

posterior vertebral column resection in complex spinal disorders

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Of Orthopaedic Surgery

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List of Content

List of Content.....	I
List of Abbreviations.....	II
List of Figures.....	IV
List of Tables	X
Introduction.....	- 1 -
Aim of the Work.....	- 2 -
Review of literature	
<i>Chapter (1):</i> Introduction.....	- 3 -
<i>Chapter (2):</i> Sagittal balance	- 17 -
<i>Chapter (3):</i> Relevant Anatomy and Biomechanics of Implants ...	- 30 -
<i>Chapter (4):</i> Biomechanics.....	- 37 -
<i>Chapter (5):</i> Evaluation of deformity patient	- 55 -
<i>Chapter (6):</i> Surgical Management of Kyphosis	- 75 -
<i>Chapter (7):</i> Spinal Osteotomies and Vertebral Column Resection .	- 83 -
Patients and methods	-108-
Results	- 138 -
Case Presentation	- 153 -
Discussion	- 192 -
Summary	- 211 -
Conclusion	- 213 -
References.....	- 216 -
الملخص العربي	- 1 -

List of Abbreviations

3CO	: 3 Column osteotomy
AIS	: Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis
AP	: Antero-Posterior
APVCR	: Antero-Posterior vertebral column resection
BDBO	: Bone disc bone osteotomy
C7PL	: C7 Plumb line
CBVA	: Chin-brow vertical angle
CK	: Cervical kyphosis
CORA	: Center of rotation and angulation
CSF	: Cerebrospinal fluid
CSL	: Central sacral line
DVT	: Deep venous thrombosis
EBL	: Estimated blood loss
HRQOL	: Health-related quality-of-life
IAR	: Instantaneous axis of rotation
LIV	: Lower instrumented vertebra
LK	: Lumbar kyphosis
LL	: Lumbar lordosis
LLK	: Lower lumbar kyphosis
MMVCR	: Multilevel modified vertebral column resection
ODI	: Oswestry Disability index
PCA	: Patient controlled analgesia
PI	: Pelvic Incidence
PJK	: Proximal junctional kyphosis
PK	: Pelvic kyphosis
PSF	: Posterior spinal fixation
PSO	: Pedicle subtraction osteotomy
PSVL	: Posterior sagittal vertical line
PT	: Pelvic tilt
PTK	: Posttraumatic kyphosis
PVCR	: Posterior vertebral column resection
RA	: Regional angulation
SPO	: Smith-Petersen osteotomy
SRS	: Scoliosis research society

List of Abbreviations

SS	: Sacral slope
SSEP	: Somatosensory evoked potential
SSV	: Sagittal stable vertebra
SVA	: Sagittal vertebral axis
TK	: Thoracic kyphosis
TLJK	: Thoracolumbar junction kyphosis
TP	: Transverse process
UIV	: Upper instrumented vertebra
UMNL	: Upper motor neuron lesion
VAS	: Visual analogue scale
VCD	: Vertebral column decancellation
VCR	: Vertebral column resection

List of Figures

Fig (1): Sagittal spine profile (10).	- 3 -
Fig (2): Congenital kyphosis. Type I (failure of formation), Type II (failure of segmentation), Type III (Mixed anomalies) (45).	- 12 -
Fig (3): Fracture types leading to PTK Left: Burst fracture (A) both endplates (B) Upper endplate (C) Lower endplate. Right: Flexion distraction injury (A) 1 level through bone (B) 1 level through ligaments and disc (C) 2 levels with middle through bone (D) 2 levels with middle through disc (56).	- 15 -
Fig (4): Sagittal balance assessment. (Line A) Drawn from the posterior superior corner of S1 perpendicular to the vertical edge of the radiograph. “Its length is measured in millimeters from the left-hand edge of the radiograph”. (Line B) Drawn from the center of C7 perpendicular to the vertical edge of the radiograph. “Its length is measured in millimeters from the left-hand edge of the radiograph”. Neutral Balance: (B = A), Negative Balance: (B < A), Positive Balance: (B > A) (74).....	- 19 -
Fig (5): Chin brow vertical angle: a postural angle measured between a line from the brow to the chin and the vertical axis, with the patient standing with hips and knees extended and the neck in a neutral or fixed position (79).....	- 21 -
Fig (6): Sagittal imbalance. (Left) Decompensated posture, (Right) Compensated posture (79).	- 21 -
Fig (7): Pathological behavior of pelvis in presence of kyphosis (a) Normal posture, (b) Abnormal posture, and (c) Compensatory posture. Increasing the Pelvic tilt to maintain an upright posture (79).	- 22 -
Fig (8): Cone of economy: Marking the “stable” zone which surrounds the individual being conically shaped from the feet to the head. Deviation from the cone center within the stable zone leads to greater muscular effort and energy expenditure maintaining an upright posture. Deviation outside the cone requires support or causes falling. (H) Head; (P-L) Pelvic level; (P-S) Polygon of sustentation (72).	- 23 -
Fig (9): Variations of spinal alignment: a-Type I (80:20), b-Type II (60:40) c-Type III (50:50), And d-Type IV (20:80) (79).	- 27 -
Fig (10): Coronal decompensation and relationship between shoulders to the pelvis (A) Type 1 & (B) Type 2 (90).....	- 28 -
Fig (11): 3D images of a right pedicle as produced by a solid model computer software, the coordinate system is shown: (A) Posteroanterior view (B) Anteroposterior view (C) Infero-superior view (D) Superoinferior view (95).	- 30 -
Fig (12): Dimensions of (A) T3, (B) T8, and (C) L4 pedicles. Vertical diameter (c) is increasing from 0.7 to 1.5 cm, horizontal diameter (d) is increasing from 0.7 to 1.6 cm with T5 being the narrowest around 0.5 cm. Direction is almost sagittal all through from T4 to L4. Angle (e) rarely exceeds 10°. Proximally, the direction becomes more oblique: T1→ 36°, T2 →34°, T3 →23°. L5 is also oblique (30°), but is large and easy to drill (98).	- 31 -
Fig (13): Dorsal pedicle landmarks left (Entry points), Right (Anatomical landmarks) (105).	- 35 -

Fig (14): Schematic for dorsal entry points and projections (A) Antero-posterior view, (B) Lateral view (106).	35 -
Fig (15): Schematic for lumbar entry points and projections (Left) Antero-posterior view, (Right) Lateral view (112).	36 -
Fig (16): Showing spinal curvatures (115).	38 -
Fig (17): Spinal segments A. Motion spinal segment divided into anterior and posterior portion, B. Posterior portion of the motion segment containing the only synovial spinal joint, the apophyseal joint, joining the superior and inferior facets (116, 117).	39 -
Fig (18): Deformity planes: (A) Sagittal, (B) Coronal, (C) Axial (118).	40 -
Fig (19): The six fundamental segmental movements, A- Longitudinal axis B- Coronal axis C- Sagittal axis. (113).	41 -
Fig (20): Schematic showing spinal loading. A: A kyphotic deformity with a 58° Cobb's angle. Physiological vertically directed forces presented by the large arrow working at a moment arm at length a. B: The deformity is represented schematically, showing that the posterior structures (P) resisting tensile loading and (A) the anterior elements resisting compressive loading (120).	42 -
Fig (21): Load bearing axis positional changes (A) The load-bearing axis (shaded column) located in the middle column of Denis. (B) In extension the axis is shifted dorsally. (C) In flexion the axis is shifted ventrally (121).	44 -
Fig (22): Sagittal balance. (A) A sagittally balanced spine with cervical lordosis, dorsal kyphosis, and lumbar lordosis. (B) SVA: plumb line dropped from the mid C7 in the standing posture falls at the lumbosacral pivot point (Posterior superior corner of S1 body). (C) With loss of lumbar lordosis, the SVA falls at the sacral promontory region. (D) Significant imbalance shifts the SVA significantly ventral to the promontory. (E) CSL is used to assess coronal plane balance, a line perpendicular to a line connecting both iliac crests, ascending in line with the sacral spinous processes (122).	45 -
Fig (23): Apical and neutral vertebrae (a) Apical vertebra located at the curve horizon (A) The sagittal or (B) The coronal plane. The one associated with adjacent disc spaces with the greatest segmental angulation (α) of all curve interspaces. (b) Neutral vertebrae are located between curves (A) Sagittal or (B) coronal, with least or no angulation at both its rostral and caudal disc spaces (β) (122).	46 -
Fig (24): Implant termination (A) A long implant must not terminate near or at an apical vertebra. (B) A longer implant is mandatory. (C) Spine deformation progression at the termini of the stabilizing implant is inevitable if stopping at the curve apex. (D) This is also true for scoliotic deformity correction. (E) Postoperative deformity progression as the implant stopped at and not beyond the apical vertebra (121).	47 -
Fig (25): Bringing the spine to the implant: Used forces are oriented along any axis or plane, (A) The long axis, (B) The sagittal plane and (C) The coronal plane. Arrows represent forces applied by the implant (121).	47 -
Fig (26): Three point bending force (A) Applied bending moments in the sagittal plane by a three-point bending mechanism and (B) Applied moment arm	

cantilever beam mechanism. Straight arrows represent forces; curved arrows represent bending moments. (C) Bringing the spine to the implant using three-point bending construct. (D) Terminal three-point bending constructs have a long and a short moment arm. Straight arrows represent applied forces (121).	48 -
Fig (27): The crossed-rod technique: (A) Harrington distraction rod, (B) Luque sublaminar wiring, and (C) universal spinal instrumentation. (D) The crossed rod technique used for scoliotic deformities. (E) Two rod translation force application technique, where a small rod can be applied to the spine and then brought to a longer rod spanning the concave side of the deformity and partially correcting the deformity (125).	50 -
Fig (28): Serial illustration of crossed-rod technique (A–C) achieving gradual reduction of kyphosis (125).	50 -
Fig (29): (A) lateral and (B) axial view of the crossed-screw fixation technique (127).	51 -
Fig (30): Maintenance of deformity correction (A) Cross fixation of rods (B) Convergent screw trajectory (C) Parallel screw trajectory (130).	53 -
Fig (31): Visual assessment of spinal balance (130), A: coronal imbalance with the coronal plumb line deviated off the intergluteal groove (normally balance with the line falling in the rima ani and centered between both feet).B: sagittal balance: plumb line extending from external auditory canal ending at lateral malleolus perpendicular to the ground.	57 -
Fig (32): Assessment of ROM (130).	58 -
Fig (33): Hanging test (131).	59 -
Fig (34): Push prone test (131).	59 -
Fig (35): Forward bending test from side: (A) Estimation of sagittal curvature and kyphotic angulation grossly by having the patient bend forward and evaluating the thoracic kyphosis. (B) Thoracic kyphosis evaluation. (C) Thoracic kyphosis with apex approximately at T8 (131).	60 -
Fig (36): Forward bending test from behind Left: Shoulder, scapular and pelvic asymmetry in scoliosis “standing position”. Right: Rotational rib prominence is more apparent, and rotation angle measured by scoliometer “Forward bending” (112).	60 -
Fig (37): Dermatomal distribution (130).	61 -
Fig (38): Standing AP or PA and Lateral (Acceptable Images):	63 -
Fig (39): Bolster fulcrum test: (A) Clinically, (B) before bolster, (C) Bolster applied (74).	64 -
Fig (40): Traction films (74).	65 -
Fig (41): Supine Side-benders: Mandatory that all curves are visualized (74).	65 -
Fig (42): CT images showing bone structure A: Myelomeningocele patient with defective posterior structures (arrows) (130).B: Congenitally fused vertebrae (arrow) (112).	66 -
Fig (43): (A) Axial, (B) Coronal CT images showing hemivertebra (arrow) (112).	67 -
Fig (44): MRI images showing different pathologies.	68 -
Fig (45): Tethered cord findings in MRI (133, 134). A. Sagittal T2-weighted image showing cord extending to L4 and filum terminale to S1 (arrow). B. Sagittal T1-weighted image with dorsal lipomyelomeningocele tethering	

conus to spinal canal C. Axial T2-weighted image showing cord displaced posterior within the sacral sac (arrow).	68 -
Fig (46): Regional sagittal alignment:	71 -
Fig (47): Pelvic parameters: (A) Pelvic incidence (B) Sacral slope (C) Pelvic tilt (74). -	72 -
Fig (48): 6 Grades of resection (162, 163).	85 -
Fig (49): Pedicle subtraction osteotomy (PSO): Three column transpedicular wedge osteotomy, the intact anterior cortex acting as a hinge for closing the defect. The osteotomy creates two large cancellous surfaces opposed together aiming for fusion (163).	86 -
Fig (50): Illustration of Partial PSO (172,173).	88 -
Fig (51): Bone-disc-bone osteotomy (BDBO) (A) Type 1 (B) Type 2 (C) Type 3 (174).	88 -
Fig (52): Hemivertebra resection: (A) Excision (B) correction of deformity (177).	89 -
Fig (53): VCR technique (90).	90 -
Fig (54): Posterior vertebral column resection (PVCR). (A) Pedicle screws segmentally inserted sparing the resected levels. (B) Posterior structures, vertebral body and the discs removed on one side after application of a contralateral temporary rod. (C) Exchange of temporary rod and same resection is carried out on the other side. (D) Gradual correction of deformity by compression, in situ bending and changing the temporary rods. (E) Mesh cage inserted anteriorly to prevent shortening of the spinal column (174).	95 -
Fig (55): Incision and dissection A. Incision line B. Dissection to spinous process (214).	96 -
Fig (56): Subperiosteal dissection of paraspinal muscles A. Dorsal region B. Lumbar region (214).	97 -
Fig (57): Extracavitary exposure A. Detachment of Muscle attachments from desired rib with periosteal elevator. B. Detachment of Muscle attachments from transverse process and lamina to clearly expose the rib and its articulation to spine. C. Disarticulation of the rib and its arthrodiar junction. D. Subperiosteal dissection is done along pedicle and upper and lower body to separate pleura from vertebral wall (215).	99 -
Fig (58): Operative schematic of the thoracic PVCR procedure:	102 -
Fig (59): VCD illustration: (A) Pedicle screws insertion. (B) Decancellation of deformed vertebrae by a high-speed drill. (C) Removal of posterior structures with the residual discs. (D) Correction by anterior column elongation and opening (arrow) and posterior column shortening, with the residual bone replacing the metal mesh used in the VCR technique, acting as a “bony cage” (8).	103 -
Fig (60): Eggshell procedure: (A) Bone removal with increasing sizes of curettes (B) Preservation of medial pedicular wall & post vertebral wall (C) Lateral pedicular wall and transverse process removed (D) extending curettage to cephalic disc and in case of vertebrectomy caudad disc also (E) After finishing decancellation the medial pedicular wall is removed and the posterior vertebral wall is tamped away from the cord and removed (217). -	105 -
Fig (61): Illustrating steps of MMVCR (7).	106 -

Fig (62): Age distribution.	- 108 -
Fig (63): Sex distribution.	- 109 -
Fig (64): Etiology of deformity.	- 110 -
Fig (65): Congenital etiology.	- 111 -
Fig (66): Deformity type.	- 111 -
Fig (67): Preoperative Frankel grading.	- 113 -
Fig (68): Oswestry low back pain questionnaire.	- 118 -
Fig (69): Arabic translation of Oswestry low back pain questionnaire	- 119 -
Fig (70): Visual analogue scale.	- 121 -
Fig (71): Standing whole spine AP-Lateral views (Case 35).	- 123 -
Fig (72): Flexion-Extension views (Case 35).	- 123 -
Fig (73): C.T scan images with 3D Reconstruction, Above (Case 13) Below (Case 23).	- 125 -
Fig (74): Preoperative MRI images showing, Spondylodiscitis Above (Case 13) and Congenital Posterior Hemivertebra Below (Case 1).	- 126 -
Fig (75): Patient positioning on frame (Case 4).	- 129 -
Fig (76): Exposure (Left) Pedicle screws inserted (Right).	- 130 -
Fig (77): Posterior structures removed (Left), Rib exposed (Middle), Dorsal roots cut off (Right).	- 131 -
Fig (78): (A) Temporary rod inserted, (B) Resection on working side, (C) Rod exchanged + Resection of opp. Side, (D) Resection complete with a towel passing anterior to cord.	- 133 -
Fig (79): A: Correction of deformity over contoured rod, B: Final rods inserted one by one.	- 134 -
Fig (80): Anterior reconstruction, Mesh cage (Left), Rib strut (Right).	- 135 -
Fig (81): Relation between local correction and number of resected vertebrae.	- 142 -
Fig (82): Relation between Regional correction and number of resected vertebrae.	- 143 -
Fig (83): Number of resected level.	- 143 -
Fig (84): Method of reconstruction.	- 144 -
Fig (85): ODI (preoperative, postoperative at 6 month and 1 year, Improvement).	- 146 -
Fig (86): ODI at last follow up.	- 147 -
Fig (87): Scatter graph showing relationship between ODI preoperatively and improvement postoperatively.	- 148 -
Fig (88): Patient 1: Preoperative (A).	- 154 -
Fig (89): Patient 1: Preoperative (B).	- 155 -
Fig (90): Patient 1: Postoperative.	- 156 -
Fig (91): Patient 1: Last follow up (24 month).	- 157 -
Fig (92): Patient 13: Preoperative (A).	- 159 -
Fig (93): Patient 13: Preoperative (B).	- 160 -
Fig (94): Patient 13: Postoperative (A).	- 161 -
Fig (95): Patient 13: Postoperative (B).	- 162 -
Fig (96): Patient 13: Last follow up (13 month).	- 163 -
Fig (97): Patient 23: Preoperative.	- 165 -
Fig (98): Patient 23: Postoperative.	- 166 -
Fig (99): Patient 23: Last follow up (12 month).	- 167 -
Fig (100): Patient 11: Preoperative.	- 169 -

Fig (101): Patient 11: Postoperative.	- 170 -
Fig (102): Patient 11: Implant failure and Revision.	- 171 -
Fig (103): Patient 11: Last follow up (20 month).	- 172 -
Fig (104): Patient 10: Preoperative.	- 174 -
Fig (105): Patient 10: Postoperative.	- 175 -
Fig (106): Patient 10: Last follow up (20 month).	- 176 -
Fig (107): Patient 35: Old Plain X-rays of L1 fracture PSF.	- 178 -
Fig (108): Patient 35: Preoperative.	- 179 -
Fig (109): Patient 35: Postoperative.	- 180 -
Fig (110): Patient 35: Last follow up (13 month).	- 181 -
Fig (111): Patient 4: Preoperative.	- 183 -
Fig (112): Patient 4: Postoperative.	- 184 -
Fig (113): Patient 4: Failure of implant during follow up.....	- 184 -
Fig (114): Patient 4: Revision + Extension of fixation.	- 185 -
Fig (115): Patient 20: Preoperative (A).	- 187 -
Fig (116): Patient 20: Preoperative (B).	- 188 -
Fig (117): Patient 20: Postoperative.	- 189 -
Fig (118): Patient 20: PJK and implant failure during follow up.....	- 190 -
Fig (119): Patient 20: Revision + Extension + Rib strut.....	- 190 -
Fig (120): Patient 20: Last follow up (15 month).	- 191 -

List of Tables

Table (1): Pathophysiologic classification of kyphosis (6).	- 9 -
Table (2): Sensory, motor and Reflex examination (132).	- 62 -
Table (3): Comparison between Anterior, Posterior and Combined approaches (153).	- 82 -
Table (4): Resection grading (162,163).	- 85 -
Table (5): Patient No, Sex, Age, Type, Etiology of deformity and type of congenital deformity.	- 112 -
Table (6): Patient No, Local and Regional kyphosis angles preoperatively and postoperatively, % of correction and Degree of correction.	- 140 -
Table (7): Relation between degree of local and regional correction.	- 141 -
Table (8): comparison between kyphosis and kyphoscoliosis regarding angle measurements.	- 141 -
Table (9): Mean degree of correction (Local and regional) from one, two, three resected vertebra	- 142 -
Table (10): ODI results.	- 145 -
Table (11): showing disability measures in kyphosis and kyphoscoliosis groups.	- 146 -
Table (12): Relation between Preoperative ODI and Improvement.	- 147 -
Table (13): statistical difference between pre and post measurements of disability measure and the three angles measured.....	- 148 -
Table (14): Pre and Postoperative UMN.	- 149 -
Table (15): % of Intraoperative and postoperative complications.	- 151 -
Table(16): Intraoperative complications relation with preoperative local and regional kyphosis angle.	- 151 -
Table (17): Postoperative complications relation with preoperative local and regional kyphosis angle	- 152 -
Table (18): Case 1 data.	- 153 -
Table (19): Case 2 data.	- 158 -
Table (20): Case 3 data.	- 164 -
Table (21): Case 4 data.	- 168 -
Table (22): Case 5 data.	- 173 -
Table (23): Case 6 data.	- 177 -
Table (24): Case 7 data.	- 182 -
Table (25): Case 8 data.	- 186 -
Table (26): Descriptive data of studies	- 207 -
Table (27): Descriptive data of studies complications	- 208 -

Introduction

Vertebral column resection (VCR) is defined as a circumferential resection of at least one vertebra with all its anterior and posterior elements along with the adjoining intervertebral discs. It was first described by Bradford as a combined approach requiring posterior stabilization, and anterior vertebrectomy and reconstruction. Combined anterior and posterior resection requires a lengthy operation (1). Suk et al. (2) first promoted a posterior-only VCR. They believed the total operating time and blood loss was reduced through this one-stage posterior-only procedure.

Vertebral column resection has been suggested for tumors (3), and spondyloptosis (4). Also, VCR has been described for severe rigid angular deformities (5).

A deformed section of the spine as seen in cases of congenital kyphoscoliosis or post-infectious kyphosis not only affects the development of the remaining healthy spine, but also that of the chest wall, the extremities and body balance. Decompensation in the sagittal plane of the spine leads to specific complaints such as pain, cardiopulmonary compromise, significant cosmetic problems, limitation of the activities of daily living, psychological implications and neurological impairment (6). Sufficient restoration of alignment may not only result in better fusion, but also in better spinal canal decompression (7,8).

Aim of the Work

This prospective study is conducted to evaluate the results of posterior vertebral column resection (PVCR) in patients needing corrective reconstructive surgery or decompressive surgery of kyphotic or kyphoscoliotic spinal deformity resulting from congenital, developmental, traumatic or infectious conditions.

Introduction

The spine is normally formed of four curves in balance, intrauterine and at birth, only the two primary kyphotic curves are present at the thoracic and sacrococcygeal area. The secondary lordotic curves of the cervical and lumbar areas are considered compensatory and develop when the child holds his head upright and when he begins to stand and walk (Fig. 1) (9,10). These Lordotic curves compensate for kyphotic degrees of the primary curves to balance the spine sagittally.

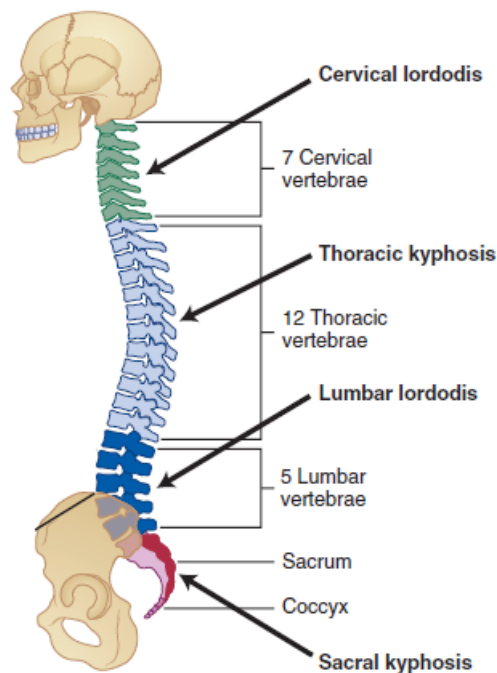


Fig (1): Sagittal spine profile (10).