

Covid-19 impact on femoral fragility fractures treatment: overview and comparison of 4 years of treatment at Geriatric Department of Trauma Clinic of Sestre milosrdnice Clinical Hospital Center

Utjecaj pandemije COVID – 19 na liječenje prijeloma kuka: pregled i usporedba 4 godine liječenja pri Zavodu za gerijatrijsku traumatologiju Klinike za traumatologiju KBC Sestara milosrdnica

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Sars-Cov2 virus and Corona pandemic have brought inevitable changes in approach to the patients, especially considering availability of public health care. Emergencies, such as surgical treatment of hip fractures, should not have seen any changes and their treatment should have been the same as in pre-pandemic period.

In this study we reviewed and compared treatment of femoral fragility fractures (FFF) at pre-pandemic (PP - 2018., 2019.) and pandemic period (P - 2020., 2021.) in our Department in non - Covid patients which surgeons are dedicated to treat FFF on orthogeriatric way.

The aim of this study was to compare in-hospital management and clinical outcome with minimum follow-up of 6 months after surgical treatment of FFF.

Inclusion criteria was hip fracture after low energy trauma and age 65+. The patients were identified and analysis was done using Hospital information system. They were divided into 2 cohorts (pre-pandemic and pandemic). Exclusion from study was lost from follow up. We monitored and compared age, sex, comorbidities, time from trauma to surgery, type of anesthesia, mobilisation after surgery, length of hospital stay, loss of blood, in-hospital and 6 months mortality.

There were 295 (151 with complete follow-up) patients with FFF in PP cohort and 332 (202) in P cohort. 74% of patients were female in PP cohort and 71% in P cohort. We found patients in P cohort comparing to PP cohort had significantly shorter time to index surgery and had shorter length of hospital stay. Furthermore, patients treated in pandemic period were mobilised earlier, had less transfusions, decreased in-hospital but increased 6 months mortality and had shorter length of hospital stay.

Non-Covid patients with femoral fragility fractures did not influence any lack of adequate treatment during epidemic in our Clinic. Indeed, data from this study show that Corona pandemic brings faster patients turnover and its wellbeing and did not influence on acceptance of new medical knowledge in treatment of femoral fragility fracture on organisational and executive levels.

LITERATURE

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