation $^{b}$	
Preoperative:postoperative, deg	68.3:72.8
Postoperative, % of contralateral	97.5
Internal rotation <sup>b</sup>	
Preoperative:postoperative, deg	82.6:81.3
Postoperative, % of contralateral	95.3

<sup>a</sup>KJOC, Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic; RTS, return to sport; SPORTS, Subjective Patient Outcome for Return to Sports. <sup>b</sup>Mean.

dominant shoulder was involved in 23 patients. The time from first dislocation to arthroscopic Latarjet surgery was 4.7  $\pm$  4.7 years. The mean operative time was 118.3  $\pm$  30.7 minutes. Twelve patients (26%) had a GBL between 15% and 25%, while the remaining 34 (74%) had a GBL >25%.

# **RTS and Sports Activity**

After the aforementioned follow-up period, 42/46 patients (91.3%) had a stable shoulder. Of the 46 professional

athletes, 44 (95.7%) returned to their sports, and 40 (87%) returned to their preinjury levels of play. There were 22 patients in group 1 (noncollision/nonoverhead), 13 in group 2 (collision and martial arts), and 11 in group 3 (overhead). The RTS and return-to-preinjury rates by sport group were, respectively, 95.5% (21/22) and 86.4% (19/22) in group 1, 100% (13/13) and 92.3% (12/13) in group 2, and 90.1% (10/11) and 81.8% (9/11) in group 3. The overall mean time to RTS was  $5 \pm 1.4$  months (5 months for group 1, 4.6 months for group 2, and 5.3 months for group 3; P = .214).

# **Functional Outcomes**

RTS and functional outcomes are summarized in Table 2. The KJOC and SPORTS scores were  $95.2 \pm 5.6$  and  $9.5 \pm 1$ , respectively. Significant pre- to postoperative improvement was seen in the Constant score (from  $54.3 \pm 9.4$  to  $87.9 \pm 8.2$ ; P = .001) and Walch-Duplay score (from  $53.7 \pm 7.3$  to  $88.1 \pm 10.7$ ; P = .001). There were no significant differences in pre-to postoperative ER or IR. The mean postoperative ER ( $72.8^{\circ} \pm 18.6^{\circ}$ ) was 97.5% of the contralateral side, and the mean postoperative IR ( $81.3^{\circ} \pm 11.3^{\circ}$ ) was 95.3% of the contralateral shoulder.

# Complications

During the final follow-up period, 4 of 46 (8.7%) patients had a dislocation after trauma during sport activity. There were no reports of subluxation during the follow-up examination. Of 4 patients with recurrence of instability, 2 (4.45%) felt persistent apprehension during sport activities. Postoperative complications occurred in 14 of 46 (30.0%)patients (Table 3), some of which were reported by the same patients.

The most common complications were pain during prolonged weightbearing or after overuse (n = 5; 10.9%), a few cases of which (n = 3; 6.5%) required removal of the superior screw. Three (6.5%) patients reported numbress on the supercoanterior aspect of the forearm; 1(2.7%) had crepitations; and 1 (2.7%) had a posttraumatic failure of hardware after a motorbike accident. This trauma led to fracture of the lower screw, which required arthroscopic removal. The arthroscopic removal of screws and debridement were the only reoperation procedures performed on our population during follow-up. The total reoperation rate was 8.7%. We did not perform additional surgery in case of shoulder redislocation. Every patient with a shoulder dislocation event after a Latarjet procedure was addressed successfully with nonoperative management (brace and physical therapy) and did not require surgery.

Additional procedures to treat concomitant pathologies during the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure were performed in 7 (15.2%) patients (Table 3). There was no significant difference between patients with and without additional treatment procedures in terms of ER range and RTS, as well as KJOC, SPORTS, Walch-Duplay, and Constant scores (P < .05).

TABLE 3 Postoperative Complications and Additional Procedures (N = 46)<sup>a</sup>

Variable	No. (%)
Complications	
Pain	5 (10.9)
Numbness	3(6.5)
Cracking	1(2.2)
Hardware failure	1(2.2)
Postoperative redislocation	4 (8.7)
Total	14 (30.4)
Additional procedures	
SLAP repair	4
Posterior labral repair	2
Supraspinatus repair	1
Total	7 (15.2)

<sup>a</sup>SLAP, superior labrum anterior and posterior.

#### **Correlation Analysis**

According to Pearson correlation analysis, performance of additional procedures for concomitant pathology was not associated with time to RTS or Walch-Duplay score (Table 4). The factors associated with lower KJOC score were recurrent instability (r = 0.385; P = .007), higher number of preoperative dislocations (r = 0.355; P = .03), and lower postoperative Walch-Duplay score (r = 0.29; P =.032). There was no correlation between type of sport (groups 1-3) and redislocation event, sports activity score, or functional score. A worse Walch-Duplay score was significantly associated with longer RTS (r = -0.39; P = .019). Recurrence of instability did not affect RTS time, Walch-Duplay score, Constant score, or ER range, but it was significantly associated with decreased KJOC score (P = .022) and SPORT score (r = 0.387; P = .005). Type of sport was not associated with recurrence of instability or complications. GBL bore no correlation with redislocation events.

## DISCUSSION

The study results show that the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure for treatment of recurrent anterior shoulder instability in athletes averted redislocations in 91.3% of all patients. A longer time to RTS was found in those who had lower Walch-Duplay scores (r = -0.39; P = .019). It should be also emphasized that anterior instability arthroscopic Latarjet treatment did not significantly decrease the postoperative range of ER and IR when compared with the contralateral shoulder (97.5% and 95.3% of contralateral, respectively), which is crucial in many sports activities, especially for overhead athletes. The study results showed that the arthroscopic Latarjet is equally effective in terms of all measured parameters regardless of the type of sport. This is contrary to previous studies, in which overhead athletes had an RTS incidence of 76.8% after arthroscopic stabilization<sup>11</sup> while collision athletes reached an RTS in 90% of cases.<sup>13</sup>

 TABLE 4

 Results of Correlation Analyses<sup>a</sup>

Variable of Interest	r	$P^b$
Additional procedures vs		
RTS	0.19	.18
WD score	-0.08	.31
Recurrent instability vs		
RTS	-0.131	.197
KJOC score	0.385	.007
SPORT score	0.387	.005
Preoperative dislocations vs KJOC score	0.355	.03
Type of sport vs No. of redislocations	0.02	.46
WD score vs		
KJOC score	0.29	.032
RTS	-0.39	.019

<sup>a</sup>KJOC, Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic; RTS, return to sport; SPORTS, Subjective Patient Outcome for Return to Sports; WD, Walch-Duplay.

<sup>b</sup>Bold *P* values indicate statistical significance (P < .05).

In a systematic review with 2134 patients undergoing an open Latarjet, Hurley et al<sup>20</sup> estimated an RTS of 88.8%, of which 72.6% of athletes returned to the same level of play at a mean 5.8 months. Kee et al<sup>22</sup> reported an RTS of 96%, and only 16.1% returned to the same level of sports after an open Latarjet. Recurrence of instability was observed in 5.4% of patients. In a meta-analysis comparing the open Latarjet with other open and arthroscopic stabilization techniques in athletes, Ialenti et al<sup>21</sup> reported an RTS of 73% for the open Latarjet with an instability recurrence rate of 3.5%. In a study by Neyton et al,<sup>30</sup> 65% of athletes were able to RTS, and 56% were able to reach the preinjury level of sport after surgery.

To date, only 1 study has focused on the assessment of function and sport criteria after an arthroscopic Latarjet in athletes. In this study by Buckup et al,<sup>10</sup> 89.4% of the initial 47 patients were able to perform their original sports at a predislocation level after a mean 4.6 months. Furthermore, patients who underwent Latarjet as revision surgery after failed arthroscopic Bankart repair demonstrated a tendency toward prolonged rehabilitation and longer RTS, but they did not show significantly inferior results when compared with patients after a primary Latarjet procedure. However, overhead athletes and martial arts athletes showed a significantly longer time to RTS as compared with noncollision/nonoverhead athletes. This tendency was not confirmed in our study. In the Buckup et al study, 2 patients (4.1%) had a recurrence of instability after trauma, which was comparable with our result (8.7%).

However, Buckup et al<sup>10</sup> did not report any complications.<sup>10</sup> In our study, the rate of complication was 30.4%(n = 14), but just 8.7% (n = 4) of severe cases required revision procedures (3 superior and 1 lower screw removal). The complication rate of 30.4% in our research appears to be very high at first glance. Nevertheless, it is worth mentioning that because of athletes' very high expectations, we included even the smallest complications, such as pain during training or painless cracking. In our opinion, even the slightest ailment may alter the time and quality of professional RTS. However, in terms of serious complications (ie, those requiring revision surgery), the complication rate was comparable with that in the study by Dumont et al<sup>14</sup> of 62 patients, 58 of whom practiced sports. In their study, the complication rate was 7.8%, and the revision rate was 15.6%. In a multicenter study by Matais et al,<sup>29</sup> the complication rate was 5.6% after an arthroscopic Latarjet in a group of 390 patients. Kordasiewicz et al<sup>23</sup> and Meraner et al<sup>28</sup> reported respective complication rates of 12.6% and 6.1% after an arthroscopic Latarjet requiring revision. Note, however, that these studies were not focused on athletes. Given that the patients were exclusively professional athletes, the 8.7% revision rate appears to be an acceptable result, especially when compared with the general population. This finding suggests high efficacy of the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure for treatment of recurrent anterior shoulder instability in athletes.

# Strengths and Limitations

The strength of this study is that it is a single-center series of consecutive patients that examined the outcomes of a relatively large group of professional athletes after an arthroscopic Latarjet with a mean follow-up of >4 years. This is an appropriate time to assess the efficacy and complication rate, as most athletes are likely to encounter any problems during this time span. We also note some limitations to this study. It is a retrospective case series with no comparative group to verify whether this is a superior technique. We did not report any radiologic outcomes, such as arthritic changes or graft resorption and/or osteolysis, which are known complications of Latarjet. This would have been best assessed with computed tomography, which is not routinely carried out postoperatively at our institute unless there are any concerns.

# CONCLUSION

A success rate >90% was found after the arthroscopic Latarjet in the treatment of recurrent anterior shoulder instability in athletes. This technique provides a high RTS rate; however, the procedure is burdened with a relatively high complication rate. Further technique or equipment development may help in reducing complications.

#### REFERENCES

- Abdul-Rassoul H, Galvin JW, Curry EJ, Simon J, Li X. Return to sport after surgical treatment for anterior shoulder instability: a systematic review. Am J Sports Med. 2019;47(6):1507-1515.
- Alberta FG, Elattrache NS, Bissell S, et al. The development and validation of a functional assessment tool for the upper extremity in the overhead athlete. *Am J Sports Med.* 2010;38(5):903-911.
- Bacilla P, Field LD, Savoie FH. Arthroscopic Bankart repair in a high demand patient population. *Arthroscopy*. 1997;13:51-60.
- Bankart ASB. Pathology and treatment of recurrent dislocation of the shoulder joint. Br J Surg. 1938;2(26):23-29.
- 5. Beranger JS, Klouche S, Bauer T, Demoures T, Hardy P. Anterior shoulder stabilization by Bristow-Latarjet procedure in athletes:

return-to-sport and functional outcomes at minimum 2-year followup. Eur J Orthop Surg Traumatol. 2016;26(3):277-282.

- Blonna D, Bellato E, Caranzano F, Assom M, Rossi R, Castoldi F. Arthroscopic Bankart repair versus open Bristow-Latarjet for shoulder instability. Am J Sports Med. 2016;44(12):3198-3205.
- Blonna D, Bellato E, Caranzano F, et al. Validity and reliability of the SPORTS score for shoulder instability. *Joints*. 2014;2(2):59-65.
- Brilakis E, Avramidis G, Malahias MA, et al. Long-term outcome of arthroscopic remplissage in addition to the classic Bankart repair for the management of recurrent anterior shoulder instability with engaging Hill-Sachs lesions. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2019; 27(1):305-313.
- Brzóska R, Laprus H, Michniowski P, Solecki W, Blasiak A. Novel and effective arthroscopic extracapsular stabilization technique for anterior shoulder instability—BLS. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2019;27(12):3897-3904.
- Buckup J, Sternberg C, Smolen D, Leuzinger J. Functional outcome and return to sports after the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure in young and physically active patients. *Arch Orthop Trauma Surg.* 2020; 140(10):1487-1494.
- Clesham K, Shannon FJ. Arthroscopic anterior shoulder stabilization in overhead sport athletes: 5-year follow-up. *Ir J Med Sci.* 2019; 188(4):1233-1237.
- Colegate-Stone TJ, van der Watt C, de Beer JF. Evaluation of functional outcomes and complications following modified Latarjet reconstruction in athletes with anterior shoulder instability. *Shoulder Elbow*. 2015;7:168-173.
- Dickens JF, Rue JP, Cameron KL, et al. Successful return to sport after arthroscopic shoulder stabilization versus nonoperative management in contact athletes with anterior shoulder instability: a prospective multicenter study. *Am J Sports Med.* 2017;45(11): 2540-2546.
- Dumont GD, Fogerty S, Rosso C, Lafosse L. The arthroscopic Latarjet procedure for anterior shoulder instability: 5-year minimum follow-up. *Am J Sports Med*. 2014;42(11):2560-2566.
- Dyrna FGE, Ludwig M, Imhoff AB, Martetschläger F. Off-track Hill-Sachs lesions predispose to recurrence after nonoperative management of first-time anterior shoulder dislocations. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2021;29(7):2289-2296.
- Feng S, Chen M, Chen J, Li H, Chen J, Chen S. Patient outcomes and fear of returning to sports after arthroscopic Bankart repair with remplissage. *Orthop J Sports Med*. 2021;9(4):23259671 211001775.
- Flinkkilä T, Knape R, Sirniö K, Ohtonen P, Leppilahti J. Long-term results of arthroscopic Bankart repair: minimum 10 years of followup. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2018;26:94-99.
- Hawi N, Reinhold A, Suero EM, et al. The anatomic basis for the arthroscopic Latarjet procedure. *Am J Sports Med.* 2016;44(2): 497-503.
- Hurley ET, Lim Fat D, Farrington SK, Mullett H. Open versus arthroscopic Latarjet procedure for anterior shoulder instability: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Am J Sports Med.* 2019;47(5): 1248-1253.
- Hurley ET, Montgomery C, Jamal MS, et al. Return to play after the Latarjet procedure for anterior shoulder instability: a systematic review. *Am J Sports Med.* 2019;47(12):3002-3008.
- Ialenti MN, Mulvihill JD, Feinstein M, Zhang AL, Feeley BT. Return to play following shoulder stabilization: a systematic review and metaanalysis. Orthop J Sports Med. 2017;5(9):2325967117726055.
- Kee YM, Kim JY, Kim HJ, Lim CT, Rhee YG. Return to sports after the Latarjet procedure: high return level of non-collision athletes. *Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc.* 2018;26(3):919-925.
- Kordasiewicz B, Małachowski K, Kicinski M, Chaberek S, Pomianowski S. Comparative study of open and arthroscopic coracoid transfer for shoulder anterior instability (Latarjet)-clinical results at short term follow-up. *Int Orthop.* 2017;41(5):1023-1033.
- 24. Lafosse L, Boyle S. Arthroscopic Latarjet procedure. J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2010;19:2-12.

- Lafosse L, Lejeune E, Bouchard A, Kakuda C, Gobezie R, Kochhar T. The arthroscopic Latarjet procedure for the treatment of anterior shoulder instability. *Arthroscopy*. 2007;23(1242):1241-1245.
- Latarjet M. A propos du traitement des luxations récidivantes de l'épaule. Chir Lyon. 1954;49:994-1003.
- Mazzocca AD, Brown FM Jr, Carreira DS, Hayden J, Romeo AA. Arthroscopic anterior shoulder stabilization of collision and contact athletes. *Am J Sports Med*. 2005;33:52-60.
- Meraner D, Smolen D, Sternberg C, Thallinger C, Hahne J, Leuzinger J. 10 years of arthroscopic Latarjet procedure: outcome and complications. *Indian J Orthop*. 2019;53(1):102-110.
- Metais P, Clavert P, Barth J, et al. Preliminary clinical outcomes of Latarjet-Patte coracoid transfer by arthroscopy vs open surgery: prospective multicentre study of 390 cases. Orthop Traumatol Surg Res. 2016;102(8):271-276.
- Neyton L, Young A, Dawidziak B, Visona E, Hager JP, Fournier Y. Surgical treatment of anterior instability in rugby union players: clinical and radiographic results of the Latarjet-Patte procedure with minimum 5-year follow-up. J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2012;21:1721-1727.
- Owens BD, Burns TC, Campbell SE. Simple method of glenoid bone loss calculation using ipsilateral magnetic resonance imaging. *Am J Sports Med.* 2013;41:622-624.
- Owens BD, DeBernandino TM, Nelson BJ, Thurman J, Cameron KL, Taylor DC. Long-term follow-up of acute arthroscopic repair for initial anterior shoulder dislocations in young athletes. *Am J Sports Med*. 2009;37:669-673.

- Privitera DM, Bisson LJ, Marzo JM. Minimum 10-year follow-up of arthroscopic intra-articular Bankart repair using bioabsorbable tacks. *Am J Sports Med*. 2012;40:100-107.
- Samilson R, Prieto V. Dislocation arthropathy of the shoulder. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 1983;65:456-460.
- Ślęzak M, Lubiatowski P, Lubiatowski B, Łepski M, Imirowicz A, Leszek Romanowski L. Polish cultural adaptation of general shoulder assessment score in use for painful shoulder: ASES, UCLA, Constant score, SST (part I). Preliminary study. *Issues of Rehabilitation, Orthopaedics, Neurophysiology and Sport Promotion*. 2016;17:7-27.
- 36. Ślęzak M, Lubiatowski P, Lubiatowski B, et al. Polish cultural adaptation of shoulder assessment scores for shoulder instability: WOSI, Oxford Shoulder Instability Score, WALCH-DUPLAY (part II). Preliminary study. Issues of Rehabilitation, Orthopaedics, Neurophysiology and Sport Promotion. 2016;17:28-46.
- Southam JD, Greis PE. Delayed, transient musculocutaneous nerve palsy after the Latarjet procedure. *J Shoulder Elbow Surg.* 2012;21(5): e8-e11.
- Walton J, Paxinos A, Tzannes A, Callanan M, Hayes K, Murrell GAC. The unstable shoulder in the adolescent athlete. *Am J Sports Med.* 2002;30:758-767.
- Zhu Y-M, Jiang C, Song G, Lu Y, Li F. Arthroscopic Latarjet procedure with anterior capsular reconstruction: clinical outcome and radiologic evaluation with a minimum 2-year follow-up. *Arthroscopy*. 2017;33:2128-2135.