



ISOLATED COMPLEX DORSAL DISLOCATION OF THE MIDDLE FINGER METACARPOPHALANGEAL JOINT

H P Madhusudan, Anil Kumar Agarwal and S Raja Sabapathy
Hand and Micro Surgery Department, Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore

SUMMARY : *Complex dislocations of the metacarpophalangeal joints are rare injuries. When they, occur, they are relatively common in the thumb, index and little fingers. Isolated complex dislocation of the metacarpophalangeal joint of the middle finger is extremely rare because of the inherent anatomical stability in that joint. We are reporting a case of isolated complex dorsal dislocation of the middle finger.*

CASE REPORT

A 33 year old man injured his left middle finger in an accidental fall at home when the finger hit a stone. He had a 2cm transverse laceration in the palm over the metacarpophalangeal joint of the middle finger. The finger was deformed and he was unable to bend it. He sought treatment at a peripheral hospital. Skiagrams taken at that time revealed dorsal dislocation of the middle finger. (Fig 1). The wound was sutured under local anaesthesia and reduction of the dislocation was attempted. After multiple attempts it was presumed that a successful reduction had been achieved and the patient was given a ball bandage and sent home. No post reduction skiagram was taken. The patient returned to the hospital a week later for suture removal. The finger appeared to be still deformed

and a skiagram taken at that time with the ball bandage revealed that the dislocation was still unreduced. He was then referred to our centre for further management.

On examination he had a 2cm sutured wound in the palm over the metacarpophalangeal joint of the middle finger with puckering of the adjacent skin (Fig 2). On palpation, the head of the third metacarpal was easily felt in the palm and the base of the proximal phalanx was felt on the dorsum. The patient was able to flex the distal and proximal interphalangeal joints to 30 degrees each but there was no movement at the metacarpophalangeal joint. Blunting of sensation was present over the volar aspect of the middle finger on both sides.



(Fig-1)



(Fig-2)