Removal Of Interlocking Tibia Pitkar Nail By Creating Window

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INTRODUCTION:
Pitkar Interlocking tibia nail was established in 1960 and been used in Malaysia for definitive treatment for tibia diaphysis fracture. Unfortunately, the usage of Pitkar nail has been reduced in this country. We had a patient presented to us with chronic osteomyelitis of tibia. Done Pitkar interlocking nail for close midshaft tibia fracture in 2005. Planned for nail removal but the Pitkar sets are no more available.

MATERIALS & METHODS:
By using universal nail extractor it has failed because the nail thread was blunted and purchase was poor. So we created a window at cortical bone over distal locking screw. By direct visualization of the hole, we used old osteotome placed at the hole and hit it retrogradely using mallet. The nail came out proximally. By using a plyer the nail was removed.

RESULTS:
The nail been removed successfully and the intramedullary canal washed thoroughly The window was placed back in the bone.

DISCUSSIONS:
Pitkar interlocking tibia nail is rarely used nowadays and it is difficult to remove with nail extractor when the nail thread is blunt. Instead of struggling and cause more harm to soft tissue, creating a window size 1cm * 2cm is better solution.

CONCLUSION:
In case of difficulty of interlocking nail removal of tibia, creating window over screw site of nail is easy method and the nail can be remove by hitting it out using osteotome.

REFERENCES:
2. S.H PITKAR orthotool.com