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Fingertip Injury Treated by Hypothenar Skin and Fat Graft

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For fingertip amputation, when the amputated part is available, we will replace as a composite graft. However, if it is not available or not replaceable, we will let it heal by epithelization (open method) which will take three to six weeks to heal. If this is not suitable, or if the patient cannot receive frequent dressing changes or prefers to close the wound, then we will obtain a hypothenar skin and fat graft and use as much fat as needed for subcutaneous tissue loss. The graft can be placed directly over the exposed bone. The donor site is closed primary. This will heal as a composite graft in two to four weeks. Cases were shown with the fingertip and donors site well healed at the same time. Sutures over donor site should be removed at two to three weeks to avoid wound disruption. The advantage of this procedure is to restore fullness of finger pulp with acceptable sensibility two point discrimination of six to ten millimeters. There is good color match for black person and no hair. The procedure is simple and it can be done under local or regional anesthesia in the same extremity. The donor site can be closed primarily. Most patients have an acceptable scar and experience no tenderness or mild tenderness at donor site.