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= Abstract =

## Arterial Injuries associated with Fractures or Dislocations around the Knee

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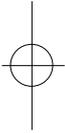
The purpose of this article is to delineate factors important in successful management and subsequent extremity function of the patient with arterial injury associated with fractures or dislocations around the knee.

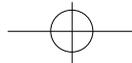
We reviewed 25 cases of arterial injury associated with fractures or dislocations around the knee which were treated at our hospital between 1994 and 1998.

As long term results, the salvage rate of the lower limb was related to the extent of the soft tissue damage and the severity of infection, but there was no statistical difference according to the method of vascular surgery ( $p=0.645$ ). Compared with the salvage rate of the lower limb according to the length of time from injury to vascular reanastomosis, there was no statistical difference between two groups of the patients who were operated within 12 hours and were operated during the time between 12 hours and 24 hours ( $p=0.084$ ). In view of whether open or closed fractures were combined, 11 cases (58%) among 19 cases of open fractures and 5

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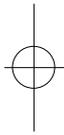




cases(83%) among 6 cases of closed fractures were able to salvage the lower limb, so it could contribute to the salvage rate of the limb. Finally 16 cases(64%) among total 25 cases were able to salvage the lower limb, and its functional outcome was like followings : excellent results were found in 6 cases, fair results in 8 cases, poor results in 2 cases, and amputation in 9 cases(36%). In case of amputation, 3 cases were primarily amputated and 6 cases were amputated secondary to vascular surgery.

As long term results, whether open or closed fractures were combined, the severity of the infection and the extent of the soft tissue necrosis were the factors influencing on the salvage rate of the lower limb. Other factors, such as the difference of ischemic time within 24 hours interval, the site and the method of management of the fractures and the vascular injuries and whether fasciotomy was performed or not were not important factors influencing on the salvage rate of the lower limb.

**Key Words** : Arterial injury, Lower limb salvage



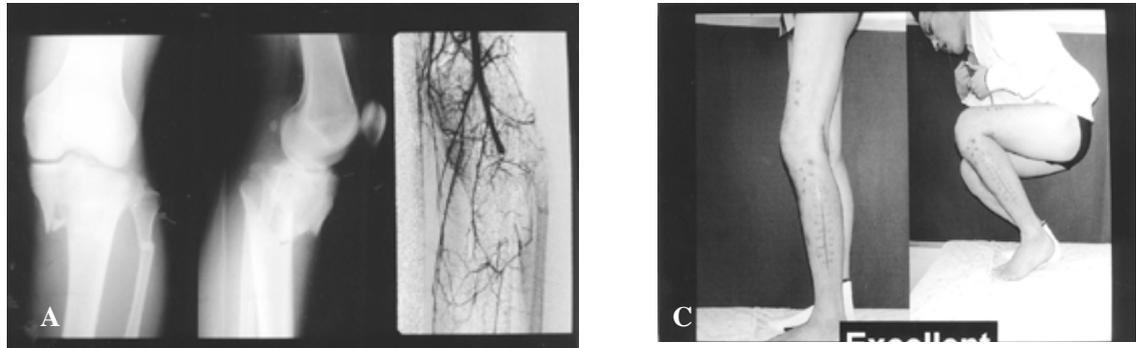
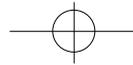
21	1	(arterial trifurcation)	17	70 ( 38 )	20
가	가	가23	10	가	가
		(distal femoral artery)			10
	20-50%	(popliteal artery)		12	
7,15,18)		(arterial trifurcation)			3
				4	7
가			3		4
		가7			
		5		8	
				3	가3
				6	
			19		(76%)

(Table 1).

	(ischemic time)	5	19	( 11 )
1994	4	1998	4	가 2 4 5
25		1	4	
1		3		







**Fig 1.** Twenty five-year-old male patient sustained proximal tibiofibular fracture and popliteal artery injury due to motorcycle accident.  
**A.** X-ray and arteriogram showing abrupt disruption of popliteal artery and tibial bicondylar fracture.  
**B.** Immediate post-operative x-ray showing both internal and external fixation of the fractured proximal tibia. Popliteal artery was reconstructed with saphenous vein graft. One year after operation, bony union was achieved and the external fixation device was removed.  
**C.** Photograph demonstrating excellent limb function.

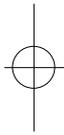
**Table 3.** Survival and its functional results according to the ischemic time.

Ischemic time	Survival			Amputation	Total
	excellent	fair	poor		
< 12 hrs	2	5	1	2	10
12 - 24 hrs	4	3	1	2	10
> 24 hrs	0	0	0	2	2
Total		16		6	22

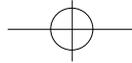
**Table 4.** Survival and its functional results according to the ischemic time.

Level of arterial injury	Survival			Amputation	Total
	excellent	fair	poor		
Superficial femoral a.	3	4	0	2	9
Popliteal a.	3	1	2	4	10
Arterial trifurcation	0	3	0	0	3
Total		16		6	22

9 7 (78%), (P=0.539)(Table 4).  
 10 6 (60%), 3 ,  
 (100%) 가가 . 19 11 (58%), 6 5 (83%)  
 4 2 가가 가







가

5,17)

가

15,19)

13 8

가

5 4

3 3

가가

가

(p=0.645).

9,11,14)

1981 Alberty <sup>1)</sup> Grimley <sup>6)</sup>

, DeBakey Simeon<sup>4)</sup> 2

72.5%

Hughes<sup>8)</sup>

32.4%

1969

Rich <sup>16)</sup>

Steinmann pin

32%

1980 Lim <sup>12)</sup> 6 31

1

, 1987 Krige Spence<sup>10)</sup> 10.7%

가 (p=0.204).

(ischemic time)

2),

Miller Welch<sup>13)</sup>

6

90%

, Connolly <sup>3)</sup> 8

1981 Alberty <sup>1)</sup>

25

16 (64%)

가

가

24

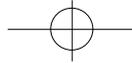
20 24

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