

## OUTCOME OF RADIAL HEAD REPLACEMENT IN TRAUMA: A CASE REPORT

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**Introduction:** Radial head fracture represents approximately 5.4% of all fractures. Radial head replacement has been advocated for acute comminuted radial head fracture of more than 3 pieces. We present a case of a closed comminuted fracture of the radial head managed with radial head replacement.

**Case Report:** A 31-year-old gentleman presented after a trauma and sustained swelling and limited range of motion of left elbow. The plain radiographic and CT imaging of his left elbow showed Mason Classification type III radial head fracture. A left radial head replacement (cemented system) was done. After attending a series of physiotherapy sessions, patient was able flex his left elbow joint from 5 degrees to 130 degrees with no varus or valgus instability.

**Discussion:** The radial head is critical for the stability of the elbow joint and range of motions. Radial head replacement has been advocated for comminuted radial head fracture and severe plastic deformation. The fractures which not reconstructable have a better outcome of the range of movement with radial head replacement. In the presence of complex or comminuted fractures of the radial head. A well-performed osteosynthesis fixation may still result in painful or stiff elbow due to bone resorption, loosening, mobilization of the hardware. In such complex radial head fractures, radial head replacement coupled with a good physiotherapy regime ensures.

**Conclusion:** Radial head replacement is an excellent option for fractures of the radial head that cannot be reconstructed comparative with the internal fixation as it has been proven with good long-term functional outcome.