

## A Clinical Analysis of Surgical Treatment of Lumbar Degenerative Kyphosis

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– Abstract –

**Study Design** : A retrospective study.

**Objective** : To analyse associated preoperative conditions and postoperative causes of sagittal imbalance and to analyze clinical results of surgical treatment of lumbar degenerative kyphosis.

**Summary of Literature Review** : There have been many controversies and high possibility of unsatisfactory results in surgical treatment of symptomatic degenerative lumbar kyphosis, which was complicated condition usually needed multi-level operation in old age.

**Materials and Methods** : We analyzed 24 patients who complained of long standing stooping as one of main symptoms with radiologically measured lumbar kyphosis and underwent surgical restoration of lumbar lordosis with long segmental spinal fusion from 1995 to 1999. Mean follow-up was 31.9 months (from 24 to 48 months). Operative treatments were posterolateral fusion with pedicular screw (15 cases), anterior and posterior interbody fusion (5 cases), posterior interbody fusion with cage (1 case) and decancellation osteotomy (3 cases). Cases divided into 2 groups (Group A: improved stooping, Group B: recurred stooping) were evaluated by radiological measurement of changes in surgically restored lumbar lordosis correlated with clinical improvement of stooping. Overall clinical results were evaluated according to Kirkaldy-Willis criteria.

**Results** : The associated conditions of preoperative lumbar kyphosis were recognized as multiple disc degeneration, segmental instability, degenerative vertebral wedging and pseudospondylolisthesis. Post-operative stooping recurred in 5 cases and caused by adjacent kyphosis in 2 cases, loss of correction in 1 case and both in 2 cases. Loss of correction was associated with pseudarthrosis in 1 case, screw loosening in 3 cases and allograft collapse in 2 cases. According to Kirkaldy-Willis, 8 cases of unsatisfactory clinical results consisted of 3 cases of pseudarthrosis out of 19 cases of Group A and all cases (5 cases) in group B. Most of correction loss occurred at lower lumbar spine (L3-S1) and was closely related to post-operative sagittal imbalance.

**Conclusion** : Maintenance of well corrected lumbar lordosis for sagittal balance and prevention of pseudarthrosis were mandatory for good clinical outcome in surgical treatment of lumbar degenerative kyphosis.

**Key Words** : Lumbar degenerative kyphosis, Sagittal imbalance, Pseudarthrosis, Surgical treatment

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\* 2001 5 25

17

1995 8 1999 5

13) , 2 가 24

4) stooping  
가 44 75  
63.1 가 5 (20.8%), 가 19  
(79.2%) 24 48

가 7,22) 가  
가 31.9 (standing)

flatback 16) flatback (supine) (recumbent) , ,  
syndrome 15)

flatback cassette ( 190cm)  
Cobb 1 1  
(Fusion)

(distraction instrumentation) Segmental Angle  
8,15,16). 1988 Takemitsu 18,19) Cobb  
(L1-L3) Cobb  
L1 L3  
(L3-S1)

2) 가 Cobb L3 S1 Cobb  
5-7,9,17,20)  
(sacral inclination) 1,2

7)(Fig. 1). (interperson-  
al), (intrapersonal) 3

가 13) (stooping) 24

stooping 19 (A ) stooping  
5 (B )

가

가

가 15 , X-ray

Cage 6, 3, 1, Man-whit-Kirkaldy-Willis

ney U test 12)

1. stooping (A )

14.9 가 9.8 24.7

14.1 30.3 16.2 가 (L1-S1)

26.2 4.1 (L3-S1) 18.6

30.8 12.2 가

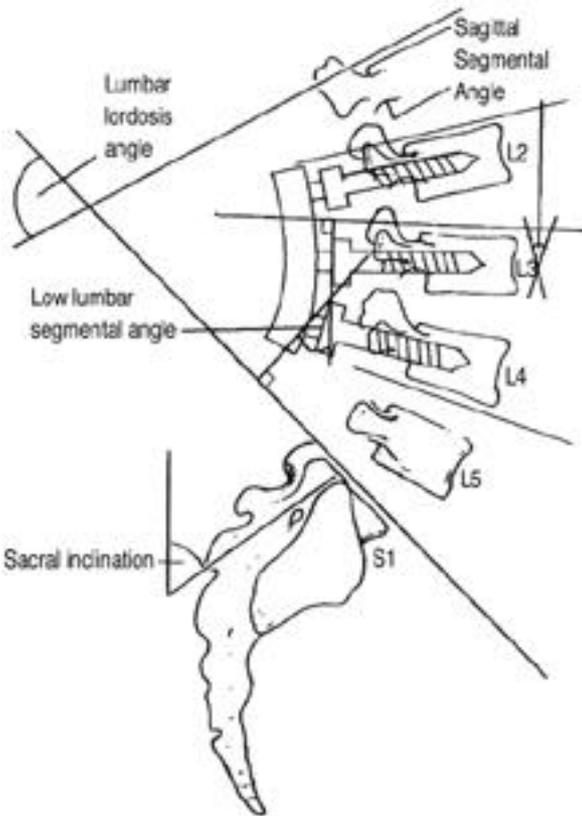


Fig. 1. Parameter which represent spinal alignment.

28.4 2.4 (L1-L3) - 7.5

0.1 7.6 가

2.1 2.2 (Sacral inclination) 19.8 34.3

14.5 가 가 32.1 2.2 (Table 1).

stooping (B )

4.4 25.6 21.2

가 16.2 9.4 (P=0.005<0.05).

A (L1-S1) 10.9

31.3 20.4 가 19.8

11.5 A (L3-S1)

(P=0.014<0.05). 16.8 26.8 10.0 가

16.0 10.8 (P=0.002<0.05).

A (L1-L3) -2.4

2.6 5.0 가 0.2

2.4 A (P=0.8>0.05).

(Sacral inclination) 24.0

35.8 11.8 가 가 26.2

9.6 A (P=0.001<0.05)(Table 2).

(disc degeneration) 24 (100%), (degenerative wedge vertebrae) 7 (29.1%), (segmental instability) 8 (33.3%), (Pseudospondylolisthesis) 4 (16.6%) (Table 3).

Table 1. Radiologic Results in Improved stooping group (Group A)

	Preop	IPO	F/U	Loss of Correction
FSA*(In-fusion)	9.8	24.7	21.3	3.4
TLLA†(L1-S1)	14.1	30.3	26.2	4.1
HLSA‡(L1-L3)	-7.5	0.1	-2.1	2.2
LLSA§(L3-S1)	18.6	30.8	28.4	2.4
SI¶(B-Angle)	19.8	34.3	32.1	2.2

\*FSA : fusion segmental angle

†TLLA : Total lumbar lordosis angle

‡HLSA : High lumbar segmental angle

§LLSA : Low lumbar segmental angle

¶SI : Sacral inclination

(83.3%)  
 20  
 5 stooping  
 2 , 1 ,  
 가 (pseu- 가 2 3  
 5 (20.8%) 가 1 , 3  
 4 L3-S1 1 2 5  
 (L2-3) (lateral bone  
 3 (12.5%) mass) 1  
 1 2 1 5 1 2 4  
 9 (37.5%) (fair)  
 5 가 가  
 2 (8.3%) (L3-S1)  
 (Fig. 2, Table 4).

**Table 2.** Radiologic Results in Persistent stooping group (Group B)

	Preop	IPO	F/U	Loss of Correction
FSA(In-fusion)	4.4	25.6	16.2	9.4
TLLA(L1-S1)	10.9	31.3	19.8	11.5
HLSA(L1-L3)	-2.4	2.6	0.2	2.4
LLSA(L3-S1)	16.8	26.8	16.0	10.8
SI( $\beta$ -Angle)	24.0	35.8	26.2	9.6

**Table 3.** Associated conditions for lumbar kyphosis

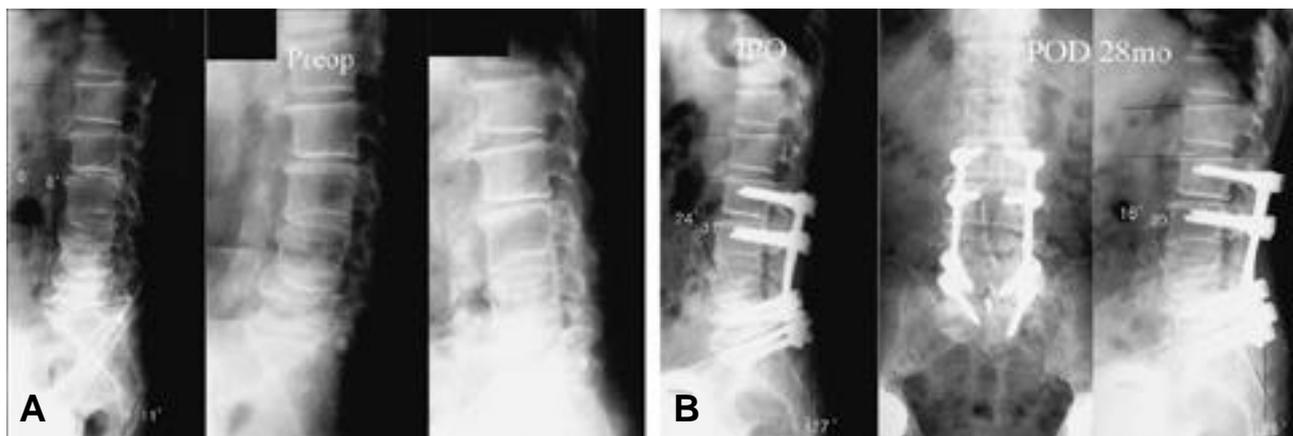
Cause	Case(%)
Multiple Disc Degeneration	24 case(100)
Wedge or Collapsed vertebrae	7 case(29.1)
Segmental Instability	8 case(33.3)
Pseudospondylolisthesis	4 case(16.6)

2.  
 ,  
 (stooping)  
 20  
 (83.3%), 14 (58.3%)  
 stooping 가  
 (Table 5), 가

**Table 4.** Causes of Post-operative Sagittal Imbalance

Cause	Case(%)	Location
Pseudarthrosis	1 case(4.1)	1 case(L5-S1)
Screws Loosening	3 cases(12.5)	3 cases(L3-S1)
Allograft collapse	2 cases(8.3)	2 cases(L3-S1)
Adj*. Disc Degeneration	3 cases(12.5)	2 cases(L5-S1), 1 case(L1-2)

\* Adj. : Adjacent



**Fig. 2-A.** Preoperative lateral radiography of 68-year-old man shows disc degeneration of L2-3 L3-4 L4-5 L5-S1, and rigid kyphosis in flexion-extension view.

**B.** Postoperative lateral radiography with L2-S1 posterolateral fusion with pedicular screw and pedicle subtraction osteotomy on L4 shows increased lumbar lordosis angle by 16°. Postoperative 28-months follow-up lateral radiography of lumbar spine shows correction loss(L1-S1) by 8°, but shows maintenance of lumbar lordosis and relief of stooping.

가  
 Kirkaldy-Willis 16 (84.1%)  
 , stooping  
 (Table 6).  
 14 1976 Moe Denis 16)  
 (58.3%) flatback syndrome  
 13 가 A , 7 (29.1%) 16  
 3 가 A 7  
 8 (33.3%) 1  
 A (Table 7). Grobler 10) 26 . 1978  
 , 가 , flatback syndrome  
 . 1988 Takemitsu  
 (Vertical Axis Line) , flatback ,  
 가 18,19) (Lumbar Degenerative Kyphosis)  
 가 (70.8%) ,  
 가

**Table 5.** Associated neural compression

Cause	Case(%)
Spinal stenosis	20 cases(83.3)
HNP	14 cases(58.3)

**Table 6.** Clinical Results(Kirkaldy-Willis, 1974)

	Group A	Group B
Excellent	5(26.3%)	0(0%)
Good	11(57.8%)	0(0%)
Fair	3(15.7%)	4(80.0%)
Poor	0(0%)	1(20.0%)

**Table 7.** Clinical Results(Loss of cardinal sign)

	Group A	Group B
Loss of forward stooping	19(100%)	0(0%)
Restore ability of climbing slope	13(68.4%)	1(20.0%)
Relief of Low back pain	16(84.2%)	1(20.0%)
Relief of all cardinal sign	8(42.1%)	0(0%)

(L1-S1) 13.4°

<sup>14)</sup>

49° (22° ~ 79°)

Wambolt

(Fig. 4).

2

5

<sup>20)</sup> 59° (31° ~ 79°)

2

1

가 A  
(Table 1, 2).

가

가

60

83.3%

가

(Fig. 3). 18

L5-S1

cage

가

가 5

4 가

가

가

4

가

가  
stooping

9 (37.5%)

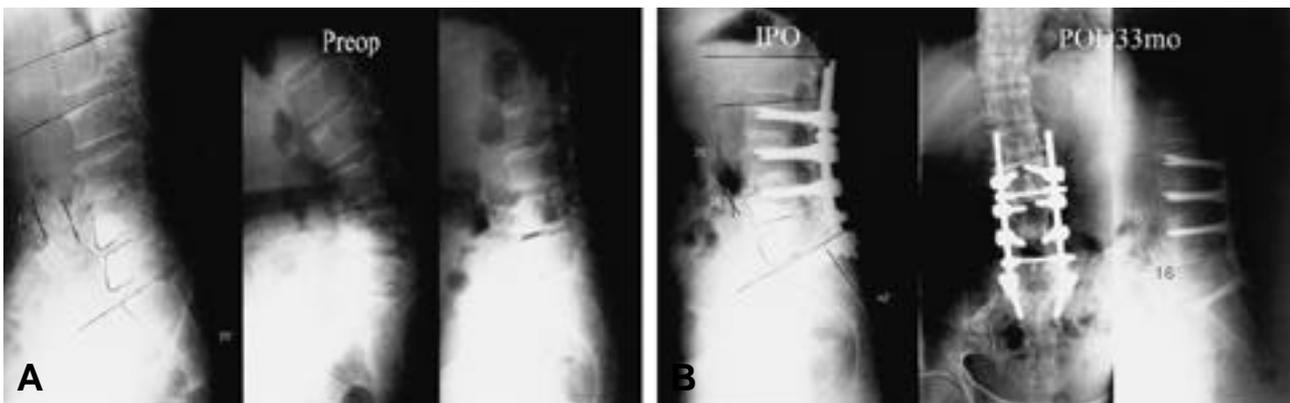
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(Table 1, 2).

( , L3-S1)

2

Kirkaldy-



**Fig. 3-A.** Preoperative lateral radiography of 64-year-old woman shows disc degeneration of L4-5 L5-S1, wedge vertebrae L4 L5, and segmental instability L3-4 L4-5 in flexion-extension view.

**B.** Postoperative lateral radiography with L2-S1 posterolateral fusion with pedicular screws and L2-5 anterior interbody fusion with allograft shows increased lumbar lordosis angle by 15°. Postoperative 33-months follow-up lateral radiography of lumbar spine shows compression fx L1 with correction loss(L1-S1) by 4°, but showed maintenance of lumbar lordosis and relief of stooping.



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 : 1995 8 1999 5  
 2 가 24  
 31.9 , 15 , 6  
 , 3 .  
 stooping 19 (A ) 5 (B )  
 : A B , (L3-S1)  
 가 , B  
 24 , 7 ,  
 8 , 4 , 20 (83.3%)  
 가 가 5 , 9 ,  
 3 (L5-S1 2 , L1-2 1 ) , 가 2 (L3-S1) 9 5 가  
 stooping 5 2 ,  
 1 , 2 . Kirkaldy-Willis A 84.1%  
 , B 가 가  
 : 가 ,  
 가

6가 18-79

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