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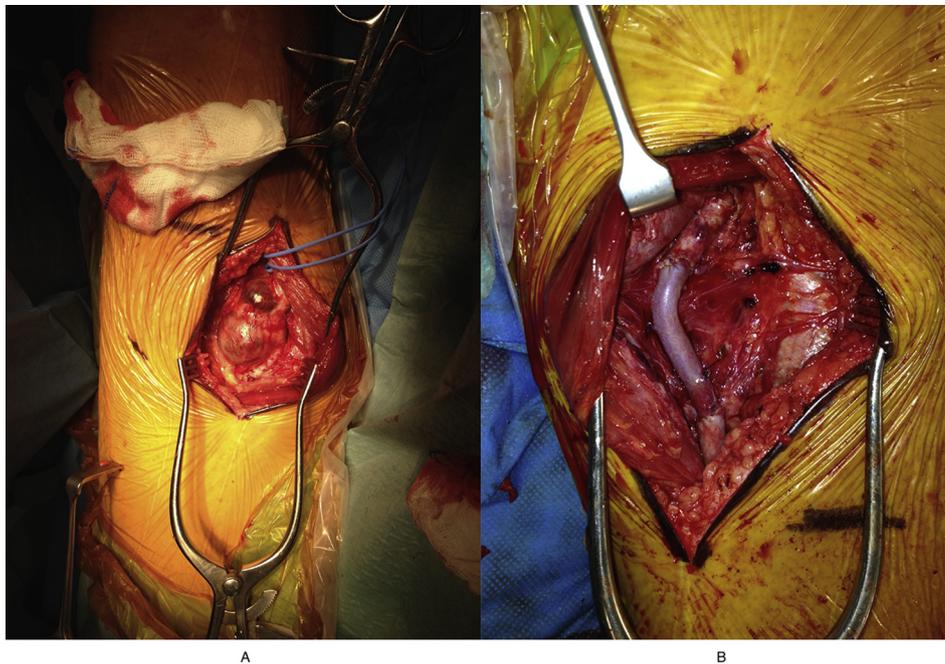
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COUP D'OEIL

Swelling in the thigh

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A 67 year old man, who had undergone a left femoro-popliteal bypass using the ipsilateral great saphenous vein 7 years previously, presented with a swelling in the thigh. Nine months post-operatively he had undergone angioplasty of a vein graft stenosis. Subsequent follow up graft scans up to 5 years had been satisfactory. An ultrasound scan revealed a 6 cm aneurysm of the bypass graft in the proximal thigh (proximal graft diameter 7 mm, distal diameter 6 mm; thus theoretically suitable for stent grafting). He underwent excision of the aneurysmal segment (left) and interposition grafting using a segment of basilic vein (right).

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The instructions for use for the Viabahn endoprosthesis have been expanded to include venous applications—currently in the context of the venous side of arteriovenous fistulae (effectively arterialised vein, though similar to this scenario)—and there are already published reports of use in venous aneurysms.

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