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TWO STAGE SURGERY FOR TREATMENT OF NEGLECTED CLUB FOOT

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A two stage surgery was carried out on 35 feet belonging to 24 patients (17 males, 7 females) with neglected talipes equinus varus. The ages of the patients ranged from 16 to 26 years old.

The first stage was postero-medial soft tissue release, while the second stage was triple arthrodesis. The protocol of the procedure was described. Almost all patients were happy following this procedure.

Our aim is to present our experience in two staged surgery for the treatment of neglected talipes equinovarus.

Neglected talipes equinovarus (club foot) is not $uncommon^1$. The treatment, causes and pathological anatomy of club foot remain controversial².

The aim of treatment is to obtain functional, mobile and plantigrade foot³. This can be achieved if proper treatment is initiated at an early stage but the problem is with the foot which is either untreated or inadequately treated at the proper time due to the fixed deformity which occurs with time⁴.

To overcome this deformity, bone surgery alone in addition to soft tissue surgery should be done^{5,6}. This type of surgery is not easy and has complications including recurrence of the deformity, pseudoarthrosis, avascular necrosis and flattening of talus, pain, instability and degenerative joint changes⁷.