

## NEGLECTED NECK OF FEMUR FRACTURE WITH ACETABULAR EROSION REQUIRING INTRAOPERATIVE CHANGE OF DECISION

Jagjoth Singh Darshan Singh<sup>1</sup>, Leong Li Theng<sup>2</sup>, Terence Michal Dass<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sarawak General Hospital, <sup>2</sup>Hospital University Sains Malaysia, <sup>3</sup>Hospital Sibul

**Introduction:** Neck of femur fractures are very common in the elderly group. We present a case of neglected neck of femur fracture with delayed presentation and requiring an intraoperative change of fixation.

**Discussion:** A 80 years old lady with underlying cervical cancer stage IIB (completed treatment 12 years ago), presented with a history of fall around 6 months prior to seeking treatment. She presented to us because of increasing pain over the left hip and inability to ambulate. X-rays taken showed increased sclerosis near the acetabulum and fracture of left neck of femur. Decision was made for a bipolar hemiarthroplasty. However upon opening up the hip joint, noted patient had significant acetabular erosion with a defect of 5x2cm over the posterosuperior aspect of the acetabular cup causing instability of the hip upon flexion. We could not locate the head of femur also (? resorbed). Intraoperative decision was made for a total hip replacement (THR). An Austin Moore prosthesis was inserted temporarily and a 2nd surgery was done to insert the THR.

**Conclusion:** Bone quality is a major determinant for an internal fixation versus arthroplasty for the elderly population, however acetabular erosion may also be a problem in neglected fractures. A bipolar hemiarthroplasty may not be feasible as the hip may still be unstable. Other modalities of imaging may be required prior to making a decision on the type of implant used. Acetabular erosion may be difficult to see on plain x-ray films. In suspicious or neglected cases, the need may arise for a CT hip. Another recommendation would be to have a total hip replacement set ready should the need arise for intraoperative change.