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- Comparative study for the management of closed fracture tibia by plating VS external fixation. Bas.j.Surgery:2009:15(1) 89-95
- Training Course: The Iraqi National CME/CPD council 3-6 march 2009

Conferences attended:
- 5th Scientific Conference Basra Medical college Dec 1997
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A COMPARATIVE STUDY FOR MANAGEMENT OF CLOSED TIBIAL SHAFT FRACTURES BY EXTERNAL FIXATION VERSUS PLATING

Abstract

In this prospective study a 25 patients with closed tibial shaft fractures treated by 2 different methods of treating fracture tibia ie, external fixation and plating. Thirteen patients were treated by uniplanar unilateral external fixation device AO/ASIF type and 12 patients treated by plating. There were 22 male and 3 female, there age ranges from 12-45 years. Seventeen patients sustain car accident as a cause of tibial fracture, associated fibular fractures were in 17 patients. There were no case of malunion in both modalities of treatment. Average time of fracture union with external fixation was 24 weeks.

In external fixation union rate was 46% , delayed union 31% and non union 23%, complications were pin tract infection 46% , ankle stiffness 31%, algodystrophy 31% and broken schanz screws in 15.3%.

Average time of fracture union with plating was 22.5 weeks.

In plating union rate was 59% , delayed union 33% and non union 8%; while complications were superficial infection 8%, deep infection 8% and ankle stiffness 8%. The non union was 100% in the middle 1/3 and 75% was transverse fracture configuration. The degree of soft tissue injury, fracture site and configuration has a great effect on union, delayed union, non union and infection also will affect the choice of treatment. In our study we try to evaluate two different modalities of treatment, which are plating and external fixation as definitive method of treatment of closed tibial shaft fracture and we try to compare between the 2 as regards of different aspect like; time of union and complication in each modality and its relation with type of fracture site, configuration, degree of soft tissue injury, this in turn will guide us to a better or more proper choice of treatment modality in the future.