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## Management of complicated fractures: Our experience

**Kayode M O, Adewole O A, Giwa S O** and **Shoga M O** Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria

**Objective:** To examine the various procedures offered to our patients with complicated long bone fractures using the Ilizarov method and the outcome of such procedures.

**Methods:** Prospective study of patients treated between June 2009 and December 2012. All procedures were done using the LRS (Linear Rail-fixator System) and according to Ilizarov principles. Data on demography, indications, procedure and outcome was collected and subjected to statistical analysis.

Results: Thirty patients whose procedures had been concluded were recruited. Seventeen were male and 13 female. Age range is 4 years - 57 years. Diagnosis included infected non-union, failed implant with limb length discrepancy and malunion. The resultant bony defect was from 4 cm to 12 cm while the period of morbidity was from 2 months to 8 years. Seventeen patients had acute docking and lengthening, 10 had bone transport, while 3 had simple limb lengthening. The ASAMI criteria were used to assess outcome. Complications noted were pin site infection (grades I & II) in 14 patients knee stiffness in 6 and regenerate fracture in 1.

**Conclusion:** Ilizarov surgery is a good method of limb reconstruction. The major challenge remains the cost and the long period of carrying the device as well as irregular access to image intensifier.

mikekayodemike@yahoo.com