

1

2

3

:

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:

( : =1:8, 55-77 , 69 )

8

9

,

,

,

,

:

가 7 (78%),

가 2

8 (89%)

가

6 ,

3

7 (78%)

, T1WI

, T2WI

9 ,

7

7 (78%)

가 4 ,

3

T1WI

, T2WI

7 (78%),

4

:

가

(7),

가

(1-3).

(3, 8),

가

가

(3).

(8),

가

(2, 4-6).

가  
가  
3

2000 6 19

2000 8 17

55-77 , 69 )

9

( : =1:8, . 9

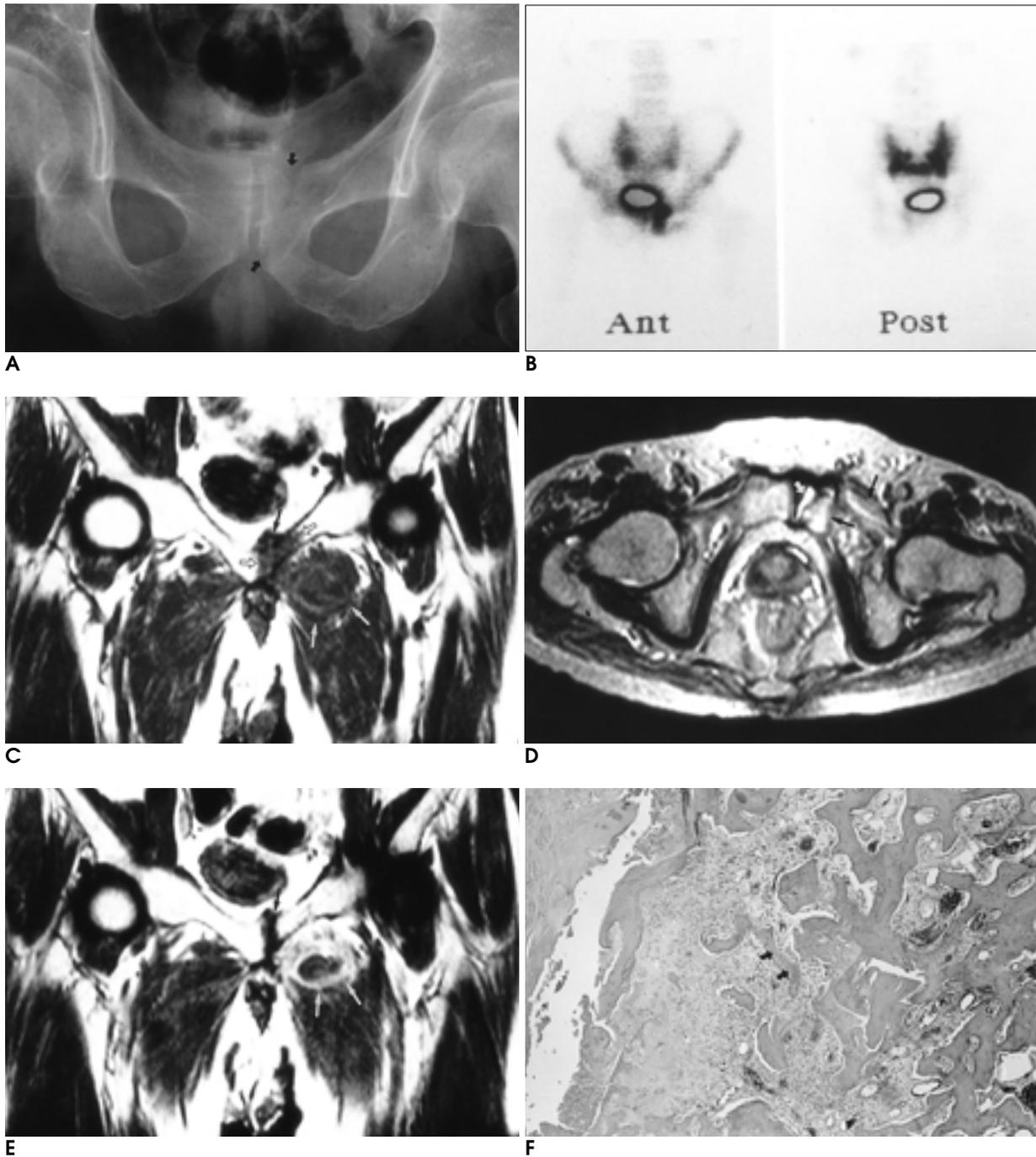
, 4 , 1  
 , 1  
 (Table 1). 5  
 , 4 , 가 7 (78%), 가 2 , 6 , 가 1  
 , 8 (89%) (Figs. 1A, 2A).  
 . 8 가 6  
 6 0.5 가 , 2  
 Tesla (Gyrosan T5, Philips, Eindhoven, the Netherlands) 가  
 , 3 1.5 Tesla (Magnetom vision, Simens, Erlangen, Germany) 가  
 T1 (TR/TE = 440 - 750/12 - 25 msec) T2 H 가 가 6 (Fig. 1B),  
 (TR/TE = 1800 - 3500/90 - 120 msec) , 가 3 (Table 1).  
 5 - 10 mm, 0.5 - 7 (78%) ,  
 0.6 mm, (FOV) 210 - 330 mm, (matrix T1 , T2  
 number) 179 × 256 , 5 - 6 mm, (Figs. 1C, D, E). 9 , 7  
 256 0.5 - 0.6 mm, 330 - 370 mm, 179 × Gd - DTPA ,  
 , 4 (external obturator muscle) 6 , (pectineus muscle) 4 ,  
 (adductor muscle) 4 . 7 (78%)  
 (parasympheal mass)가 4  
 (fracture gap) (Figs. 2B, C, D) , 2  
 ( ) , 가 3 , T1  
 , T2 ,

5

**Table 1.** Clinical Manifestations, Plain Film, and Bone Scan Findings in Patients with Pubic Insufficiency Fracture

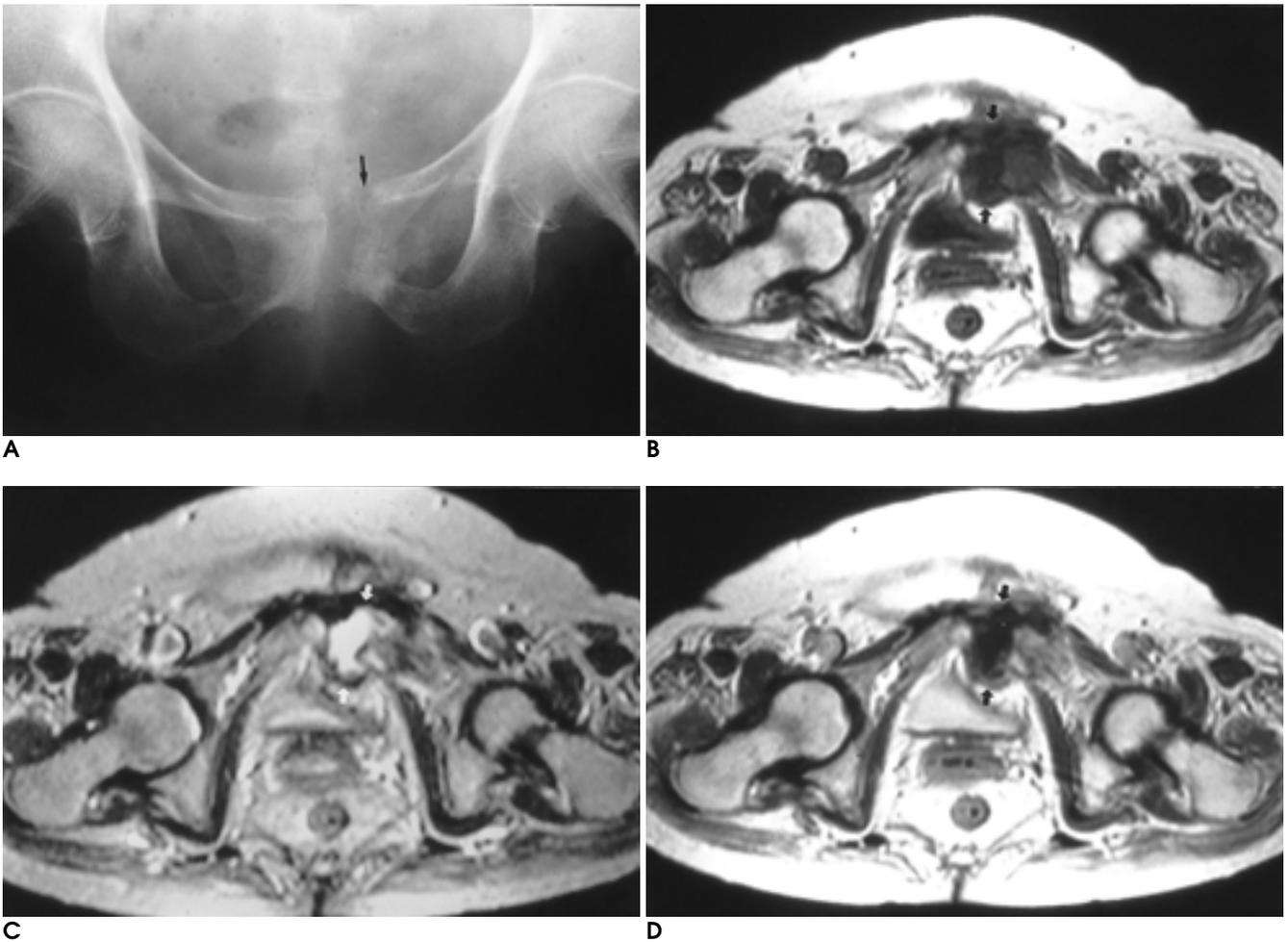
Case	Age/ Sex	Underlying disease	Clinical feature	Duration	Site	Plain Film			Bone Scan Uptake	
						Fx <sup>†</sup> line	Callus	Lysis/Sclerosis	Sacrum (H*)	Ilium
1	75/F	Osteoporosis	Left hip pain	3 months	Symphysis pubis + Left PS <sup>‡</sup>	-	-	+	+	(+)
2	76/F	Osteoporosis	Right hip pain	20 days	Right PS <sup>‡</sup>	+	-	+	+	(-)
3	76/F	Osteoporosis	Right hip pain	4 - 5 days	Right PS <sup>‡</sup>	+	-	+	+	(-)
4	56/F	Osteoporosis	Left inguinal, hip pain	18 days	Left PS <sup>‡</sup>	+	-	+	+	(-)
5	55/F	Uterine cervix cancer & RT <sup>§</sup>	Left buttock, hip pain	1 month	Symphysis pubis + Left PS <sup>‡</sup>	-	-	+	Not performed	
6	66/M	RA	Left SI <sup>¶</sup> joint pain	5 years	Left PS <sup>‡</sup>	+	-	+	+	(+)
7	62/F	Early gastric cancer & op <sup>**</sup>	Right pubic pain	4 months	Right ramus	+	-	+	-	(-)
8	77/F	-	Low back, Left inguinal pain	1 month	Left PS <sup>‡</sup>	-	-	+	+	(-)
9	67/F	-	Left hip pain	3 months	Left ramus	+	+	-	-	-

H\* : H type uptake, Fx<sup>†</sup>: Fracture, PS<sup>‡</sup>: Parasympheal, RT<sup>§</sup>: Radiotherapy, RA : Rheumatoid arthritis  
 SI<sup>¶</sup>: Sacroiliac joint, op<sup>\*\*</sup>: operation, + : Presence, - : Absence



**Fig. 1.** A 66-year-old man with left sacroiliac joint pain for 5 years.

- A.** Plain radiograph reveals a lytic lesion on the left parasymphyseal area with an oblique fracture line (arrows).
- B.** Anterior Tc-99m MDP bone scan shows an increased left parasymphyseal uptake. Posterior Tc-99m MDP bone scan shows an increased uptake in both sacral alae and body of sacrum, giving H or butterfly-shaped appearance.
- C.** T1-weighted coronal image shows an intermediate signal intensity at the fracture gap (black arrow) and a low signal intensity of the adjacent bone marrow (open arrows), representing edema. There is a mass of low to isointensity within the left external obturator muscle (white arrows).
- D.** T2-weighted axial image shows the area of fracture gap with a bright signal (white arrow) and high signals of the adjacent bone marrow and muscle (black arrows).
- E.** Gadolinium-enhanced coronal image reveals the absence of enhancement at the fracture gap (black arrow) and peripheral enhancement of mass in the left external obturator muscle (white arrows).
- F.** Microscopic examination of pubic bone shows hemorrhagic necrosis of bone and bone marrow. Bone marrow is replaced by fibrous and granulation tissue (asterisks). New bone formation (arrows) is noted (H&E,  $\times 40$ ).



**Fig. 2.** A 75-year-old woman with left hip pain for 3 months.  
**A.** Plain radiograph shows irregular lysis of left pubis (arrow).  
**B.** T1-weighted axial image shows a left parasymphyseal mass (arrows) of which the signal intensity is low.  
**C.** T2-weighted axial image shows the hyperintense signal intensity of a mass (arrows).  
**D.** Postcontrast T1 weighted axial image reveals a mass with peripheral enhancement (arrows).

(Fig. 1F). 7 (78%) , , (2).  
 가 5 , 4 가 , 가  
 H 2 1 , 가 1 .  
 3 4 , , , ,  
 (Table 2). (11, 12).  
 , , (13).  
 (sacral ala),  
 (supraac-  
 etabular region), (2).  
 (fatigue fracture) , 가 (2), ,  
 (9, 10). 가 가 (trabecular compression)  
 , , (2, 14, 15).

**Table 2.** MR Findings in the Patients with Pubic Insufficiency Fracture

Case	Fx*gap	Fx*line	BM† edema	ST‡ edema	ST‡ mass			Associated fracture
					Site	T1WI§	T2WI	
1	+	-	+	Left EOM** PM††	Left PS**		peripheral	Sacrum
2	+	-	+	Right EOM** AM , PM††	Right PS** Right PM††	iso§§	peripheral	Sacrum, Ilium
3	+	-	+	Right EOM** AM	Right EOM**	iso§§	peripheral	Sacrum
4	+	-	+	Left EOM** AM	Left EOM** AM		peripheral	Sacrum
5	-	-	+	-	Right PS**		peripheral	Sacrum, Ilium
6	+	-	+	Left EOM**	Left EOM**	iso§§	peripheral	Sacrum
7	-	+	+	-				Ilium
8	+	-	+	Left EOM** AM , PM††	Left PS** EOM**		peripheral	Sacrum, Ilium
9	+	-	+	Left PM††		-		-

Fx\* : fracture, BM†: bone marrow, ST‡: soft tissue, T1WI§: T1 weighted image, T2WI : T2 weighted image, CE†: contrast enhancement, EOM\*\*: external obturator muscle, PM††: pectineus muscle, PS ‡‡: parasymphseal, iso§§: isointensity, AD : adductor muscle  
 : low signal intensity, : high signal intensity, - : absence, + : presence

가 .  
 ,  
 , 가 CT  
 가 ,  
 , 가 (2).  
 (16). , 가  
 (4-6, 8). Seo (3)  
 가  
 가 (2). (cleft-like),  
 8  
 가 , ,  
 4 가 가 . 7 (78%)  
 , T1 , T2  
 Seo (3)  
 , 가  
 가 (14, 17).  
 가  
 H 가 , ,  
 , 7 (78%)  
 , 7 (78%)  
 가 (2, 18). , T1  
 , T2  
 (14, 17). H , Hosono (8)  
 가 . 5  
 (18). 6 , ,  
 , Casey (16)  
 , H 2 , Hosono (8) . 2  
 3 가 가 ,  
 가

가

가 1

T1, T2  
(STIR=short tau inversion recovery)

(6, 19). Mammone (5)

가

Grangier (20)

3

(4, 6).

4000cGy

(4, 21), 12

가 3 5

(15, 22).

1

4 8

5220cGy

5

가

(23).

H 가

(osteitis pubis),

(24).

가

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## Pubic Insufficiency Fracture: MRI Findings<sup>1</sup>

Tae Kyu Min, M.D., Yeon Soo Lee, M.D., Jeong Mi Park, M.D.,  
Jee Young Kim, M.D., Hong Jun Chung, M.D., Eun Hee Lee, M.D.<sup>2</sup>,  
Tae Il Han, M.D.<sup>3</sup>, Eun Ja Lee, M.D., Si Won Kang, M.D.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Radiology, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea

<sup>2</sup>Department of Clinical Pathology, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea

<sup>3</sup>Department of Radiology, Eulji Medical College

**Purpose:** To evaluate the characteristic MRI findings of pubic insufficiency fracture.

**Materials and Methods:** In nine cases of pubic insufficiency fracture, the findings of plain radiography (n = 9), MRI (n = 9), and bone scintigraphy (n = 8) were reviewed. We retrospectively analyzed, with regard to fracture site, the destructive pattern revealed by plain radiography, and uptake by other pelvic bones, as demonstrated by RI bone scanning. The MR findings evaluated were the fracture gap and its signal intensity, the site and signal intensity of the soft tissue mass, and other pelvic bone fractures.

**Results:** Plain radiography revealed osteolysis and sclerosis of pubic bone in eight of nine cases (89%), and parasymphyseal fractures in seven (78%). RI indicated uptake by the sacrum in six cases (66%), and by the ilium in three (33%). MR findings of fracture gap (seven cases, 78%) were hypo to isointensity on T1WI, hyperintensity on T2WI and the absence of contrast enhancement. Soft tissue masses were found in seven cases (78%); in four of these the location was parasymphyseal, and in three, surrounding muscle was involved. Hypo to isointensity was revealed by T1WI, hyperintensity by T2WI, and there was peripheral enhancement. Other associated pelvic bone fractures involved the sacrum in seven cases and the ilium in four.

**Conclusion:** The characteristic MR findings of pubic insufficiency fracture were parasymphyseal location, fracture gap, peripherally enhanced soft tissue mass formation, and fractures of other pelvic bones, namely the sacrum and ilium.

**Index words :** Fractures, stress  
Fractures, MR  
Pubic bones

Address reprint requests to : Yeon Soo Lee, M.D., Department of Radiology, Taejon St. Mary 's Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea  
520-2 Taehung-dong, Chung-ku, Taejon 301-723, Korea.  
Tel. 82-42-220-9625 Fax. 82-42-257-0511 E-mail : ysllee1074@lycos.co.kr