

11 , 4 , 1998 10

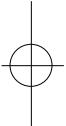
**The Journal of the Korean Society of Fractures**  
Vol.11, No.4, October, 1998

= Abstract =

## A Clinical study of the Lateral Humeral Condyle Fractures in Children

**Hyung-Seok Kim, M.D., Ki-Do Hong, M.D., Sung-Sik Ha, M.D. and Beom-Soo Kim, M.D.**

*Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Seoul Adventist Hospital, Seoul, Korea*



Fracture of the lateral humeral condyle is a relatively common injury in children. It is an intraarticular fracture involving the growth plate so, the treatment should be done very carefully to reduce additional damage and complication. The authors analyzed 34 fractures of the lateral humeral condyle in children who were treated from Mar. 1993 to Feb. 1998, to know the relationship between the factors affecting the development of complications and the results.

The results were summarized as follows ;

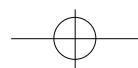
1. There were 1 case (2.9 %) of Milch type I and 33 cases (97.1 %) of Milch type II, and according to Jakob ' stage , 9 cases (26.5 %) of stage I, 19 cases (55.9 %) of stage II, and 6 cases (17.6 %) of stage III.
2. They were treated with cast immobilization in 5 cases ( 14.7 % ), with closed reduction and percutaneous K-wire pinning in 8 cases (23.5 %), and with open reduction and K-wire fixation in 21 cases (61.8 %).
3. According to the criteria of Hardacre, the result of 5 cases of cast immobilization were excellent, 8 cases of closed reduction and percutaneous K-wire pinning were 3 excellent, 4 good, 1 poor, and 22 cases of open reduction and K-wire fixation were 19 excellent, 2 good, so there were 22 cases (64.7 %) excellent, 11 cases (32.4 %) good, and 1 case (2.9 %) poor.
4. The complications were 11 cases (32.4 %) of bony spur, 6 cases (17.6 %) of overgrowth of

:

2 29-1 (130-092)

Tel : 210-3477 Fax : 217-1897





the lateral condylar or capitellum, 1 case (2.9 %) of premature epiphyseal fusion, and 2 cases (5.9 %) of pinning site infection.

**Key Words :** Humerus, Lateral condyle, Fracture, Children

2.

, , , Milch<sup>14)</sup>  
 , Jakob<sup>10)</sup> stage  
 6,15)  
 , K- , K-  
 , Hardacer<sup>9)</sup>  
 , , ,  
 , , ,  
 , , ,  
 , 1.  
 1- , 5 25 13 6.2  
 , 7 14 (41.2 %) 14  
 , 34 23  
 (67.6 %), 11 (32.4 %) (Table 1).

가  
1993 3 1998 2

1 가 가 34

Table 1. Age and sex distribution

Age	Male	Female	Total (%)
below 3	2	1	3 (8.8 %)
3-5	6	4	10 (29.4 %)
5-7	9	5	14 (41.2 %)
7-9	4	1	5 (14.7 %)
above 9	2	0	2 (5.9 %)
Total	23 (67.6 %)	11 (32.4 %)	34 (100 %)

1.  
1993 3 1998 2

가 가 34

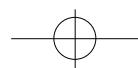
2.

가 18 (52.9 %)  
12 (35.3 %), 3 (8.8 %),

1 (2.9 %)

3.

1)  
Milch<sup>14)</sup>, 34 Milch type



996 •

/ 11 4

I 1 (2.9 %), Milch type II† 33 (97.1 %)  
Milch type II†

5.

2)  
Jakob 10 , 34  
stage I 9 (26.5 %), stage II† 19 (55.9 %), stage III  
† 6 (17.6%) (Table 2).

가

3-5  
2-4mm

K-

**Table 2.** Type of fracture and degree of displacement

Jakob stage I 5

	Jakob			Total
	I	II	III	
Milch I	0	1	0	1 (2.9 %)
II	9	18	6	33 (97.1 %)
Total	9	19	6	34 (100 %)

4.

34 2

(Fig 1-A,B,C).



A



B

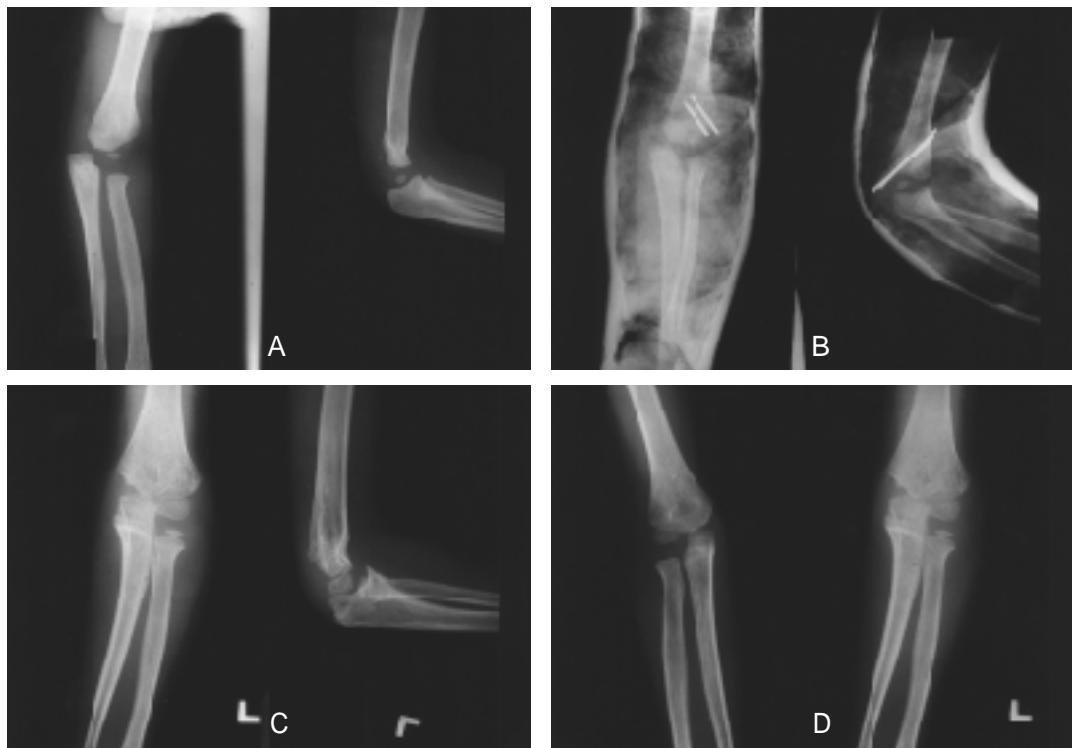
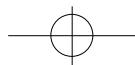


C

**Fig 1-A.** A 7-year-old male patient had lateral condylar fracture of left humerus associated with ipsilateral olecranon fracture.

**B.** Both fracture were operated with open reduction and internal fixation.

**C.** Union of both fracture site was achieved at 6 weeks after operation and the clinical result was good.

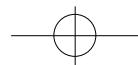


**Fig 2-A.** A 3-year-old male patient with Milch type II, Jakob stage I fracture.

B. Closed reduction and percutaneous pinning with 2 K-wire was done.

C,D. In the 36 months follow-up radiograph, lateral condylar and capitellar overgrowth and bony spur was seen. The clinical result was good.

Jakob stage



998 •

/ 11 4

**Table 3.** Method of treatment

Method \ Jakob stage	I	II	III	No. of Patients (%)
Cast immobilization	5			5 (14.7 %)
Closed reduction and percutaneous K-wire pinning		4	4	8 (23.5 %)
Open reduction and K-wire fixation		15	6	21 (61.8 %)
Total	9	19	6	34 (100 %)

**Table 4.** Change of carrying angle

Change of carrying angle	No. of Patients
Below 5 °	33
Above 5 °	1
Total	34

11 (32.4 %),  
6 (17.6 %),  
(2.9 %),  
%)  
,

11 K-  
,  
,

Jakob stage I 2 K-  
Jakob stage II 1 K-  
3 Jakob stage II 1 Jakob stage III 2

25 (73.5 %) K-  
Milch<sup>14)</sup>  
1  
,

8 ° K-  
,

2

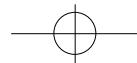
2

K Rockwood<sup>16)</sup>  
16.8 %, 54.2 %  
6-10

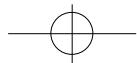
5-7 K 14 (41.2 %) K

**Table 5.** The result by Hardacre Criteria

result	Criteria	No. of patients (%)
Excellent	no loss of motion no alteration in carrying angle asymptomatic	22 (64.7 %)
Good	lacked no more than 15 ° of complete extension inconspicuous difference in carrying angle no arthritic or neurologic symptoms	11 (32.4 %)
Poor	disabling loss of motion conspicuous difference of carrying angle arthritic or neurologic symptoms nonunion or avascular necrosis	1 (2.9 %)
Total		34 (100%)



Jakob <sup>10)</sup> II, III stage I	1 stage I, , stage II,III	4 K-	2 K-
Milch type 2 19 (55.9 %)	33 (97.1 %), Jakob stage II†	Maylahn , Fahey <sup>11)</sup> † 28% 11 (32.4 %) , K-	Wadsworth <sup>19)</sup>
McLearie Merson <sup>13)</sup>			
Irwin <sup>6)</sup> , Conner Smith <sup>7)</sup> , Hardacre 90, McDonnel Wilson <sup>12)</sup> , Badelon <sup>5)</sup>	, Blount 90, Jakob stage II 2mm	† . Jakob stage II 2 1	K-
, Fontanetta <sup>8)</sup>	8 °	8 ° †	
		2	
	Jakob stage II, III		
21 K-			
Rockwood <sup>16)</sup> , Tachdjian <sup>18)</sup>	90 °	1993 3 1998 2	
			1
Hardacre <sup>9)</sup> 22 , 11 , 1		가가 34 Milch type II† 33 Jakob stage II† 19 가	
		2. 5 , 8	K- , 21
† Wadsworth <sup>19)</sup> 28%, Rang <sup>17)</sup> 60%			
	6 (17.6 %)†	3. Hardacre 11 (32.4 %), 1 (2.9 %)	22 (64.7 %),
† 6	6 <sup>19)</sup> ,	Jakob stage I 3 , 6 , Milch type I	
		Jakob stage II 15 , 3 , 1 ,	
		Jakob stage III 3 , 3 ,	



1000 •

/ 11 4

				5
				K-
				8      3    4    1
				,                  K-
21	19	2		.
4.			11 (32.4 %)      1	
			,                  6 (17.6 %),	
			1 (2.9 %),	
2	(5.9 %)			
				5. Jakob stage II, III
				Jakob stage I
				, K-
				smooth K-

## REFERENCES

- 1) , , , , , : . , 10-1:218-225, 1997.1) Badelon O, Bensahel H, Mazda K and Vie P : Lateral humeral condylar fractures in children : A report of 47 cases. *J Pediatr Orthop*, 8:31-34, 1988.
- 2) , , , : . , 26:408-411, 1991.
- 3) , , , , , : . , 28:781-792, 1993.
- 4) , , , , , : . , 28:226-233, 1993.
- 5) **Badelon O, Bensahel H, Mazda K and Vie P :** Lateral humeral condylar fractures in children : A report of 47 cases. *J Pediatr Orthop*, 8:31-34, 1988.
- 6) **Blount WP and Irwin Schulz :** Fracture of the elbow in children. *JAMA*, 146:699-703, 1951.
- 7) **Conner A, and Smith MGH :** Displaced fractures of lateral humeral condyle in children. *J Bone Joint Surg*, 52:460-464, 1970.
- 8) **Fontanetta P, MacKenzie DA and Rosman M :** Missed, maluniting and malunited fractures of the lateral humeral condyle in children. *J Trauma*, 18:329-335, 1978.
- 9) **Hardacre JA, Nahigian SH, Froimson AI and Brown JE :** Fractures in children. *J Bone Joint Surg*, 57B:430-436, 1975.
- 10) **Jakob R, Fowles JV, Rang M and Kassab TM :** Observation concerning fractures of the lateral humeral condyle in children. *J Bone Joint Surg*, 87:110-115, 1972.
- 11) **Maylahn DJ and Fahey JJ :** Fractures of the elbow in children. Review of 300 consecutive case. *JAMA*, 166:220-228, 1958.
- 12) **McDonnell DP and Wilson JC :** Fractures of the lower end of humerus in children. *J Bone Joint Surg*, 30:347-358, 1948.
- 13) **McLearie M and Merson JC :** Fractures of the elbow epiphysis of humerus in children. *J Bone Joint Surg*, 36:84-89, 1959.
- 14) **Milch H :** Fractures of the external humeral condyle. *JAMA*, 160:641-646, 1956.
- 15) **Ogden JA :** *Skeletal injury in the children*. Philadelphia, WB Saunders Co.: 399-415, 1990.
- 16) **Rockwood CA, Wilkins KE and Beaty JH :** *Fractures in children*. 4th ed. Philadelphia Lippincott Co.:752-776, 1996.
- 17) **Rang M :** *Children 's fractures*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia, Lippincott Co: 173-179, 1982.
- 18) **Tachdjian MO :** *Pediatric orthopedics*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia Saunders Co.:3108-3119, 1990.
- 19) **Wadsworth TG :** Injuries of the capitellar epiphysis. *Clin Orthop*, 85:127-142, 1972.