

WHEN YOU CAN'T FIX IT, REPLACE IT: A COMMINUTED SUPRACONDYLAR FRACTURE FEMUR

Sharifah Nor Tasnim Alsagoff¹, Mohd Fairuz Suhaimi², Satriya Sabir Husin Athar¹

¹Selayang Hospital, ²Universiti Institut Teknologi MARA

Introduction: Endoprosthesis has been used widely in the management of bone tumour. However, it is more frequently use nowadays for fixation of periprosthetic fracture as it provides early mobilization and weight bearing.

Discussion: A 69 year-old, whom had a unilateral knee replacement, sustained a closed right supracondylar femur fracture of the same side, after being involved in a motor vehicle accident. General examination was unremarkable. The right lower limb showed a swollen and deformed thigh with palpable distal pulses and no neurology deficit. Imaging showed a comminute distal femoral fracture with intra-articular involvement to the prosthesis. He underwent distal femoral endoprosthesis surgery of the right femur. Intraoperatively noted right femur supracondylar fracture extending until implant with loosening femoral compartment of the unilateral knee implant. Postoperatively, patient has no complication and was started on continuous passive motion exercise. He trained for ambulation and discharged well one week after surgery. Six months after surgery, he was able to ambulate unaided with knee range of motion 0-90 degree.

Conclusion: Incidence of periprosthetic fractures are raising and carries a high morbidity and mortality rate. Supracondylar femur fracture is the commonest periprosthetic fracture around the knee. One of the various methods of treatment is using an endoprosthesis. Endoprosthesis is a special bone and joint prostheses which are commonly used for bone tumour management. Nowadays, endoprosthesis are more frequently use in non-neoplastic cases such as trauma with severe bone loss or poor bone quality, periprosthetic and non-union fracture. Endoprosthesis are popular, as it allows immediate postoperative mobilization. Its modularity and multi-component designs makes it possible to restore length or bone losses. Achieving early mobilisation and weight bearing would prevent complication from prolonged immobilisation such as pressure ulcer, pulmonary embolism, urinary tract and respiratory infection.