

## ACUTE COMPARTMENT SYNDROME IN SOFT TISSUE INJURY

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**Introduction:** Compartment syndrome has been defined as “a condition in which increased pressure within a limited osteofascial space compromises the circulation and function of the tissues within that space”. Early diagnosis is essential in which if not recognized and treated early, can lead to devastating disabilities, amputation and even death. We report a case of 36 years old male, sustained left leg pain and swelling after fell from “banana boat”.

**Discussion:** Clinical examination at 12 hours post trauma revealed swelling over his left calf which is tense and tender upon palpation. While his peripheral circulation is still present. Passive stretch test positive. He underwent emergency fasciotomy in which intraoperatively noted hematoma over lateral and deep posterior compartment and muscle oedema. After one-week post trauma, he underwent secondary suturing over his wound

**Conclusion:** Young people especially men are at highest risk of developing acute compartment syndrome. Soft tissues injuries even without fracture is a common and can cause acute compartment syndrome. Clinical suspicion is still the best diagnostic tool as delay in diagnosis is detrimental. Thus, early diagnosis and treatment are essential to prevent complication such as infection, contracture, and amputation.