

Our TRASH!

¹Faisal Amir, SM; ¹Warren, EN

¹Jabatan Ortopedik, Hospital Tengku Ampuan Afzan, Kuantan, Malaysia.

INTRODUCTION:

The Radiographic Appearance Seemed Harmless (TRASH) lesions refer to a group of paediatric elbow injuries which are commonly underappreciated on radiograph, yet may have disastrous ramifications if treated inappropriately.

REPORT:

- 1) *Paediatric Olecranon Osteochondral Flap Fracture (POOFF).*

7-year-old boy with left elbow injury following a fall from monkey bar. Patient was diagnosed as soft tissue injury by MO, which was later revised to lateral condyle humerus fracture by the general orthopaedic surgeon in charge. Further investigations with MRI and subsequent arthrogram revealed an actual injury of olecranon osteochondral flap fracture.

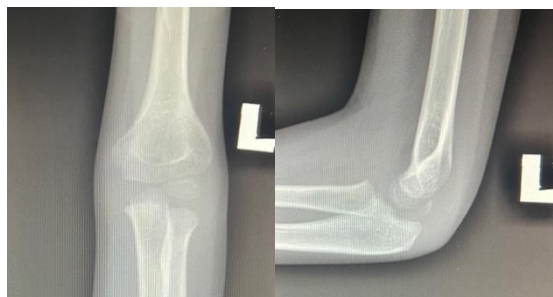


Figure 1: This small osteochondral fracture fragment caused mechanical block of the elbow joint.

- 2) *Monteggia variant.*

6-year-old girl fell on her elbow while playing bicycle with elbow pain and restriction motion. Radiograph did not show any fracture, however there was a plastic deformity at proximal ulnar with subtle radial head subluxation.



Figure 2: This seemed harmless injury if left untreated can lead to progressive radial head dislocation.

- 3) *Transphyseal separation of distal humerus.*

Day 2 of life premature baby was referred by paediatrician for an elbow dislocation. The baby had pseudoparalysis of upper limb following an emergency LSCS delivery. Radiograph showed malalignment of radioulnar to humerus axis suggestive of transphyseal separation of distal humerus.



Figure 3: This is a distal humerus physeal fracture rather than a dislocation.

CONCLUSION:

Prompt diagnosis warrants a high index of suspicion especially when a radiograph appears to be normal with a disproportionately painful and swollen elbow in kids.