

CLINICAL OUTCOME OF CHRONIC SYNDESMOTIC INJURY TREATING WITH SUTURE BUTTON : A CASE REPORT

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INTRODUCTION:

Treating of a chronic syndesmotic injury is challenging. There is no definitive solution to treat this problem. As far as we know, few author reported from screw fixation, reconstruction and arthrodesis of a syndesmotic.

REPORT:

24 years old police officer, who sustained a closed fracture of the left lateral malleolus with syndesmotic joint injury in an alleged car accident. The patient was treated with plating of the lateral malleolus but the syndesmotic joint was not treated at that time due to unavoidable circumstances (figure 1). At 3 months postoperatively, the patient still complained of pain, instability and difficulty in ambulation. Upon examination, the foot in plantarflexion 10° , unable to dorsiflexion. Patient unable to ambulate due to pain over the ankle. Unfortunately, 6 month after surgery, he alleged slipped and fell with his left ankle internally rotated. Post trauma he complain of pain and swelling over his left ankle. Radiograph shows a periimplant fracture with syndesmotic joint disruption (figure 2). After examination, we decided to perform surgery, revision of the plating, and suture button of the syndesmotic joint. Intraoperatively there is fibrous tissue at the syndesmotic joint, debridement and open reduction with suture button was done at the syndesmotic joint. Postoperatively, range of motion was improved up to 20° dorsiflexion and 30° plantarflexion.

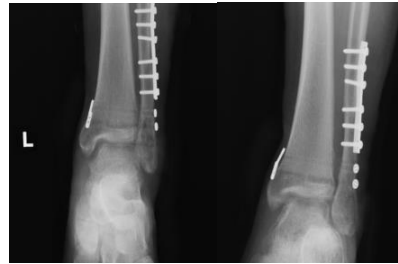
Figure 1: Post operative radiograph



Figure 2: Periimplant fracture



Figure 3: Post revision plating and suture button



CONCLUSION:

Although there are few techniques that show a good result in the treatment of chronic syndesmotic injuries. A successful suture button technique was demonstrate in this case report.

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