



Telescopic Nail in Osteogenesis Imperfecta Early Experience in Nitor

Authors

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Abstract

Paediatric long bone lesions often need to be fixed or stabilized as a part of the treatment. But difficulties arise due to the bone is growing on. Osteogenesis Imperfecta is a genetic disorder that mainly affects the bone. It results in bones that break easily & deformed. It has no cure. The incidence ratio of OI is 1: 20000 to 1:50000 live births. For many years, Surgical Correction of deformities, physiotherapy and the use of orthotic support devices were the primary treatment. Intramedullary Fixation with the use of Telescopic Rod is one of the Standard Methods for long bone Stabilization in Growing children with Osteogenesis Imperfecta. Surgical Technique, Preoperative Radiographs are thoroughly evaluated to assess the deformity & to estimate the length and diameter of the Rods to be used. However, for severely angulated limb segments, we determined the Rod length intra-operatively, after performing multiple Osteotomies. From June 2016 to June 2018 in NITOR, we managed 9Tibiae 6 Femur by Telescopic Nail at the age of 2 to 12 years.

Keywords: *Telescopic Nail, Osteogenesis Imperfecta, Surgical Technique, Preoperative Radiographs.*

Introduction

Osteogenesis imperfecta is an autosomal dominant or recessive connective tissue disorder caused by the deficiency of Type I collagen production associated with the deficiency of collagen Type I alpha 1 chain and collagen Type I alpha 2 chains. This disease causes problems altogether tissues that contain Type 1 collagen. In addition to several systemic problems like blue sclerotic,

otosclerosis, cardiac diseases, elasticity within the joint and thinning of the fascia, it also causes the loss of the normal ossification of the endochondral bone.¹ This results in easily fragile bones. Osteogenesis imperfecta may be a genetically determined pathology that suggests bone variability and osteoporosis with early onset of fractures after low energy trauma.² The 2 main genes involved are COL1A1 and COL1A2 and

therefore the mutations are transmitted recessively, dominant or appear spontaneously and affect the synthesis of type one collagen during a quantitative, qualitative, or mixed way.³ For a far better understanding of the clinical problems, Silience and Danks created a classification that originally had 4 groups but continued to feature more and more subclasses because the genetic study evolved progressing up to type XI.^{4,5} Today, telescopic nails with elastic or extendable features frequently resort. The elastic telescopic nails work as a drag of retraction over time, while the matter encountered the necessity to open the joint during fixation to prevent migration, which posed another challenge.⁶⁻⁸

Results

Table 1: Patients Diagnosis History & Status at a Glance

Type	Inheritance	Bone fragility	Deformity of long bones	Growth retardation	Spine	Incidence
IA	Autosomal dominant	Flexible, less severe than typically	Functional	Short build	Scoliosis and kyphosis in 20%	1/30.000
IB	Autosomal dominant	Flexible, less severe than typically	Functional	Short build	Scoliosis and kyphosis in 20%	1/30.000
II	Autosomal recessive	Very extreme	Crumbled bone	Unknown	-	1/62.000
III	Autosomal recessive	severe	Progressive bowing of the long bone	Severe, smallest of all patients	kyphoscoliosis	Very rare
IVA	Autosomal dominant	Moderate	Functional	Short build	kyphoscoliosis	unknown
IVB	Autosomal dominant	Moderate	Functional	Short build	kyphoscoliosis	unknown

Due to several factors, rapid bone demineralization causes of a patient. Axial deformations of bones increased number of fractures and loss of ambulation. The only treatment for these cases was Surgery. Field-miller corrective osteotomies and Fassier-Duval are two telescopic nail osteosynthesis methods. Prior to the surgical intervention, patients had a

Materials and Method

The study group consisted of 15 patients both males and females, with ages ranging from 2 to 12 years. The male: female ratio was 1:2. All patients had low trauma oslongum fractures. The femur is foremost involved prior to the diagnostic. The mean number of oslongum fractures was 3, counting both upper and lower extremities. Every patient who was diagnosed was immediately introduced to the bio phosphonates protocol. Regarding the silience classification, 9 patients were grouped as type III, 3 patients as type IVA and rest 3 patients as IB. All of them had only an orthopedic treatment before surgery.

bisphosphonate treatment. The necessity for such aggressive surgical treatment is given by the rapidly evolving anterior bowing. Sheffield-Millard osteotomies are approximately 200 angulations narrow medullar channel, which makes solution for passing the rod. Sometimes, in very severe cases, when the distance between the epiphysis gets smaller as the bone gets more and

more bowed. It is imperative to do a shorting of the segment so that the soft tissues are not put in excessive tension after alignment.



Figure 1: 3-year-old patient with long bone bowing and multiple fractures of femur



Figure 2: Right femur bowing after 2 fractures in the middle section and right tibia bowing after 3 fractures



Figure 3: Left femur bowing after 3 fractures in the mid region and left tibia bowing after 2 fractures in the midpoint



Figure 4 An 8-year-old patient with bilateral femur and tibia bowing treated orthopedically



Figure 5: A 3-year-old patient with 4 fractures of the tibia and anterior bowing



Figure 6: A 9-year-old patient with numerous femur fractures and almost 90° angulation

Discussion

The physicians used Kirschner wire⁹, Kuntscher nails¹⁰, Rush nails¹¹, Ender nail and most recently elastic nailing, until development the method.¹² All the techniques had good short-term results, with good bone alignment and prevention of the re-fracturing of the bone. But, the problem with these materials that patients outgrew very fast. Like secondary bowing and re-fracturing. It appeared when the growth plates went too distant from the rod and the bone outgrew the nail. Also, the low stability of the nails was a down factor, as nail loosening and slippage became a problem after the bone healed and grew in length and diameter. Regarding this fact, the first telescopic rod system was developed by Bailey and Dubow, soon after being improved to the Sheffield rod in the UK¹³⁻¹⁵. The basic goal of telescopic nailing was achieved with these new systems, meaning that one can obtain a long-lasting osteosynthesis in a growing bone that can have good long-term results and can decrease the risk of secondary fractures and bowing once the nail starts to tear and cannot be outgrown by the bone. The problem with these systems became clear when the children had to start moving after the surgery and the extensive soft tissue damage to the joint surface and capsule became an evident impending movement. These proved to be a problem as joint stiffness and pain prolonged the postoperative recovery period with a decrease in life quality and ambulation. This telescopic rod achieves this by giving the operator the opportunity to insert the components in the distal epiphysis under Rx control so that the growth plate takes minimal damage and the joint surface is protected.¹⁶

Conclusion

Telescopic nails methods reduced the rate of re-operation from 51% to 27%. This difference is less noticeable in the long term due to mechanical complications and secondary joint problems. The healing of the bone and rigid system gives the kid the chance to possess a traditional life without the danger of secondary fractures that would damage

the nail and demand a second surgical intervention. The goal of the telescopic rod is to offer the right solution for the Osteogenesis imperfecta patient to possess a traditional life without the permanent fear of getting a fracture that would mean long periods of cast immobilization or surgical interventions with uncertain results.

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