

Outcome of surgical management of late presenting developmental dysplasia of hip with pelvic and femoral osteotomies

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Abstract

Introduction: Patients with Developmental dysplasia of hip many a times present later in the age due to missed or delayed diagnosis. The treatment of DDH is mainly dependent upon the age of the child at the time of presentation and varies according to it. In the late presenting cases it is mostly surgical with open reduction alone or in combination with pelvic and femoral osteotomies.

Materials and Methods: This study between October 2012 and October 2014 includes 21 patients with unilateral dysplastic hips, surgically treated with a single stage procedure of open reduction and Acetabuloplasty of Pemberton, along with Varus derotation osteotomy and femoral shortening when necessary. Preoperatively they were classified according to Tonnis grade. Clinical assessment was done using Modified McKay's criteria; Radiological evaluation was done using Severin's radiographic criteria.

Results: The mean follow up period was 15.14 months and the mean age at surgery was 66.86 months. McKay's grades were excellent in 8 hips, good in 11 hips, fair in 1 hip and poor in 1 hip. Severin's score was excellent in 4 hips, good in 15 hips, fair in 1 hip and poor in 1 hip.

Conclusions: Every case of DDH is unique. The type of surgery chosen depends on the clear understanding of each hip after using the available resources. The combination of open reduction with pelvic and/ or femoral osteotomy when needed gives good immediate stability and promotes remodelling. This surgery is a technically demanding procedure but when performed properly by an experienced surgeon, it does give satisfactory results.

Keywords: Developmental dysplasia of hip, Late presentation, Open reduction, Pelvic and/ or femoral osteotomy.

Introduction

Developmental dysplasia of the hip includes acetabular dysplasia and femoral head dislocation or subluxation¹. "Dysplastic acetabulum" is a term now generally accepted, and means a congenital and genetic anomaly of the acetabulum, with hip-joint instability and incongruity. In neglected CDH the femoral head is small and non-spherical, and has migrated a variable distance proximally and posteriorly to a hollow on the iliac wing, the false acetabulum. The femoral neck shows increased anteversion and the lesser trochanter lies more anteriorly than normal. The femur is generally hypoplastic with a very narrow canal. The original acetabulum is also hypoplastic and shallow with a narrow opening, while the anterior and especially the medial wall are soft with poor bone stock.² True acetabulum is filled with fibrofatty tissue known as pulvinar and the labrum is hypertrophied and inverted.

Treatment of congenital dislocation of the hip is perhaps more clearly age related than any other condition in medicine, a fact that reflects progression of secondary pathologic changes. In an infant with dislocatable hips due to ligamentous laxity, simple abduction splinting by any of several devices will almost invariably result in a normal hip. Such treatment is considered best prophylactic. Opinions vary on details and a review of the literature suggests that there are no hard data on precisely when conservative management ceases to be appropriate. Between the ages

of 6 and 12 months, manipulation under anaesthesia may be required to attain reduction. This should be followed by a period of immobilization in a cast in the position of maximal stability. Open reduction enjoys some advocacy before 2 years of age, and is increasingly used in those over 2 years old. It is currently combined with osteotomy of the innominate bone, and sometimes with derotational osteotomy of the proximal femoral diaphysis to correct anteversion.³

The goal of treatment of developmental dysplasia of hip is to achieve a well aligned congruous joint that is stable and has a painless restoration of full range of motion and function. At our centre to achieve the above goal, surgeon used open reduction of hip by femoral shortening if required in higher dislocations, varus derotation osteotomy in case of rotational deformity of proximal femur, pemberton's acetabuloplasty in case of increased acetabular index, capsuloraphy to correct the lax capsule and the patient is immobilised in a hip spica cast for 3 months.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted from October 2012 to October 2014 and included 21 patients with neglected unilateral developmental dysplasia of hip who were surgically treated in department of orthopaedics, BIRRD hospital, Tirupati. There were 7 males and 14 females in the study between the age group of 25 months and 96 months. In 11 patients the right hip was

involved and in 10 patients it was the left hip. All these patients underwent surgery with open reduction and Pemberton's acetabuloplasty, femoral varus derotation osteotomy was done in 5 cases and varus derotation osteotomy along with femoral shortening was done in 7 cases.

Preoperative radiographic evaluation included examination of plain radiographs to classify patients according to the Tonnis classification system⁴ (Table 1) to assess the degree of dislocation of the femoral head. Other radiological indices like Acetabular Index (AI) and Femoral Neck Shaft Angle (FNSA) were also measured. Range of motion of the affected hip and limb length discrepancy were also noted.

Post-operatively radiographs were taken at regular follow ups and radiological evaluation was done using Severin's radiographic criteria⁵ (Table 2) by measuring center edge angle of Wiberg. Acetabular index and femoral neck shaft angle were also calculated. Clinical evaluation of the patient was also done at every follow up by modified McKay's criteria⁶ (Table 3). The patient was examined for stability of the hip, range of motion of the hip, Trendelenburg sign, gait and limb length discrepancy.

Operative Procedure

Surgery was performed with patient supine on a radiolucent operating table under general anaesthesia under control of C-arm image intensifier.

The surgical procedure began with an Adductor tenotomy followed by the lateral approach to the hip. A longitudinal skin incision is made that starts from 5cm proximal to the tip of greater trochanter and extends down the line of shaft of femur for about 8cm. The underlying subcutaneous fat and deep fascia were incised in line with the skin incision and anterior fibres of gluteus medius were exposed. Anterior fibres of gluteus medius were detached and raised as an anterior flap which was later sutured back. The underlying gluteus minimus was retracted to visualise the joint capsule. An inverted T shaped incision was made on the capsule and femoral head was exposed. Iliopsoas tendon was released from the lesser trochanter.

Once the acetabulum was exposed, excision of pulvinar and hypertrophied inverted labrum was done. Ligamentum teres and transverse acetabular ligament were also released. Shortening of the femur was reserved for cases in which relocation of hip was not possible or there was increased pressure on the femoral head after relocation. The femoral shortening was done at the region of lesser trochanter. The amount of capital femoral epiphysis overlying the ilium was calculated to determine the amount of femoral shaft to be resected. The osteotomy was then fixed with a four to seven holed plate according to the age of patient and size of the femur. A varus component was added by bending the plate according to the valgus present and a

derotation component was added before fixation to correct the excessive anteversion if required. (Fig. 1)

An acetabular roofing procedure was performed as described by Pemberton and excised femoral bone for shortening or iliac crest was used as a graft. (Fig. 2)

After relocating the femoral head into the cleared acetabulum the redundant capsule was excised and capsulorrhaphy was performed. The fascia, subcutaneous tissue and skin were closed in layers.

Post-operatively, the hips were immobilized in a hip spica for 3 months. Later check radiographs were taken and based on the congruity and stability of the joint, gradual range of motion exercises and progressive weight bearing walking were advised.

Table 1: DDH types according to tonnis criteria.⁴

Grade	
I	Capital femoral epiphysis medial to Perkins line
II	Capital femoral epiphysis medial to Perkins line, but below the level of the superior acetabular rim
III	Capital femoral epiphysis at the level of the superior acetabular rim
IV	Capital femoral epiphysis above the level of the superior acetabular rim

Table 2: Severin criteria for evaluation of radiographic results.⁶

Type I	Normal hips
Type II	Concentric reduction of the joint with deformity of the femoral neck, head or acetabulum
Type III	Dysplastic hips without subluxation
Type IV	Subluxation
Type V	The head articulating with a secondary acetabulum in the upper part of the original acetabulum.
Type VI	Redislocation

Table 3: McKay's criteria for clinical evaluation of results.⁵

Grade	Rating	Description
I	Excellent	Painless, stable hip; no limp; more than 15 degrees of internal rotation
II	Good	Painless, stable hip; slight limp or decreased motion; negative Trendelenburg's sign
III	Fair	Minimum pain; moderate stiffness; positive Trendelenburg's sign
IV	Poor	Significant pain

Results

All the cases were followed up at regular intervals with a mean follow up was 15.14 months. In this series the age of the patients ranged from 25 to 96 months with a mean age of 66.86 months.

Out of 21 patients, 7 (33%) were males and 14 (67%) were females. Right hip was affected in 11 (52%) patients and left hip in 10 (48%) patients.

Preoperatively 7 (33.33%) patients had shortening ranging between 0.1 -1.0 cm, 7 (33.33%) patients had a range between 1.1 -2.0 cm and the other 7 (33.33%) patients had a range between 2.1-3.0 cm. Postoperatively, 12 (57%) patients had no limb length discrepancy, 6 (29%) patients had limb length discrepancy ranging between 0.1 - 0.5 cm and 3 (14%) patients had limb length discrepancy between 0.6-1.0 cm.

Pre operatively the dysplastic hips were graded according to the Tonnis system of grading. 4 (19%) patients were under grade II, 5 (24%) patients under grade III and 12 (57%) patients under grade IV.

Of the 21 cases included in the study, open reduction, varus derotation osteotomy and acetabuloplasty of pemberton in 5 (24%) patients (case 1); open reduction and acetabuloplasty of pemberton were performed in 9(43%) patients (case 2); open reduction, varus derotation osteotomy, femoral shortening and acetabuloplasty of pemberton in 7 (33%) patients (case 3)

The acetabular index (AI) was measured pre-operatively and postoperatively at each follow up visit. It was improved in all the patients at the time of final evaluation. The mean preoperative AI was 44 degrees. At the end of the follow up it was reduced to a mean value of 19.60 degrees.

Femoral neck shaft angle is also assessed preoperatively in this study. It was mainly intended to evaluate the result of varus derotation osteotomy which was performed as a part of the surgery in 12 cases. The average preoperative femoral neck shaft angle was 144 degrees and the average postoperative neck shaft angle is 134 degrees.

Center edge angle (CEA) improved in all patients at the end of follow up except 1 patient who had a redislocation. CEA was negative in all patients preoperatively. The mean CEA postoperatively was 22.9 degrees.

Functional evaluation with modified McKay's criteria segregated the patients into 4 grades. 8(38%) patients were under grade I (excellent), 11(52%) patients were under grade II (good), 1(5%) patient was grade III (fair) and 1 (5%) was grade IV (poor).

Radiological evaluation using severin's classification system grouped the 21 patients in this study group into 6 classes. 4 (19%) patients were under class I (excellent), 15 (71%) patients were under class II (good), 1 (5%) patient under class III (fair) and 1(5%) patient under class VI (poor).

Table 4: Demographic data and results

Case	Age	Sex	Hip	Short- -ening	Tonnis Grade	Preop AI	Procedure	Follow Up	Postop AI	Postop CEA	Mckays	Severins
1	38	F	RT	1.7	IV	48	OR+VDO+PB	24	20	30	Excellent	I
2	52	M	RT	1	II	38	OR+PB	21	19	24	Good	II
3	76	M	RT	2.8	IV	42	OR+VDO+FS+PB	21	18	30	Excellent	I
4	27	M	RT	1	III	39	OR+VDO+PB	24	22	20	Excellent	I
5	91	F	LT	1.2	III	48	OR+PB	18	24	17	Good	II
6	85	M	RT	2.6	IV	45	OR+VDO+FS+PB	24	17	28	Excellent	II
7	74	F	LT	2.2	IV	47	OR+VDO+FS+PB	21	18	25	Excellent	II
8	25	F	LT	1	II	45	OR+PB	12	17	28	Good	II
9	56	M	LT	1.6	IV	48	OR+VDO+PB	18	17	20	Good	II
10	54	F	LT	1	III	45	OR+PB	15	23	18	FAIR	II
11	54	F	RT	1.2	IV	35	OR+PB	15	22	25	Excellent	II
12	88	F	RT	1.3	IV	45	OR+PB	3	28		Poor	VI
13	87	F	LT	2.4	IV	38	OR+VDO+FS+PB	12	18	27	Excellent	II
14	85	F	LT	1.8	IV	42	OR+VDO+PB	24	18	28	Excellent	I
15	91	M	LT	1	II	45	OR+PB	21	20	14	Good	III
16	85	F	RT	2.2	III	48	OR+VDO+FS+PB	9	18	28	Good	II
17	86	F	LT	2	IV	45	OR+VDO+FS+PB	9	17	30	Good	II
18	26	M	LT	1	III	45	OR+PB	6	20	18	Good	II
19	87	F	RT	1.2	IV	50	OR+VDO+PB	6	18	28	Good	II
20	50	F	RT	1	II	42	OR+PB	6	20	20	Good	II
21	87	F	LT	3	IV	40	OR+VDO+FS+PB	9	18	22	Good	II

AI= Acetabular Index

OR= Open Reduction

VDO= Varus Derotation Osteotomy

PB = Pemberton's acetabuloplasty

FS= Femoral Shortening

CEA= Centre Edge Angle

Statistical Analysis

Relation between the obtained values in comparison to the preoperative values; calculated by paired Student t test:

Acetabular index (AI) improved in all hips at final evaluation. The mean preoperative acetabular index was 44 degrees. At the end of follow up it was 19.6 degrees and there was statistically significant difference between the preoperative AI and that at the final evaluation ($t=21.93$, $p<0.00001$). Center edge angle (CEA) improved in all patients at the end of follow up except one patient where the femoral head was redislocated. Preoperative CE angle was negative in all patients. The mean CE angle postoperatively was 22.9 degrees and there was statistically significant difference between the preoperative angle and that at the final evaluation ($t=14.66$, $p<0.00001$)

Relation between various parameters and the final outcome variables; calculated by the Chi-square (χ^2) test:

Preoperative Tonnis grade had no statistically significant effect on the final radiological outcome ($\chi^2=6.08$, $p=0.4138$). Postoperative AI had a statistically significant effect on the final radiological outcome ($\chi^2=25.31$, $p=0.0026$). Postoperative CE angle had a statistically significant effect on the final radiological outcome ($\chi^2=23.15$, $p=0.0007$).

The Age had no statistically significant effect on the final clinical outcome when the patients were divided into multiple groups based on age ($\chi^2=9.79$, $p=0.6341$). The final clinical outcome also was not significantly affected by sex ($\chi^2=1.11$, $p=0.7751$), side of the hip ($\chi^2=3.28$, $p=0.3507$), and by the amount of shortening ($\chi^2=6.47$, $p=0.3719$).

Discussion

Neonatal hip screening will not completely eliminate the problem of delayed diagnosis of developmental dysplasia of hip. There will be patients who reach the walking age with developmental dysplasia of hip (DDH), either secondary to delayed diagnosis or failed primary treatment.^{7, 8} We found that the cases of DDH still present late. In our study of 21 patients only 5 (24%) patients were diagnosed before the age of one year, the walking age according to the history.

After diagnosis, management of DDH in this age group is mainly surgical. Treatment varies from open reduction alone or with combined pelvic and femoral osteotomies. The main aim of the surgeon is to achieve a stable concentric reduction. Open reduction provides a good confirmation of the reduction while causing less injury to the femoral head as compared to closed reduction and an opportunity to assess the amount of acetabular dysplasia.⁹ In our study, for all the 21 (100%) patients open reduction was done as a part of the surgery.

Olney et al¹⁰ reported that a one stage procedure was too aggressive, but was considered to be less traumatic for the hip compared to closed reduction and prolonged immobilisation. Therefore several authors suggested a one-stage procedure consisting of open reduction, pelvic osteotomy and femoral osteotomy.¹¹⁻¹⁴ Furthermore, several studies describe the treatment of DDH with a one-stage operation in children over two years of age.^{13,15,16} In this study we treated 21 (100%) previously untreated DDH in children from two to eight years with a one stage operative procedure.

Galpin et al¹³ reported a series of 33 dislocated hips in patients older than two years of age who were treated with a one-stage open reduction, femoral shortening, and pelvic osteotomy. They found satisfactory results clinically in 85% of hips and 200 radiographically in 75% cases.

Barrett et al¹⁷ reported to have 85% very good and good results after open reduction and Salter type pelvic osteotomy in patient's aged between 18 months and 6 years.

Basant kumar Bhuyan¹⁸ reported 25 patients (30 hips) who underwent one stage triple procedure. The McKay's score was excellent in 13 hips, good in 14 hips, fair in 2 and poor in 1 hip. The Severin's class I and II were found in 25 hips (83.3%).

El sayed AH Abdulla et al¹⁹ reported 35 patients (42 hips) in the age group of 18 to 96 months with excellent and good clinical and radiological results in 88% patients.

In our study at the final evaluation 19 (90%) patients had excellent and good results both clinically and radiologically. Clinically based on McKay's criteria the results were excellent 8 (38%) patients, good 11 (52%) patients, fair 1 (5%) patient and poor 1 (5%) patient. Radiologically based on Severin's classification the results were excellent 4 (19%) patients, good 15 (71%) patients, fair 1 (5%) patient and poor in 1 (5%) patient.

One patient (5%) had redislocation of the hip in our study, this patient had a slightly high postoperative acetabular index (upper limit of normal range) and low center edge angle (lower limit of normal range) in immediate postoperative radiographs. The patient was offered revision open reduction and acetabuloplasty and now has a stable painless hip with good range of motion. Rudolf et al reported 3 of 54 hips with redislocation. Grill²⁰ reported 12 of 50 hips with redislocation and resubluxation. The other complication encountered in one patient (5%) was stiffness of hip, the range of motion has improved on intense monitored physiotherapy.

Limb length discrepancy was noticed postoperatively in 9 (43%) cases. 7 (33%) of these cases had femoral shortening as a part of the surgery. In the other two, one (5%) had open reduction and Acetabuloplasty which had a redislocation; the other

case (5%) had open reduction, varus derotation osteotomy and acetabuloplasty.

All follow up radiographs were evaluated for signs of avascular necrosis of femoral head. There was no case with the evidence of avascular necrosis. ESAH Abdullah et al¹⁹ reported one patient (2.3%) in their study with avascular necrosis. Basant kumar Bhuyan¹⁸ reported 1 (5%) case with evidence of AVN. Ryan et al. reported 11 out of 25 hips (44%) with avascular necrosis.

Conclusion

We conclude from our study that a single stage combined surgical treatment is a good method for management of late presenting developmental dysplastic hips. An open reduction through a wide exposure allowing full assessment along with removal of tissues hindering reduction is necessary for a successful surgery. Proper positioning of the femoral

head into the acetabulum is required along with capsulorrhaphy and correction of acetabular dysplasia is very important for stable concentric reduction of the hip. Femoral shortening should be performed in cases in which a reduction is achieved with difficulty. A well calculated and executed femoral shortening doesn't create a significant limb length discrepancy postoperatively. In femoral osteotomy, derotation component is more required compared to varus component because most cases have excessive femoral neck anteversion. Despite a short follow up period, the results of our study indicate that whatever is the age of the patient, bony procedures on proximal femur and pelvis must be kept in mind while treating late presenting patients with dysplastic hips. The combination of open reduction with pelvic and/ or femoral osteotomy when needed gives good immediate stability and promotes remodelling.

Case 1: 38 Months (3 years 2 months) / Female

Surgery performed: Open reduction + varus derotation osteotomy + pemberton's acetabuloplasty

Preoperative



Postoperative

Follow Up AT 24 Months



Case 2: 25 Months (2 years 1 month)/ Female

Surgery performed: Open reduction + pemberton's acetabuloplasty

Preoperative Radiograph



Postoperative Radiograph

Follow up at 12 Months



Case 3: 86 Months (7 years 2 months)

Surgery performed: Open reduction + varus derotation osteotomy + femoral shortening + pemberton's acetabuloplasty

Preoperative Radiograph**Postoperative Radiograph**

Follow up at 12 months

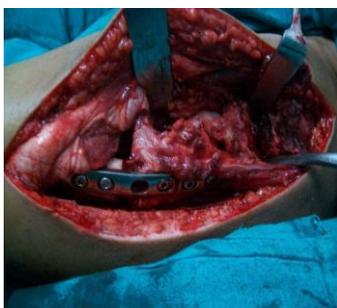


Fig. 1: Femoral shortening with varus derotation osteotomy

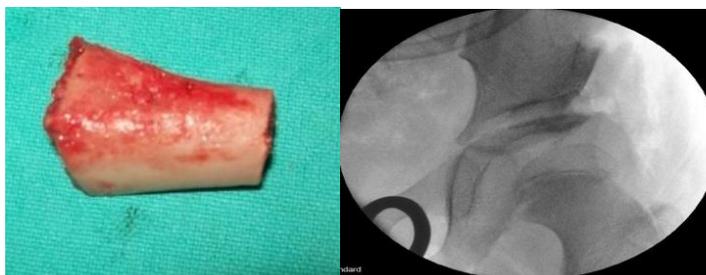


Fig. 2: Femoral graft placed in the osteotomy site

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