

Safety and Efficacy of Metallic Implants in the Treatments of Tuberculous Spondylitis

Byung-Joon Shin, M.D., Jae Chul Lee, M.D., Sung-Woo Choi, M.D., Ki-Hoon Ryu, M.D.,
Young-Il Cho, M.D., Tae-Kyung Yoon, M.D.*, Kyung-Je Kim, M.D., and Yon-Il Kim, M.D.

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Soonchunhyang University College of Medicine, Bucheon, Korea
Hallym University College of Medicine*

– Abstract –

Study Design: A retrospective study

Objective: To analyze the safety and effectiveness of treatments using metallic implants in the tuberculous spondylitis.

Summary of Literature Review: Residual kyphosis and loss of correction remain the major problems following surgery for tuberculous spondylitis. Several authors have used metallic implants for the prevention of these complications. However, the safety of metallic implants use in tuberculous spine infections are still controversial.

Materials and Methods: Seventeen patients, who underwent surgery, and were stabilized by the use of a metallic implant for tuberculous spondylitis, and followed up for more than 1 year were included in this study. All patients were treated with combined anterior fusion (with or without mesh) and/or posterior pedicle screw instrumentation. The patients were followed up with serial plain radiographs, laboratory inflammatory parameters and neurological recovery.

Results: The overall correction of the kyphotic deformity was initially 8.5 degrees, and loss of correction occurred at 5.8 degrees. Although some loss of correction occurred, even after the use of a metallic implant, clinically significant kyphotic deformity was effectively prevented. There were no cases of persistent infection or failure to control infection when the metallic implantation was combined with an anterior radical debridement and chemotherapy. The erythrocyte sedimentation rate and C-reactive protein were eventually normalized in all patients. The preoperative neurological deficits were: incomplete paralysis in 9 cases and radiculopathy in 4. At the final follow-up, 11 cases had completely recovered, partial residual neurological deficits remaining in 2.

Conclusions: The use of instrumentation with metallic implants, in tuberculous spondylitis of the spine, provided immediate stability, and did not prohibit the control of infection when combined with radical debridement and anti-tuberculous chemotherapy.

Key Words: Tuberculous spondylitis, Pedicle screw, Mesh

Address reprint requests to

Byung-Joon Shin, M.D.

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, College of Medicine, Soonchunhyung University

#1174 Jung-dong, Wonmi-gu, Bucheon-si, Gyeonggi-do, 420-853, Korea

Tel: 82-32-621-5259, Fax: 82-32-324-9577, E-mail: schsbj@schbc.ac.kr

* 2002

가 14)

1950 Hodgson Stock⁶⁾ 1988 2001 1 1
 17 가 7 , 가
 10 , 44 (20 ~70) ,
 32 (12 ~144) .
 가 가 9 , 가 3 , 가 5
 , 1 4 , 2 8 , 3
 5 2.4 (Table 1).
 2,3,12-14,18), isoniazide,
 가 rifampicin, ethambutol, pyrazinamide 가
 , 1 , ESR, CRP가
 7,14,19) ,
 12-22 18 .
 6
 5.5 (1 ~8) 12

Table 1. Patients profile

Patient Number	Age (years)	Gender	Involved level	Kyphosis(degree)			Neurologic grade(Frankel)		Implant		Follow-up (month)
				Preop	Postop	Final	Preop	Follow-up	Anterior	Posterior	
1	20	F	T8	27.0	20.0	24.0	E	E	Mesh		18
2	23	M	L4-L5	-12.0	-14.0	-7.0	E	E		PS*	12
3	27	M	L3-L4	4.0	-20.0	-16.0	E	E		PS	18
4	27	M	L1-L2	29.0	-2.0	13.0	D	E		PS	36
5	28	F	T12-L1	18.0	9.0	8.0	E	E	Mesh	PS	20
6	31	F	T6-T9	40.0	32.0	35.0	D	E		PS	12
7	38	M	T5-T8	26.0	26.0	32.0	E	E		PS	60
8	39	M	T10-T12	45.0	28.0	31.0	E	E		S	12
9	44	F	T8-T11	39.0	37.0	42.0	C	E	Mesh	PS	22
10	44	F	T11-L1	26.0	13.0	20.0	E	E		PS	96
11	48	F	T8-T12	48.0	31.0	38.0	D	E		PS	12
12	53	F	L2-L4	-26.0	-23.0	-11.0	C	E		PS	144
13	63	F	T11-L1	21.0	20.0	25.0	C	E		PS	18
14	65	M	L4-L5	-23.0	-23.0	-21.0	E	E		PS	18
15	65	M	T7-T10	39.0	36.0	47.0	D	D	Mesh		12
16	65	F	L3-L4	-11.0	-21.0	-14.0	E	E	Mesh		12
17	70	F	T9-T10	14.0	10.0	12.0	B	D	Mesh		24

* PS: pedicle screw

11, SPSS
 가 13 12 Mann-Whitney
 1-2, 1 ANOVA Kruskal-Wallis
 11 6
 4, 11
 가, 2
 3~5
 6.0 5.5
 10.0
 6.0, 2.0, 6.5
 (p>0.05) (Table 2).
 (erythrocyte sedimentation rate) C- (C-reactive protein) 7.4
 Cobb 15.0
 6.6
 4.4, 9.0, 6.4
 (p>0.05).
 가 50
 11.8
 Frankel 가 50 2.5

Table 2. Changes of kyphosis angle(°)

Groups	Kyphosis angle (degree)						
	Preop	Postop	Correction	Follow-up	Correction Loss	Final Correction	
Instrumentation	Mesh	17.3	11.3	6.0	17.3	-6.0	0.0
	Mesh + PS*	28.5	23.0	5.5	25.0	-2.0	3.5
	Bone graft + PS	16.2	6.2	10.0	12.6	-6.5	3.5
Involved region	Thoracic	32.9	25.4	7.4	29.9	-4.4	3.0
	Thoracolumbar	25.3	10.3	15.0	19.3	-9.0	6.0
	Lumbar	-13.6	-20.2	6.6	-13.8	-6.4	0.2
Age (years)	< 50	26.4	14.5	11.8	20.0	-5.5	6.4
	50	2.3	-0.2	2.5	6.3	-6.5	-4.0
Number of involved vertebra	1 Segment	18.5	2.0	16.5	8.3	-6.3	10.3
	1 Segment	17.7	11.6	6.1	17.3	-5.7	0.4

* PS: pedicle screw

(p=0.04), Hodgson Stock⁵⁾

5.5 6.5

(p>0.05).

16.5 ,2 6.1

, 6.3 ,5.7 3,19)

(p>0.05).

9,10,12)

가 Lee Hahn¹⁰⁾

29.9% 6 12.8%

, Kim⁹⁾ 140

가 1 55.1%

2 7.5%

Rajasekaran Shanmugasundaram¹⁵⁾

가 2

43.8 mm/h (25 mm/h)

8.5 ,C 1

가 2.0 mg/L (0.5

mg/L) 4.6

가 9 , 4

, 4

가

1,2,6,17,18) Moon¹²⁾ Harrington

가 4 ,E가 9

Frankel E , 2 Frankel D

Frankel B D

1 , 1 ,

1 3

Harrington

가

80

, 5.8

11).

가

가 16)

2,12)

가
 Yilmaz ¹⁹⁾
 , 2 가 22 64%
 3 16
 81% . Kim ⁷⁾
 Zielke
 68%
 83%

가
 가
 7
 1

REFERENCES

- 1) **Bailey HL, Gabriel M, Hodgson AR and Shin JS:** *Tuberculosis of the spine in children: Operative findings results in one hundred consecutive patients treated by removal of the lesion and anterior grafting. J Bone Joint Surg 54-A: 1633-1657, 1972.*
 - 2) **Chen WJ, Chen CH and Shih CH:** *Surgical treatment of tuberculous spondylitis. Acta Orthop Scand, 66(2): 137-142, 1995.*
 - 3) **Chen WJ, Wu CC, Jung CH, Chen LH, Niu CC and Lai PL:** *Combined anterior and posterior surgeries in the treatment of spinal tuberculous spondylitis. Clin Orthop, 398: 50-59, 2002.*
 - 4) **Güven O, Kumano K, Yalcin S, Karahan M and Tsuji S:** *A single stage posterior approach and rigid fixation for preventing kyphosis in the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. Spine, 19: 1039-1043, 1994.*
 - 5) **Hodgson AR and Stock FE:** *Anterior spine fusion for the treatment of tuberculosis of the spine. J Bone Joint Surg, 42-A: 295-310, 1960.*
 - 6) **Kemp HBS, Jackson JW, Jeremiah JD and Cook J:**
- ⁴⁾ 가
 가 가
 10
⁸⁾
 (biologic film)
 Oga ¹⁴⁾

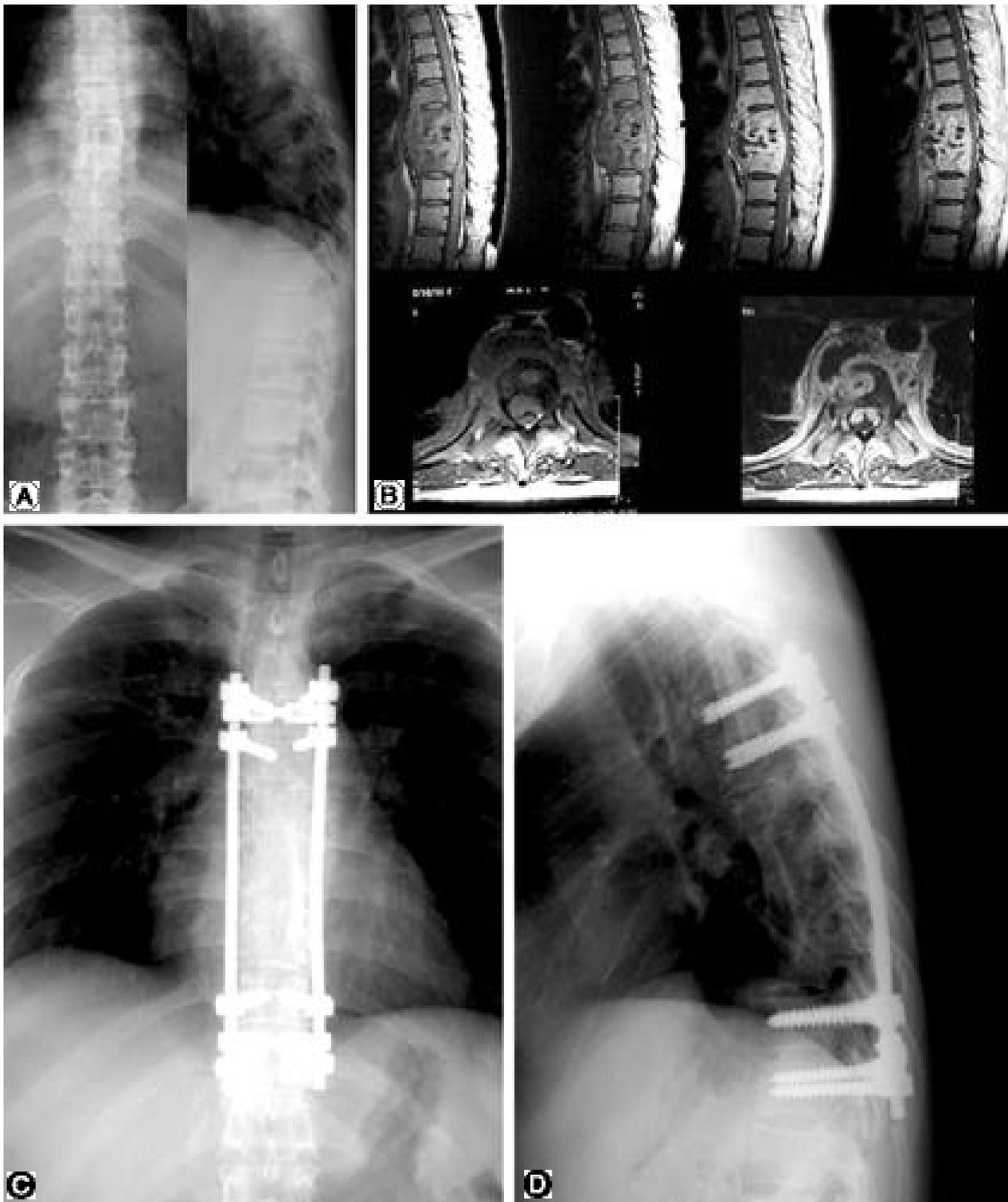


Fig. 1. A 31-year-old woman sustained spinal tuberculous spondylitis of thoracic spine and was treated with the combined anterior and posterior technique. (A) Preoperative anteroposterior thoracolumbar spine radiograph shows asymmetrical collapsing of T8 vertebral body and paraspinal soft tissue bulging. On the lateral view, destruction of T8 vertebral body and focal kyphotic angulation was noted. (B) Magnetic resonance images showed extent of the lesion more clearly. Affected segment ranged from T6 to T9. Compression of spinal cord by an epidural mass was also evident. (C)(D) Radiographs obtained at postoperative 1-year follow-up shows solid fusion with pedicle screw instrumentation. Anterior fusion with iliac bone graft was performed from T6 to T9 and pedicle screws were not inserted to the affected vertebra.



Fig. 2. A 28-year-old woman who had tuberculous spondylitis at thoracolumbar junction was treated with the combined anterior titanium mesh and posterior pedicle screw technique. (A)(B) Preoperative radiographs show destruction of T12 vertebral body and obliteration of T12-L1 intervertebral disc space. (C)(D) Radiographs obtained at postoperative 2-year shows stable construct and solid fusion.

- Anterior fusion of the spine for infective lesions in adults. J Bone Joint Surg, 55-B: 715-734, 1973.*
- 7) **Kim KS, Ko SH, Youm KS, Choi CH and Yang JH:** *Anterior spinal instrumentation in treatment of spinal tuberculosis. J Kor Orthop Assoc, 33: 1560-1568, 1998.*
 - 8) **Kim BJ, Ko HS, Lim Y, Seo JK, Choi JY and Suh JS:** *Surgical treatment of paraplegia in spinal tuberculosis. J Kor Orthop Assoc, 28: 1595-1602, 1993.*
 - 9) **Kim BJ, Ko HS, Lim Y, Seo JG, Zoo SK and Jeon TH:** *The clinical study of the tuberculous spondylitis. J Kor Orthop Assoc, 28: 2221-2232, 1993.*
 - 10) **Lee EY and Hahn MS:** *A study of influences of the qnte - rior intervertebral fusion upon the correctability of kypho - sis in tuberculous spondylitiss. J Kor Orthop Assoc, 3: 31-40, 1968.*
 - 11) **Medical Research Council Working Party on Tuberculosis of the Spine:** *A 5-year assessment of controlled trials of in-patients & out-patients treatment & of plaster of Paris jacket for tuberculosis of the spine in children on standard chemotherapy: Studies in Masan & Pusan, Korea. J Bone Joint Surg, 58-B: 399-414, 1976.*
 - 12) **Moon MS, Woo YK, Lee KS, Ha KY, Kim SS and Sun DH:** *Posterior instrumentation and anterior interbody fusion for tuberculous kyphosis of dorsal and lumbar spines. Spine, 20: 1910-1916, 1995.*
 - 13) **Moon MS, Woo YK, Ok IY, Lee KS, Kang YK, Ha KY and Kim SS:** *Posterior instrumentation for treatment of active dorsolumbar tuberculosis with kyphosis. J Kor Orthop Assoc, 24: 660-665, 1989.*
 - 14) **Oga M, Arizono T, Takasita M and Sugioka Y:** *Evaluation of the risk of instrumentation as a foreign body in spinal tuberculosis. Spine, 18: 1890-1894, 1993.*
 - 15) **Rajasekaran S and Shanmugasundaram TK:** *Predic - tion of the angle of Gibbus deformity in tuberculosis of the spine. J Bone Joint Surg, 69-A: 503-509, 1987.*
 - 16) **Rajasekaran S and Soundarapandian S:** *Progression of kyphosis in tuberculosis of the spine treated by anterior arthrodesis. J Bone Joint Surg, 71-A: 1314-1323, 1989.*
 - 17) **Rezai AR, Lee M, Cooper PR, Errico TJ and Koslow M:** *Modern management of spinal tuberculosis. Neuro - surg, 36: 87-98, 1995.*
 - 18) **Safran O, Rand N, Kaplan L, Sagiv S and Floman Y:** *Sequential or simultaneous, same-day anterior decom - pression and posterior stabilization in the management of vertebral osteomyelitis of the lumbar spine. Spine, 23: 1885-1890, 1998.*
 - 19) **Yilmaz, Cengiz, Selek, Hakan Y, Gurkan, Ilksen, Erdemli, Bulent, Korkusuz and Zeki:** *Anterior instru - mentation for the treatment of spinal tuberculosis. J Bone Joint Surg, 81-A: 1261-1267, 1999.*



: 가 가 ,
 가 .
 : ,
 : 1 17
 . 4 2
 , 11 가 .
 : 8.5 , 5.8 .
 C 4 8.5 4.6 가 9 ,
 4 4 , 2
 : 가
 , 가 ,
 : , ,
 : , ,

1174

Tel: 82-32-621-5259, Fax: 82-32-324-9577, E-mail: schsbj@schbc.ac.kr