

REVISION OF A POLYETHYLENE FRACTURE IN TOTAL ANKLE REPLACEMENT : A CASE REPORT

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Introduction: Although Total ankle replacement (TAR) has become more prevalent in the treatment of end-stage ankle arthritis, polyethylene components still has a risk of being fractured, as it has a survival rate of 85.7% at an average of 15.7-year follow-up. The purpose of this case study is to present an option of replacement polyethylene (PE) for salvage in an aseptic case of PE fracture post TAR.

Discussion: The patient was immobilised and non-weight bearing for 6 weeks before being transitioned to a controlled ankle movement boot for 2 weeks. Full weight bearing in supportive shoes started after 8 weeks, and patient was found to have improved ankle joint ROM and absence of pain.

Conclusion: Thus far, no recommended treatment was found in our literature search. Immediate short-term outcome showed favourable results, but we realised more research is needed with a larger sample size and longer follow-up period to further assess this as a salvage procedure for broken PE post TAR.