

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The Student is able to:

- A. Understand Course of major vessels in the thigh.
- B. Correlate Blood loss which can be associated with gun shot injury.
- C. Understand Clinical assessment of nerves of lower limb.
- D. Understand that an injury at thigh can damage various tissues locally and can be associated with systemic complications.

CASE SCENARIO (gunshot injury)

A 30 year old police man sustained a gunshot injury to right thigh in an encounter with dacoits. On examination in emergency room (ER) he was conscious but restless. His pulse was 100 /min and his blood pressure was 100/60 mm Hg. There was a 3cm X 2cm wound on antero-lateral aspect of thigh at the junction to upper and middle third. He was unable to extend the knee. The thigh was swollen. Distal pulses were palpable but weak. X-Ray showed no bony injury.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why is the patient not able to extend the knee?
2. How do you explain the swelling of thigh?
3. Which Group of muscles are involved here?
4. Which Structures are involved in the injury?
5. Which other compartments can be involved in the injury?
6. What other structures nerves / Arteries / Veins can be involved in the injury?
7. Why are distal Pulses weak but not absent?
8. Why is the flexion of knee and movements of foot are not affected?
9. What sensory impairment do you expect in this patient?
10. Can you describe the exact problem that is happening here?