- Load-Sharing

**Posterior Short-Segment Instrumentation of** 

Thoracic and Lumbar Bursting Fractures

- Retrospective study related with Load-Sharing classification –

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- Abstract -

**Study Design**: The authors designed the retrospective study with the Load-Sharing Classification in 47 cases of the bursting thoracic-lumbar fractures, which were operated using the pedicle screws.

**Objective**: To judge the effectiveness of posterior short segment instrumented fusion in thoracic-lumbar fractures according to the Load-Sharing classification.

Material and Method: From 1995 through 1998, 47 patients who had been operated with short segment transpedicular instrumentation including fractured vertebra were selected and they were divided two groups, one below 6 point of Load-Sharing score, the other above 7 point. In follow up of average 39 months, the guide of reduction loss, which include the change of anterior vertebral body height and sagittal index were analysed statistically with the Student T-test at the postoperative time and the last follow-up time.

Results: In group below 6 point, the average of anterior vertebral body height was 56.2% before the operation and reduced 77.6% after the operation and measured 76.4% at final follow-up. The reduction loss was 1.2%. The sagittal index of preoperative 19.4°, became 10.6°, after the operation and measured 11.8° at the last follow-up. The loss of correction angle was 1.2°. In the other group above 7 point, anterior vertebral body height was average 51.7% before the operation and reduced 75% after the operation and measured 71.2% in last follow up, so reduction loss was 3.8%. Sagittal index was average 21.6°, before the operation and corrected 12.6° after the operation and measured 14.6°, in last follow up. All of 19 patients with neurologic deficits improved by over the one Frankel grade except grade A.

**Conclusion**: Although the additional study is needed, there were no significant difference of statistical analysis about indexes between two groups.

Key Words: Fracture, Thoracic-lumbar, Load-Sharing classification, Short segment transpedicular instrumentation

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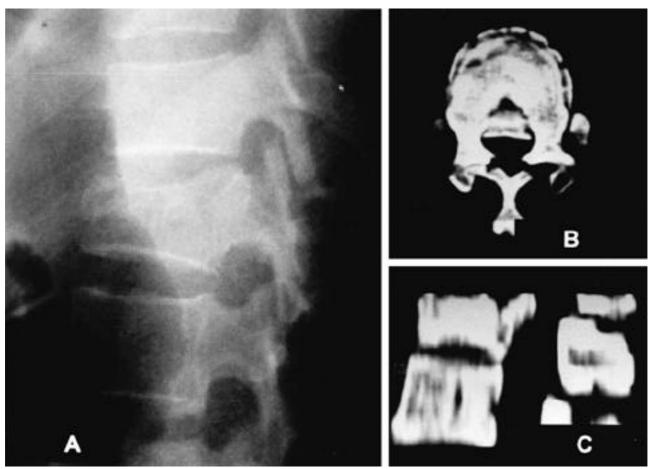
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30~50% Load-Sharing 6 (II ) Sagittal index 가 가 가 가 1 , Parker 12) Load-Sharing . Sagittal index 가 7 가 Bernhardt Bridwell Load-Sharing 1) 가 Load-Sharing Student T-test Frankel 1995 8 1998 12 , 7 Load-Sharing 6 (I ) 14 1 (II ) 33 가 가 47 I 56.2%, (18 ~53 76.4% . II 77.6% 35 (19 ~56 51.7%, 23 , 20 ) 75% 71.2% . McAfee (p=0.07). Sagit-18 , 29 I 19.4° tal Index , Frankel 10.6° 19 8.8 ° A 3 , B 2 , C 1.2° . II 4 , D 10 . 47 11.8° 21.6° 12.1 ° 9.5° 14.6° 50% 2.5 ° , Sagittal index가 25 (p=0.065)(Table 1).

**Table 1.** Data of analysis

Group	NO. of Cases	Mean Value of A	nterior Height(%)	Mean Sagittal Index(degree)	
		post. op	last f/u	post. op.	last f/u
I	14	77.6	76.4	10.6	11.8
II	33	75	71.2	12.6	14.6
p value		0.07		0.065	



**Fig. 1.** Mild bursting fracture with 55% anterior height reserve rate and 7° sagittal index (5 point, Group I). **A.** correction of 4°~9° for restoration of normal alignment on lateral film (2 point).

**B.** only mild (< 2 mm) fragment displacement over less than 50% of the body on axial plane section CT (2 point).

C. fracture involve only the top third of the body (1 point).

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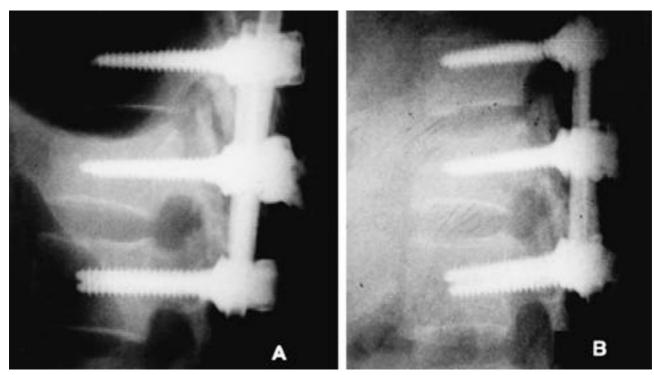


Fig. 2. (Group I : same patient with Fig. 1).

- **A.** The fracture is handled successfully with short segment transpedicular instrumentation including fractured vertebra (anterior height reserve rate : 74%, sagittal index : 5°).
- **B.** Follow -up film at 41 months showing one screw was inserted to most upper vertebra broken but, our guide of reduction loss and result were acceptable (anterior height reserve rate : 72%, sagittal index : 5°).

 $Rhym^{\scriptscriptstyle 3)}$ 21.4% 1.2% 23.3% , II 56 3 (three point fixation) 3.8% Sagittal Index I 8.8 1.20 , II 9.5。 가 2.5。 . Jeong Sagittal Index 가 가 가 Load Sharing McCormack 가 Load Sharing capacity Load Sharing 가

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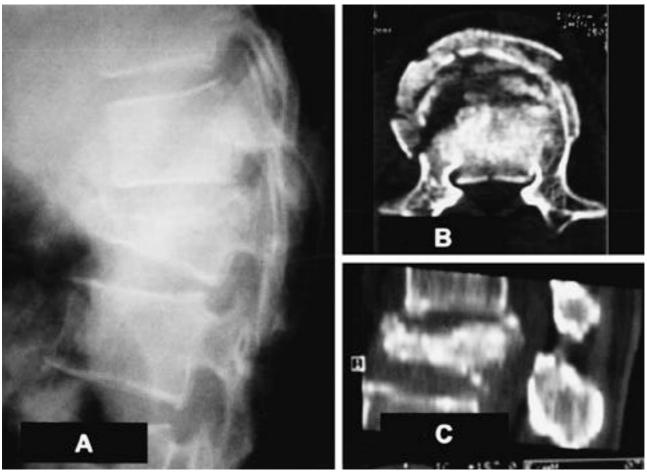


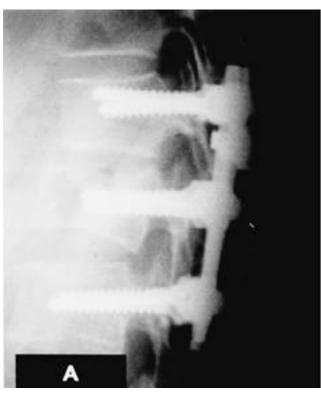
Fig. 3. Severe bursting fracture with 30% anterior height reserve rate and 30° sagittal index (9 point, Group II).

**A.** correction of  $>10^{\circ}$  for restoration of normal alignment on lateral film (3 point).

B. more than 2 mm fragment displacement beyond 50% of the body on axial plane section CT (3 point). C. fracture involve entire body (3 point).

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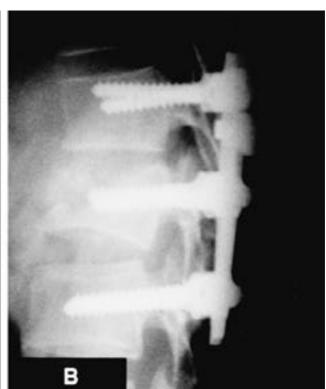


Fig. 4. (Group II: same patient with Fig. 3).

- **A.** The fracture is handled successfully with short segment transpedicular instrumentation including fractured vertebra (anterior height reserve rate: 71%, sagittal index: 19°).
- **B.** Follow -up film at 37 months showing acceptable guide of reduction loss (anterior height reserve rate: 70%, sagittal index: 20°).

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