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= Abstract =

Measurement of Angulation after Treatment of Fractures of the Tibia - Comparison of Conventional Methods and New Method Using Mechanical Axis -

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The importance of residual angular deformity after tibial fracture is still uncertain. But it is generally assumed that osteoarthritis of the ankle and the knee will result when the deformity is severe. Therefore accurate measurement of the alignment of the tibia is important clinically and in research. We compared the results of conventional methods (method 1,2) of measuring the angulation deformity after a fracture of the shaft of the tibia, with a new method using mechanical axis reported by Milner¹¹⁾ (method 3).

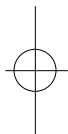
Sixty-seven patients of tibial fractures with angulation deformity treated at Sei Gang General Hospital from January 1995 to December 1996 were evaluated. Samples of 20 sets of standard AP and lateral radiographs of both tibia were measured. The results obtained were as follows.

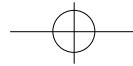
1. The difference between the angles obtained by Milner's new method (method 3) and conventional methods (method 1, 2) was significant in all planes.
2. Both the mean intra- & interobserver difference were minimal in new method, compared with conventional methods, at all planes.
3. There is no statistically significant difference using by paired T-test between angles

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obtained by new method and conventional methods ($p>0.05$).

From these results, an angulation of measuring the new method was accurate and has good inter- and intraobserver reliability.

Key Words : Measurement of Angulation, Tibia fracture, Conventional, New method

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1) 1 (Fig 1-A,B)

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3) 3 (Fig 3-A,B)

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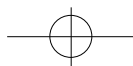


Fig 1. Method 1.

- A. AP view, Varus-valgus alignment was determined by measuring the angle between the line bisecting the tibial plateau and proximal medullary canal with a line bisecting the distal medullary canal and tibial plafond.
- B. Lateral view, Anteroposterior alignment was determined by measuring the angle between a line parallel to the proximal fragment and a line parallel



Fig 2. Method 2.

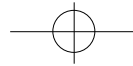
Angulation was measured as the intersection of the lines that are perpendicular to the knee and ankle joints. True angulation described as the difference between the angulation of the fractured tibia and that of the uninjured tibia.

- A. AP radiograph.
- B. Lateral view



Fig 3. Method 3.

- A. AP radiograph.
- B. Lateral radiograph.
- Right,** Standard radiograph of contralateral tibia used as a template to show the proximal and distal segments of the original mechanical axis.
- Left,** By superimposing successively the proximal and distal parts of the tibia, the corresponding segments of the mechanical axis of the tibia can be accurately traced



. Milner¹¹⁾
(center of rotation of angulation, CORA)

CORA가

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paired-T test

p<0.05

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-3.5° ~ 5.5° (95% limit of agreement ; -3.1° ~ 4.9°) ,
-5.5° ~ 2.0° (95% limit of agreement ; -5.1° ~ 1.9°) , 3 2
-6.0° ~ 4.5° (95% limit of agreement ;
-5.1° ~ 4.2°), -9.0° ~ 7.0° (95% limit of

agreement ; -7.2 ~ 6.8) , 3 1, 2
가 (Table 1). 1, 2, 3
0.2°, -0.2°,
-0.1° (95% limit of agreement ; -1.6° ~ 1.7°) ,
-0.4°, 0.1°, -0.03° (95% limit of agreement ; -
1.5° ~ 1.5°) 3 가
가 , 0.4°,
-0.2°, -0.1° (95% limit of agreement ; -2.2° ~ 2.3°),
-0.4°, 0.4°, 0.1° (95% limit of agreement ; -
2.3° ~ 2.0°) 3 가 가
(Table 2).
paired T-test

가 (p>0.05).

Table 1. The difference of angle and 95% limit of agreement between new method and conventional methods

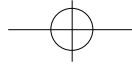
		Method 3 - Method 1 (°)	Method 3 - Method 2 (°)
Antero-posterior	Difference of angle	-3.5 ~ 5.5	-6.0 ~ 4.5
	95% limit of agreement	-3.1 ~ 4.9	-5.1 ~ 4.2
Lateral	Difference of angle	-5.5 ~ 2.0	-9.0 ~ 7.0
	95% limit of agreement	-5.1 ~ 1.9	-7.2 ~ 6.8

Table 2. The mean intra- and interobserver difference in each method

Mean difference	Method 1		Method 2		Method 3	
	AP*	LAT†	AP	LAT	AP	LAT
	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)
Intraobserver	0.2	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.03
Interobserver	0.4	-0.4	-0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.1

* Anteroposterior

† Lateral



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, Hungerford ⁵⁾

Milner¹¹⁾가

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(mirror image)

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paired-T test

(p>0.05),

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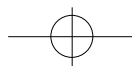
Mast ⁹⁾

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-3.5° ~ 5.5° (95%
limit of agreement ; -3.1° ~ 4.9°)
5.5° ~ 2.0° (95% limit of agreement ; -5.1° ~ 1.9°)
, 3 2 -6.0° ~
4.5° (95% limit of agreement ; -5.1° ~ 4.2°),
-9.0° ~ 7.0° (95% limit of agreement ; -7.2° ~ 6.8°)
가 .
2. 3 가
1, 2
3. paired-T test
가 (p>0.05).
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