

## Guided Growth Complications: A Report On Eight-Plate Migration To Soft Tissue Around The Knee

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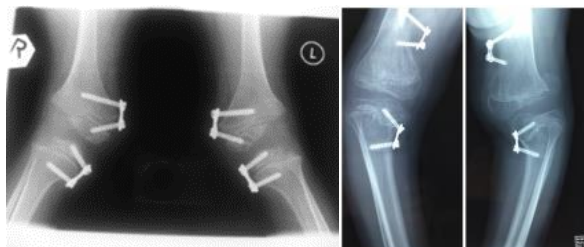
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### INTRODUCTION

Angular deformities of the knee resulting from idiopathic, congenital or acquired causes are commonly encountered in paediatric orthopaedics.<sup>1</sup> Eight-plate is a popular option for temporary epiphysiodesis to treat this deformities.

### CASE REPORT

We report a case of a 12 year-old girl who presented with a congenital bilateral knee valgus at the age of 6 year old. She was operated whereby, four eight-plates were inserted over medial femoral condyles and proximal tibials. Unfortunately, she lost to follow-up and only came back after seven years with excessive genu varus. Radiograph finding shows a rare complication in which the femoral implants were migrated very far proximally into the soft tissue. No breakage of the screws were observed. Removal of the implants were done. Intra-operatively, it was noted, the implants migrated 5-7cm from original locations into the muscle.



Radiographs of bilateral AP knee showing immediate post-operative and seven years after eight-plates insertion

### DISCUSSION

The complications of eight-plates are divided as early and delayed. The example of early complications are infection, wound breakdown, bleeding and neurological impairment. The delayed complications includes soft tissue irritation, plate breakage and migration, early physal closure, iatrogenic deformity and rebound deformity.<sup>2</sup> In our case report, the deformity was over-corrected from valgus to varus and there was also very proximal

migration of the implants into the soft tissue without breakage of the screws.

### CONCLUSION

8-plate hemiepiphysiodesis is an effective means for correcting angular deformity around the knee in skeletally immatured patients. Iatrogenic deformity, breakage and migration of the screw can be a real complications if patient lost to follow up.

### REFERENCES

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2. A. de Gheldere, P. Calder, C. Bradish, D.M. Eastwood. Hemiepiphysiodesis: an audit of the complications associated with 8-plate use in the correction of pathological deformity. *British Editorial Society Of Bone & Joint Surgery.* February 2012.