NIGHTMARE OF THE BENT NAIL, MAN VS METAL: A CASE REPORT

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INTRODUCTION:

Intramedullary (IM) nailing is a commonly used surgical technique for the management diaphyseal long bones fracture. While intramedullary nailing is generally stable, safe and effective, complications can occur. Here, we present a case report of a patient with a bent IM nail due to trauma, which required surgical intervention.

REPORT:

This is a case report of a 20-year-old man with history of comminuted segmental right femur fracture treated with IM nailing and distal femoral locking plating. He was referred for right femur implant failure after a road traffic accident. Clinical examination revealed a deformed thigh with skin indentation at the apex deformity. Plain radiographs showed a periprosthetic femur fracture with a right angle bent of the IM nail. Removal of the IM nail and plate was planned with fracture fixation using monorail external fixation.

Intraoperatively, the femur was delivered via lateral approach and a wedge cut was made over the apex of the bent nail using a diamond cutter. The proximal nail was extracted with a IM jig while the distal nail was extracted with broken screw set. Distal femoral plate was also removed. Metal debris was cleared with substantial irrigation. Monorail external fixation was chosen to fix the femur to reduce the risk of infection and to provide stability for optimum mobilization. Post-operative care included early full weight bearing and regular follow up to monitor for any complications especially infection.



Figure 1 :Left side showing the affected limb,Right side showing radiograph of the affected limb.



Figure 2: Left side showed the affected limb after surgery,Right side showing radiograph after implant removal and fracture fixation.

CONCLUSION:

Extraction of a bent intramedullary nail is a challenging procedure that requires careful preoperative planning to determine the optimal approach.

REFERENCES:

1. Removal of a bent intramedullary nail in lower extremity Ozkan Kose, Ferhat Guler