

외상성 추간판 손상과 의원성 척추장애인 만들기

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= Abstract =

Traumatic Disc Injuries and the Iatrogenic Spinal Disability

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Objective : Traumatic disc lesion is a lesion with tremendous controversies. The causal relationships of this lesion are not established along with pathogenesis, diagnostic criteria, methods of treatment and the outcome. However, a significant number of patients with back pain after a trauma underwent spinal operations under the diagnosis of traumatic disc lesions. Such an ill - directed operation eventually produce a person with an iatrogenic disability. We present two illustrative cases, and tried to make a preventive method.

Methods : We examined the path from mild trauma after a road traffic accident into the iatrogenic disability in two illustrative cases, who requested disability assessment and medical appraisalment. We evaluated the reason and background for such an unwanted outcome and tried to find a method to reduce or prevent it by a literature review.

Results : These two patients were admitted to the hospital with the diagnosis of lumbar sprain after a road traffic accidents. They eventually underwent spinal surgery under another diagnosis such as traumatic disc herniation or internal disc disruption. They stayed at the hospital for more than six months and finally lost their jobs. They became the disabled at last. Although they complained back pain, they never insisted by themselves that their symptoms were due to the traumatic disc lesion.

To prevent such an iatrogenic disability, the doctors should assist them to go - back to the workplace promptly instead of a reckless extension of the treatment period. It may be necessary to evaluate the certificates to extend the treatment period with an additional diagnosis by a medical expert. To reduce the unnecessary long - term admission, a new billing system such as a partial share for the high cost of the treatment by the patients may be needed.

Conclusion : It is not the patient but the doctors, who has the responsibility to avoid the unnecessary operations. All treating doctors should try to reduce or prevent such an iatrogenic complication caused by ourselves before we are forced to do so.

KEY WORDS : Low back pain · Traumatic disc herniation · Internal disc disruption · Iatrogenic disability · Spine · Trauma.

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