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= Abstract =

Treatment of Supracondylar Fractures of the Humerus in Children by Open Reduction

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Purpose : To analyze the results of open reduction in displaced supracondylar fractures of the humerus in children, and to propose guidelines for an open approach to supracondylar fractures.

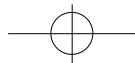
Materials and Methods : Twenty-six children (average age 6.7 years), who had open reduction of severely displaced supracondylar fractures were reviewes retrospectively over a 2-year period (1993 to 1997). Elbow range of motion, carrying angle, and radiographic measurement of the Baumann angle were assessed, then each distal humerus were compared to uninjured side.

Results : At follow-up, the Baumann angle and carrying angle differed by an average of 2 degrees and 4 degrees respectively compared with the unaffected arm. Range of motion was satisfactory in 96% of patients, and there was no significant cubitus varus.

Conclusions : Open reduction of severely displaced supracondylar fractures is a safe and effective procedure, for which orthopedists should lower their threshold, given certain

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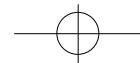
appropriate indicators.

Key Words : Humerus, Supracondylar fracture, Open reduction

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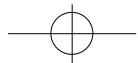
Table 1. Criteria for Flynn et al

Results/rating	Cosmetic factor: carrying-angle loss(degrees)	Functional factor: motion loss(degrees)
Satisfactory		
Excellent	0-5	0-5
Good	6-10	6-10
Fair	11-15	11-15
Unsatisfactory		
Poor	>15	>15

18°(9-26°), Baumann 1
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 25° , 2° , 1°
 (Table 2). 5°
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Table 2. Overall results by Flynn 's criteria

Results/rating	Cosmetic factor: carrying-angle loss(degrees)	Functional factor: motion loss(degrees)
Satisfactory		
Excellent	27	25
Good	1	2
Fair	0	0
Unsatisfactory		
Poor	0	1



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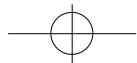
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