

A Case of Malunion Femur Resulted from Traditional Massage Successfully Corrected Using Six-Axis External Fixator Ortho-SUV Frame

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INTRODUCTION:

Traditional massage therapist or alternative medicine is getting more popular among our public. The practitioners even claimed that they able to treat a long bone fractures. We would like to report a case of a malunion femur resulted from traditional massage that successfully corrected using six-axis external fixator Ortho-SUV Frame.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

A 25-year-old gentleman presented with right femur deformity (Figure 1) and right lower limb discrepancy about 5cm compare to the left side. He had a history of motor vehicle accident in 2016, sustained open fracture of right femur. Initial debridement and external fixation was done, but patient decided to remove the external fixator and proceed with traditional massage as a definitive treatment for the femur fracture. Osteoclasts and six-axis external fixator Ortho-SUV frame of right femur was done for correction of deformity and length restoration (Figure 2).



Figure 1: Pre Op.

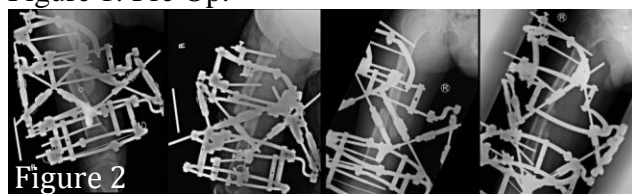


Figure 2: Gradual Correction.

RESULTS:

Gradual hexapodalic correction was programmed for two months. Right femur deformity was corrected and length was restored. After modular transformation, on last visit to our clinic, half of the construct was

removed and patient was ambulating with full weight bearing. Radiograph of right femur showed good alignment and consolidating fracture site. (Figure 3).

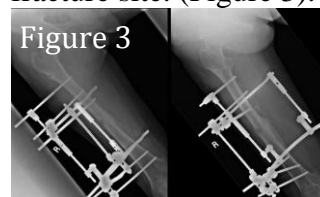


Figure 3: Alignment and length corrected.

DISCUSSIONS:

Minority of our public still believe in traditional or other massage therapists and shamans for the treatment of bone fractures. As in our case, the treatment resulted in disastrous outcome. It is fortunate for the patient because by using six-axis external fixator Ortho-SUV Frame the correction of deformity is simplified and faster as reported by Solomin LN et. al.¹ which in our case, it was achieved in just two months.

CONCLUSION:

With the availability of six-axis external fixator Ortho-SUV Frame, correction of bone deformities; acquired or congenital has been simplified. Having said that, continuous education to our public regarding consequences of treatment for bone fractures by traditional massage, or other massage therapists is very important to avoid an unfortunate incident like this from happening.

REFERENCES:

1. A comparative study of the correction of femoral deformity between the Ilizarov apparatus and Ortho-SUV frame. Leonid N. Solomin, Dror Paley, Elena A. Shchepkina, Victor A. Vilensky, Petr V. Skomoroshko. Int Orthop. 2014 Apr; 38(4): 865–872