

Measurements of Lateral Mass of Cervical Spine Using MRI for Lateral Mass Screw Fixation

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– Abstract –

Study design : Lateral mass was measured using MRI for lateral mass screw fixation

Objectives : To measure the lateral mass of cervical spine using MRI for lateral mass screw fixation and find out the ideal entry point and insertion angle and length of lateral mass screws.

Summary of Literature Review : Two methods of screw placement are in common use. The original technique, described by Raymond Roy- Camille, places the screw in a more or less straight sagittal direction and angling the screw laterally 10 to 20 degrees. Magerl technique involves placing the screw parallel to the facet joint and angling the screw laterally 25 to 30 degrees.

Materials and Methods : Axial MR images of the cervical spine parallel to the facet joints were obtained from C3 to C6 of 10 patients. The mean age of the patients were 48.0 years. The patients consisted of 6 male and 4 female patients. Ideal entry points, insertion angle and length of the lateral mass for lateral mass screw fixation were measured on the axial MR images using PACS digital measuring instrument.

Results : Ideal entry point of a lateral mass screw was center of lateral mass in sagittal plane, 16mm lateral to the midline of the cervical spine, ideal direction of the lateral mass screw was parallel to the facet joint and angling the screw laterally 25.3 degrees, and ideal length of lateral mass screw was 17.9mm.

Conclusions : Based on the results of the study, there were some differences of measurements depending on the patients and the level of the cervical spine. Therefore, a preoperative measurement of lateral mass was recommended in each patient and each level of the cervical spine.

Key Words : Lateral mass screw fixation, Magnetic resonance image

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2,3,6,8,10)

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가		Mann-whitney U test	
가			
		3	15.5 mm
		24.3	
10		16.2 mm	
	3	6	16.0 mm
axial image)	T1	(T1-weighted	
	(Fig. 1).	6	
4		48.0	25.2
40		80	17.1 mm
		5	
PACS	digital		15.9 mm
		One-	
sample T test		26.6	

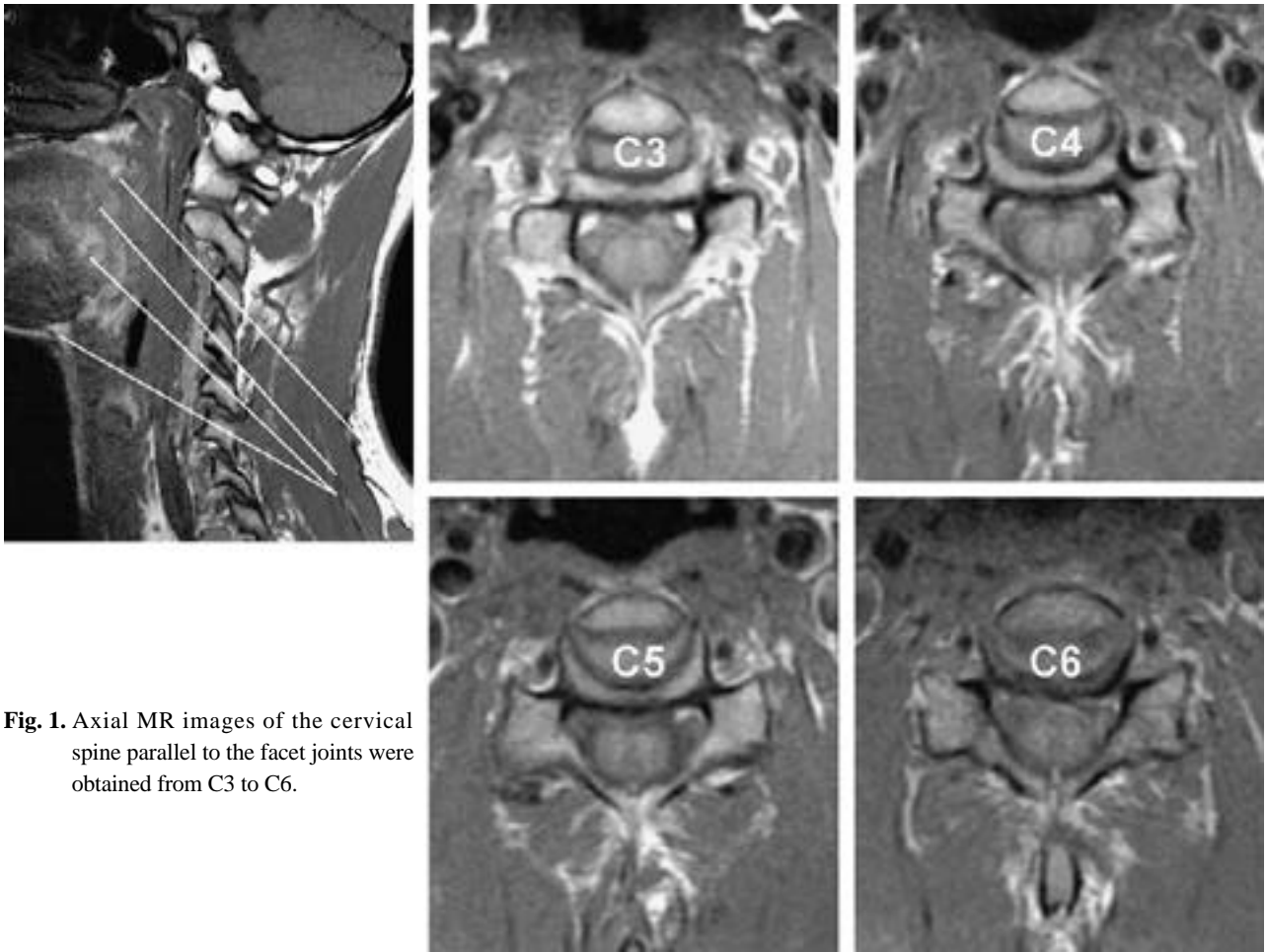


Fig. 1. Axial MR images of the cervical spine parallel to the facet joints were obtained from C3 to C6.

18.6 mm
6
16.4 mm
24.9
19.8 mm
3
6
16.0 mm
25.3
17.9 mm
(Fig. 2).
3
6

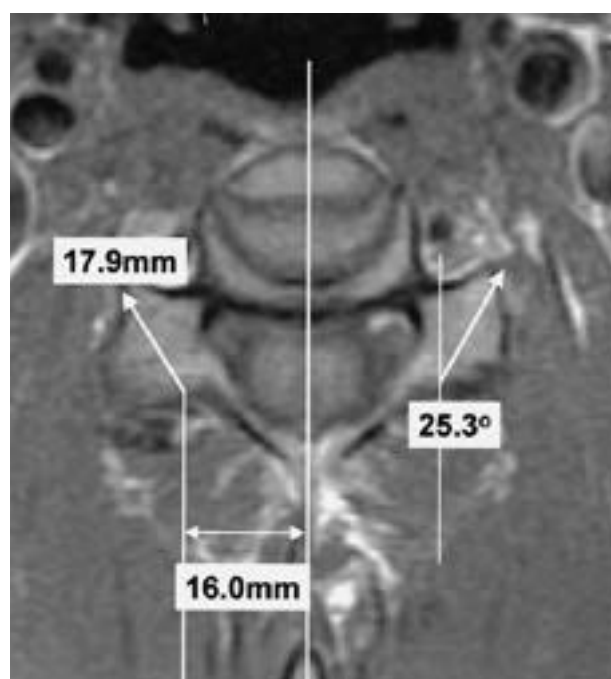


Fig. 2. Ideal entry points, insertion angle and length of the lateral mass for lateral mass screw fixation were measured on the axial MR images using PACS digital measuring instrument.

1.7 mm가
(P=0.018). 4, 5
(Table 1).
3
16.9 mm, 14.8 mm
(Mann-Whitney U= 6.000, P=0.003), 4
18.1 mm, 14.7mm(Mann-Whitney U= 7.000, P=0.004),
5
20.5 mm, 14.1 mm(Mann-Whitney
U= 2.000, P=0.001), 6
21.4 mm,
16.1 mm(Mann-Whitney U=4.000, P=0.002)
가
(Table 2).

Table 1. Measurements of lateral mass depending on the level

	Entry (mm)	Angle (°)	Length (mm)	Significance (P)
C3	15.5	24.3	16.2*	0.000*
C4	16.0	25.2	17.1	0.197
C5	15.9	26.6	18.6	0.463
C6	16.4	24.9	19.8†	0.018†
Mean	16.0	25.3	17.9	1.000

Table 2. Measurements of lateral mass depending on sex of the patients

	Male			Female			Sig(P)*
	Entry	Angle	Length*	Entry	Angle	Length*	
C3	16.1	23.8	16.9	14.2	25.3	14.8	0.003
C4	16.4	25.8	18.1	15.3	24.0	14.7	0.004
C5	16.0	26.7	20.5	15.8	26.4	14.1	0.001
C6	16.7	24.8	21.4	15.7	25.1	16.1	0.002

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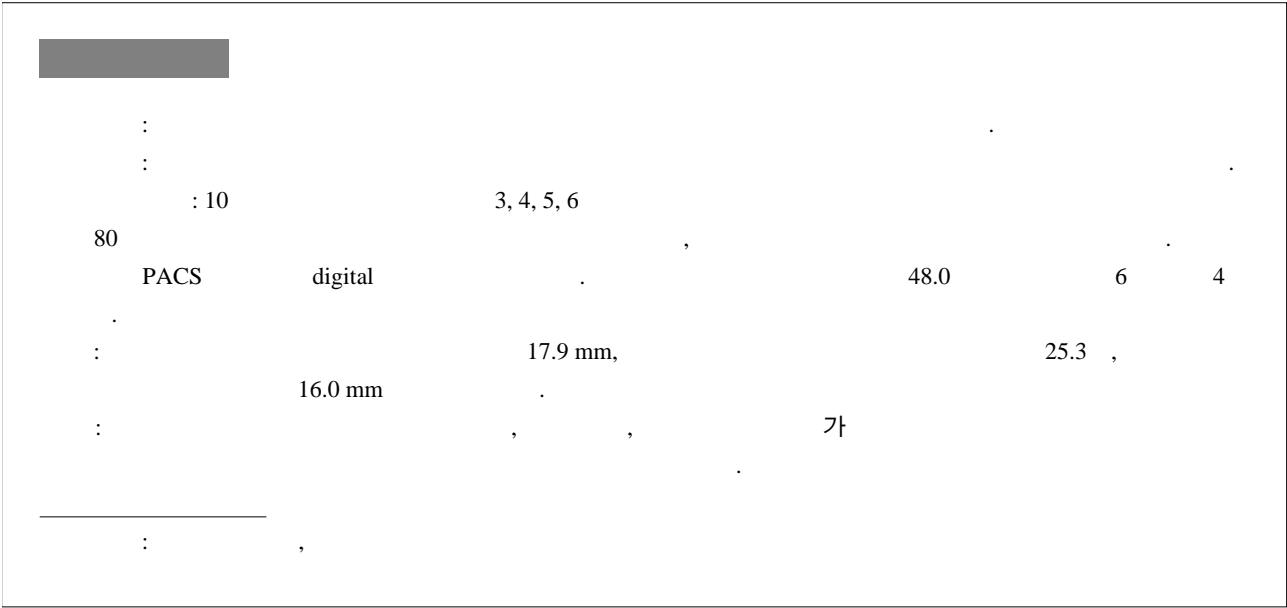


Figure 1

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