

:  
 :  
 19 5 mm  
 , 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 3 , 6  
 T1 , T2 , T1  
 , 가  
 :  
 , 3 6  
 가  
 4  
 , 2 3 가  
 4 , 3 6  
 :  
 1)  
 가 (osteoprogenitor cell)가  
 가 가 (bony bridge) , 2)  
 (angular deformity)  
 (5). 가  
 1 -  
 2% (1, 2).  
 (3, 4).

1  
 2  
 3  
 2000 2 17 2000 7 13  
 (in vivo)

1 - 3 (n = 9), 1 (n = 8), 2 (n = 6), 3 (n = 4), 4 (n = 11), 3 (n = 6), 6 (n = 4) (Table 1).

3 - 5 600 - 800 mg 1.5 Tesla Signa (GE Medical Systems, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A.) , 3 (GE Medical Systems, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A.) .

가 , 가 , T1 , T2 , spin echo T1 (TR/TE=400/12 msec), fast spin echo T2 (TR/TE/ = 3,500 - 4,000/90 - 100 msec) (TR/TE/flip angle = 400/20 msec/60°) 3 mm, 8×8 cm 12×12 cm 1Kg 0.1 mmol Gd - DTPA (Magnevist, Schering, Germany) T1 .

Ketamine hydrochloride(Ketalar; Yuhan Yanghang, Seoul, Korea) xylazine hydrochloride (Rompun; Bayer Korea, Seoul, Korea) 1:1 1kg 1cc .

thiopental sodium (pentothal; Cho - ong Wae Pharmacy, Seoul, Korea) 500 mg 40 ml 1kg 1.5 ml (18.75 mg) . (62.5 mg/kg)

가 (joint capsule) , 70°C , (intercondylar) (flap) 10% 2 4% 5 mm 2 - 3 cm . 가 , 5 mm (embedding) ,

**Table 1.** Experimental Design

Rabbit	Period after surgery						
	Day1-3	1week	2weeks	3weeks	4weeks	3months	6months
1, 2	M/H						
3, 4		M/H					
5, 6		M	M/H				
7, 8		M	M	M/H			
9, 10		M	M	M	M/H		
11, 12*, 13*	M				M/H		
14, 15					M	M/H	
16*, 17*, 18, 19	M				M	M	M/H

Note - M indicates that MR imaging including gadolinium-enhanced study was performed;  
H indicates histopathologic examination. Each animal was sacrificed immediately after the final imaging;  
\* indicates that gadolinium-enhanced study was not performed.

4 - 6  $\mu$ m  
Hematoxylin - eosin

(Wilcoxon's signed ranks test)  
95%

가 , ,  
(absent),  
(conspicuity) (mild),  
0 - 4 가 (moderate),  
(SCK, CJE)가 (severe),  
0 가  
가 , 1  
(poor),  
2 ,  
(fair), 3  
(good), 4  
(excellent)  
가 가  
가 가  
Wilcoxon

**Table 2.** Sequential Change of Signal Intensity of Growth Plate Defect in Each MR Sequences

Period after surgery	Signal intensity according to each MR sequences								
	T1-WI			T2-WI			GE		
	hyper	iso	hypo	hyper	iso	hypo	hyper	iso	hypo
Immediate (n = 9)	1	4	4	0	2	7	0	2	7
1 week (n = 8)	2	5	1	1	4	3	1	4	3
2 weeks (n = 6)	0	2	4	1	4	1	0	4	2
3 weeks (n = 4)	0	3	1	0	4	0	0	3	1
4 weeks (n = 11)	0	7	4	0	8	3	1	6	4
3 months (n = 6)	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	6	0
6 months (n = 4)	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0

NOTE - T1-WI: T1-weighted image, T2-WI: T2-weighted image, GE: gradient-echo image

The signal intensity of growth plate defect is compared to that of diaphyseal marrow in each sequences (hyper: hyperintense than that of diaphyseal marrow, iso: isointense, hypo: hypointense). Each number represents the sum of an imaging session for one rabbit.

**Table 3.** The Sequential Change of Enhancement Pattern

Period after surgery	Contrast enhancement						
	absent	mild		moderate		strong	
		Inhomo	Homo	Inhomo	Homo	Inhomo	Homo
Immediate (n = 5)	4	1					
1 week (n = 8)	4	3		1			
2 weeks (n = 6)	1	1	1		1		2
3 weeks (n = 4)	1		2		1		
4 weeks (n = 7)	4	1	1	1			
3 months (n = 4)	4						
6 months (n = 2)	2						

NOTE - Inhomo/Homo represent enhancement pattern of the defect site.

Inhomo indicate inhomogenous enhancement and Homo indicate homogenous enhancement.

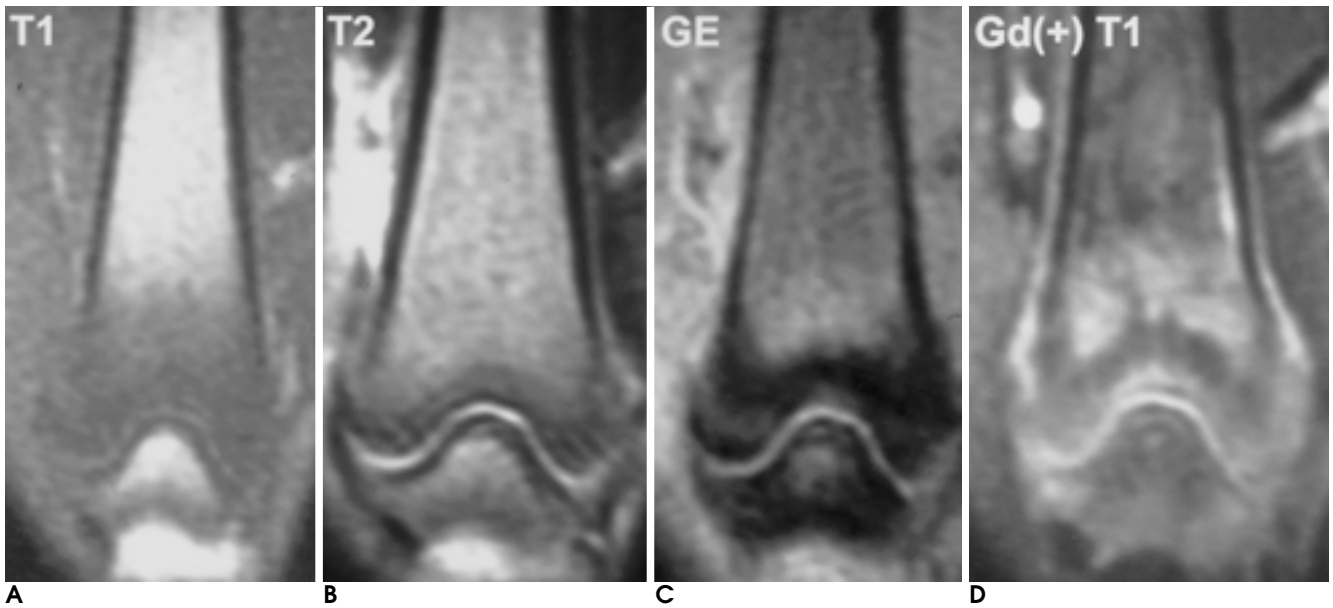
Total study number (n) is decreased because some session didn't perform enhancement study (see Table 1).

(Fig. 1). 3 1 , 6  
4 가 4 가  
가 가 .  
, T2 ( 3.3)  
( 3.2) T1 ( 2.8)  
T1 ( 2.4)  
( $p < 0.01$ ),  
가 . T1  
T1  
( $p < 0.01$ ).  
T2  
3.0 가  
2.6, T1 2.2, T1 2  
2.0 . T2  
( $p$   
< 0.05), T1 T1 . 1 (fibrovascular tissue)  
, T1 T1  
가 (p > 0.05).  
-2, 3  
:  
T1 44%  
가  
1 : 가  
3 . 8 6  
가 T2  
2 : T1 가  
가 (67%), T2 가  
가 (67%). 1  
가 (83%),  
(Fig. 2).  
가 , T1  
3 : T1  
가  
가  
(75%) 2 4 3  
(Fig. 3).  
4 : 3  
가 가  
(43%),

:`  
4 가  
가  
3 : 가  
(Fig. 4).  
6 :  
,  
, 3  
(new bone formation) 2 3  
,  
(vascularity) 2 3  
. 3 가  
6 가  
(Table 4).

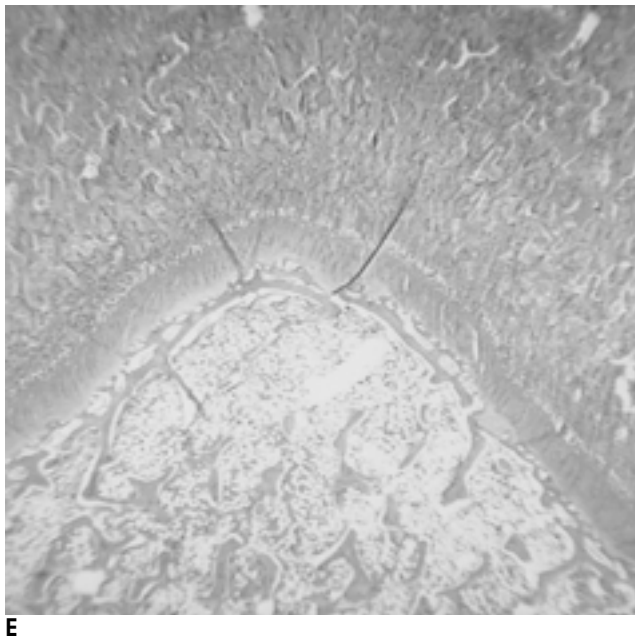
**Table 4.** Histopathologic Findings after Surgery

Period after surgery	Histopathologic findings
1 - 3 days	Red blood cells and fibrin fill the defect Hemorrhage
1 week	and edematous changes are decreased. Ingrowth of fibrovascular tissue is seen. There are multiple isolated foci of new bone formation in the peripheral portion of the defect.
2 weeks	Woven bone trabeculae are seen in the peripheral portion of the defect and it is parallel to long axis of the defect. Hemorrhage and edematous change are indistinct. Fibrovascular tissues fill the defect. The vascularity is increased than 1 week.
3 weeks	The extent of new bone formation is increased than that of 2 weeks. Multiple vascular structure is seen. Fibrovascular tissue is main component in the defect.
4 weeks	The vascularity in the defect is decreased than 3 weeks follow-up. The defect is filled with fibrovascular tissues. There is still newbone formation in the periphery. Mature bony bridge is not appeared.
3 months	Fibrotic tissue band and marrow fat fill the defect. There is no active new bone formation. Some of them show the impending closure of growth plate with fibrotendinous ridge.
6 months	In all cases, the growth plates are closed and the defects are filled with fat.



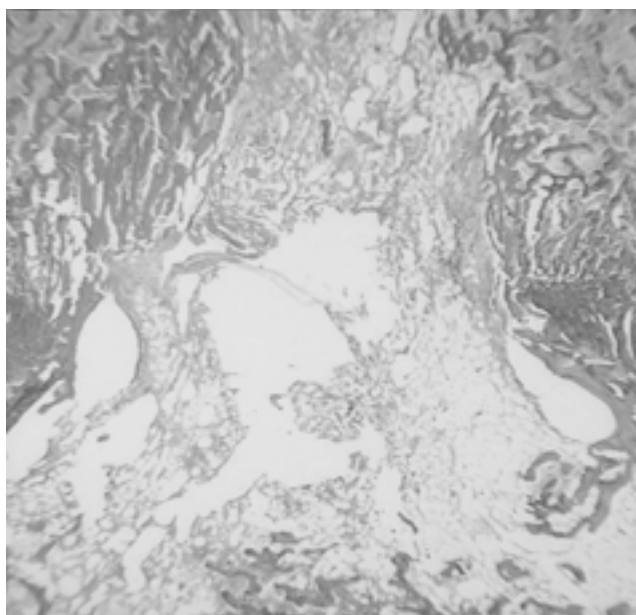
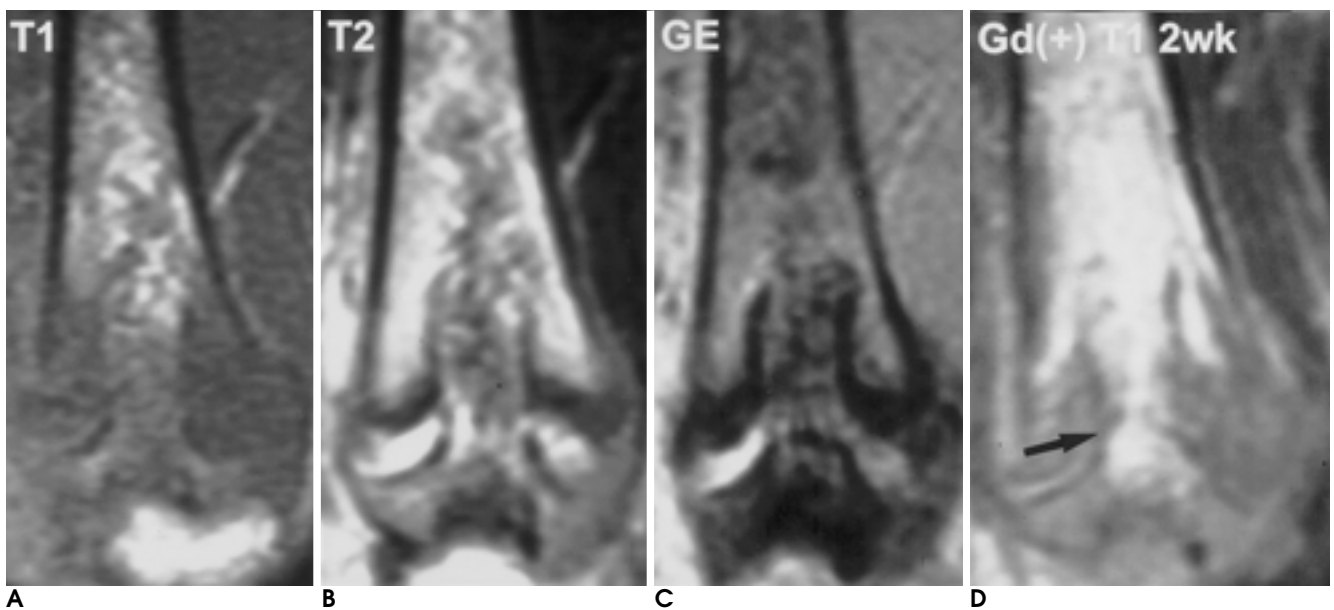
**Fig. 1.** Normal growth plate

The normal growth plate of distal femur is seen as intermediate or bright signal intensity band between the dark bony plates of the epiphysis and the metaphysis in each sequence. The conspicuity of the growth plate is grade 2 on T1-weighted image (**A**), grade 4 on T2-weighted (**B**), gradient echo images (**C**), and grade 3 on post-contrast T1-weighted images (**D**). Photomicrograph of histologic specimen from the central portion of the physis shows multilayer of the physis with adjacent metaphysis and epiphysis (**E**). (Same orientation with the imaging, H&E stain, original magnification,  $\times 20$ )



(5, 7).  
(antiangiogenic substance)  
가 (8), (osteoprogenitor cell)  
(proliferating zone), (germinal zone),  
(hypertrophic zone),  
(zone of provisional calcification) 4  
(6).  
(fibrovascular bridge) 가  
3 (9),  
(10).

(11). Janarv (4) Maleka (9)  
7% 7-9%  
X 가 ,  
가 . CT ,  
MR .  
(6, 12-15). 가  
(6, 12, 14). T1 , T2  
(6, 12).  
T2 3.3 3.2  
3.0 2.6 95%  
가 (p=0.015).  
susceptibility artifact  
coil



**Fig. 2.** Growth plate defect, 2 weeks after drilling in a 2-week group rabbit

The conspicuity of the lesion is excellent (grade 4) on T2-weighted (B) and gradient echo images (C). T1-weighted (A), and postcontrast T1-weighted images (D) are relatively poor in the conspicuity of the lesion. The low signal intensity rims in the periphery of the defect are distinct on T2-weighted and gradient echo images, which is corresponded to the new bone formation pathologically. The defect is filled with fibrovascular tissue (i.e., fibrovascular bridge) (E). Note the inhomogeneous enhancement in the defect on postcontrast T1-weighted images at second week follow-up (arrow). (H&E stain, original magnification,  $\times 20$ )

5 mm

T1

T1  
( $p < 0.01$ ),

가

가

3

6

(12 - 15).

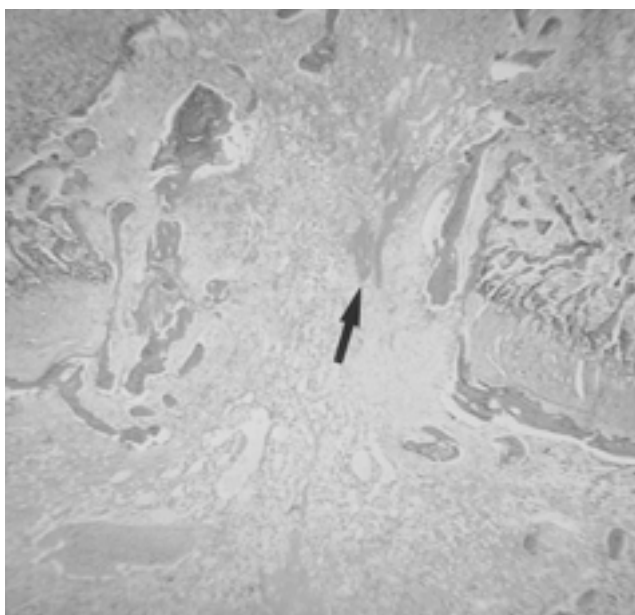
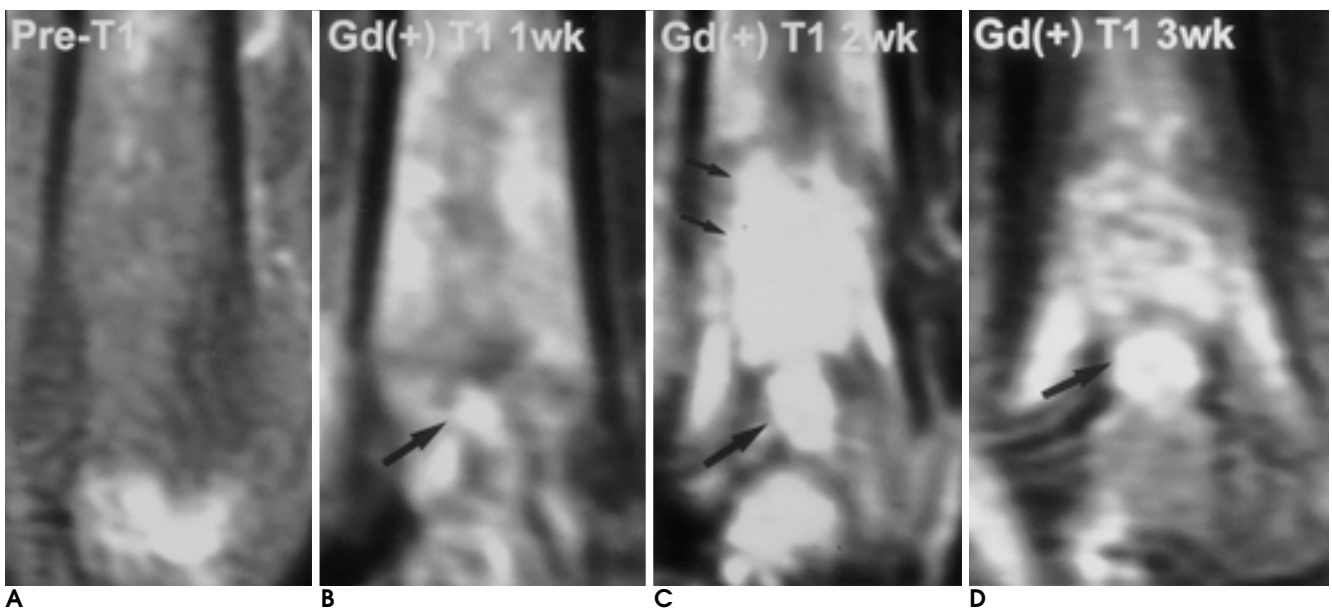
Jaramillo (13)

가

1

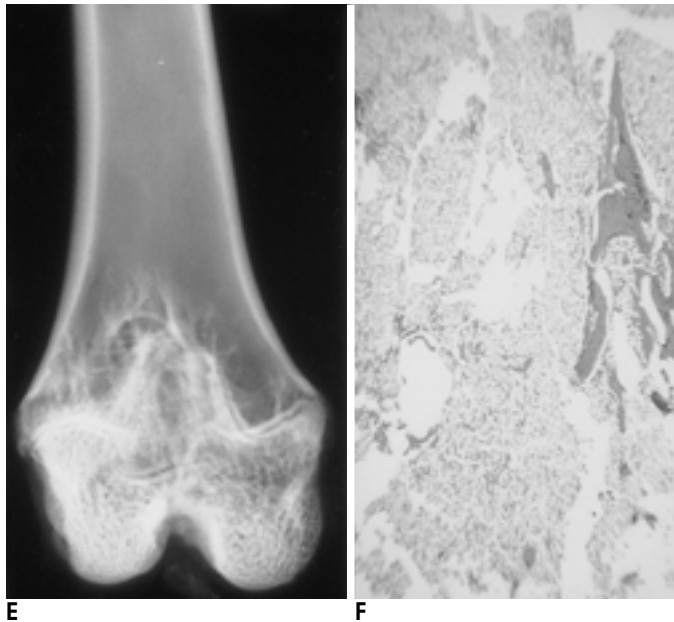
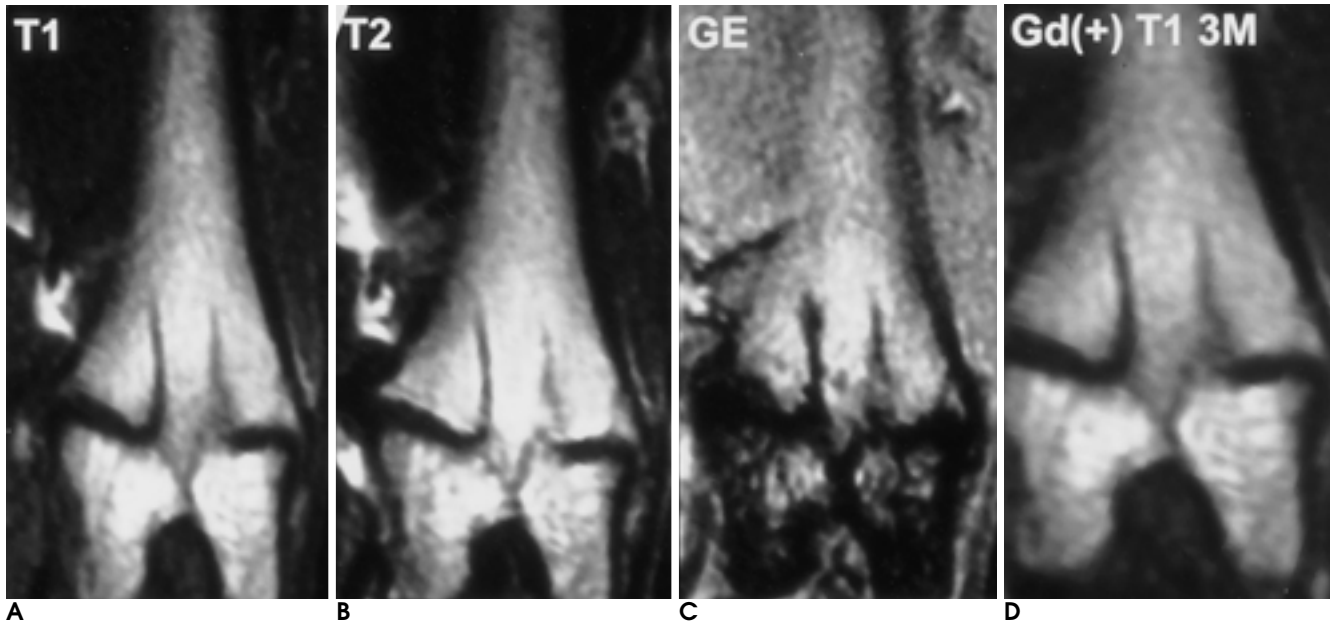
4

(lamellar



**Fig. 3.** Serial changes of enhancement pattern in a 3-week group rabbit

The enhancement in the defect is inhomogeneous and mild at the first week (arrow) (**B**). At the second week, there is strong and homogenous enhancement in the defect (arrow) with strong enhancement of adjacent metaphyseal side (small arrows) (**C**). The enhancement is still strong at the third week, however, the degree of enhancement is decreased (**D**). Photomicrograph of pathologic specimen shows fibroadipose tissue with prominent vascularity (**E**). Note multiple new bone formation in the defect suggesting increased osteoblastic activity (arrow). (H&E stain, original magnification,  $\times 20$ )



**Fig. 4.** Growth plate defect, 3 months after drilling in a 3-month group rabbit

The signal intensity of the defect is isointense to that of metaphyseal fatty marrow on all sequences (**A-C**) and there is no enhancement through the defect on postcontrast image (**D**). Simple contact radiograph shows metaphyseal flaring and tethering of the closed growth plate (**E**). Photomicrograph of pathologic specimen shows fatty tissue in the defect, which replace the fibrovascular bridge (**F**). There is lamellar bone in the periphery of the defect, which is corresponded to the vertical dark rim of the defect on MR imaging. (H&E stain, original magnification,  $\times 20$ )

bone) . 가 , 4 (ingrowth) 가 2 가 . 3 7-8 2 6 , 3 , Jaramillo (13) 1 4 가 가 1



가  
2, 3 가  
가  
가  
2, 3 가 가  
1  
4

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## MR Imaging of Growth Plate Injury in Rabbit: Development of Bony Bridge and Pathologic Correlation<sup>1</sup>

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**Purpose:** To evaluate the MR findings of a development of bony bridge within tunnels drilled across growth plates after injury in immature rabbits, and to correlate the MR and pathological findings.

**Materials and Methods:** In 19 young rabbits, a growth-plate injury model was constructed in the distal femur by longitudinal drilling with a 5-mm drill. Coronal scans with T1-weighted, T2-weighted fast spin-echo, gradient echo, and gadolinium enhanced T1-weighted sequences were obtained immediately, and at 1, 2, 3, and 4 weeks, and 3, 6 months, postoperatively. Each group underwent pathologic examination, and the signal intensity, shape, and enhancement pattern of the drill holes were assessed. All results were correlated with pathologic findings.

**Results:** During the early period, the signal intensity of the defect site varied due to hemorrhage and inflammatory reaction in the lesion, becoming isointense to that of metaphyseal marrow on all sequences during the late period (3 and 6 months). Pathologically, it corresponded to replacement of the osseous bridge with fatty marrow. The new bone formation shown by pathologic examination to be present in the periphery of the defect during the first week corresponded to the vertical dark rim seen on MR images. It appeared during that week and became more distinct, thickening gradually until the fourth week. Enhancement was absent or faint on follow-up immediately after surgery, inhomogenous and seen in half the rabbits at week 1, and maximal and homogenous at weeks 2 and 3. It had decreased by week 4, and was absent at months 3 and 6. These findings corresponded to the changes in transphyseal vascularity across the drill hole revealed by pathologic examination.

**Conclusion:** The contrast enhancement demonstrated by defective growth plate may indicate the development of vascularity throughout the plate, a phenomenon which precedes the formation of a bony bridge after trauma.

**Index words :** Bones, growth and development  
Bones, injuries  
Knee, MR

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