

RISK FACTORS OF DELAYED / NON UNION OF FRACTURE LONG BONES 2004

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Abstract

The aim of study was to find out the risk factors and their association with delayed healing of fractures. An interview method of research with the help of pre tested semi structured questionnaire was done in Orthopaedics OPD with the guidance of specialist. A total of 135 patients were studied out of which 45 were cases having delayed/non union of fracture long bones and rest 90 controls with united fractures.

The results were tabulated and analysed using chi square test, odd's ratio and logistic regression as our tools of analysis.

According to our study, we could identify the following risk factors. Ageing, low socio economic status, low educational status, compound fracture, lower limb fractures, history of infection at the site of fracture, history of diabetes, smoking, alcoholism emerged as risk factors. Factors like sex, use of NSAID's, use of steroids failed to prove an association. This result may be due to the lack of sample size.

On analysis by logistic regression, about half of the risk for delayed/non union could be explained by three factors namely, low educational status, compound fracture and history of infection at the site of fracture with an R square value = 0.479.