

## SUMMARY

. Fifty - four patients with displaced fractures of the shafts of the forearm bones treated by A O plate or intramedullary fixation .

Thirty - two cases were treated in Benha University Hospital, twelve cases were treated in Benha Health Insurance Hospital, and ten cases were treated in other different hospital in period between 1987 - 1990 .

- The youngest patient was 14 years old .
- The oldest patient was 60 years old .

The average age was 32.4 years old .

Male cases represented 72.2 % of all cases .

- Female cases represented 27.8 % of cases .
- 30 cases (55.6 %) were right side .
- 24 cases (44.4 %) were left side .
- 13 cases (24.1 %) were open fractures .
- Falls caused 31.5 % of the injuries; road-traffic accidents, 53.7 %; machine accident, 3.7%, sport accident, 7.4 % ; and blow in a quarrel, 3.7 % .

fractures were in the middle third. 20 fractures in the distal third and 17 in the proximal third .

- 21 fractures (19.4 %) were comminuted and 6 fractures (5.6 %) were double level.

The shortest follow - up was 3 months and the longest follow-up was 30 months with an average of 11.2 months.

- 33 patients (61.1 %) were fixed during the first two weeks and 21 (38.9 %) after two weeks and up to one month.
- 9 cases had associated injuries .
- In 33 forearms Henry approach was used while in 21 forearms the Thompson approach was used.
- 22 cases (40.7 %) were grafted.

49 cases were fixed by A 0 plates for radius and ulna, two cases were fixed by Rush pins for radius and ulna, one case by Rush pin for ulna and plate for radius; one case by plate for ulna and Rush pin for radius; and one case by Kirschner wires .

- Post - operative immobilization was performed for 45 patients .

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42 cases (77.8 %) were excellent .

6 cases (11.1 %) were good .

4 cases (7.4 %) were fair .

2 cases (3.7 %) were poor .

- The complications occurred in our study were infection in (7.4 %) ; delayed union in (3.7 %) ; non - union in (3.7 %) ; failure of fixation in (5.6 %) ; nerve injury in (3.7 %) ; cross union in (1.9 %) ; tourniquet paralysis In (1.9 %) and stiff fingers in (1.9 %)