**Total dislodgement of the femoral component following cemented total knee arthroplasty: a case report**

**Çimentolu total diz artroplastisi sonrasında femoral parçanın tamamen yerinden çıkması**

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Loosening of the either components of total knee arthroplasty is main reason of revision.\(^1\)

The more severe form of loosening may be the dislodgement of the components but to our knowledge, no such a case has been reported before. We present such a case that dislodgement was detected when the valgus and varus stress radiographs were taken.

**Case report**

A 84 year old woman admitted to our clinic for pain and sensation of insecurity of her right knee. She had undergone cemented total knee arthroplasty operation five years ago and it had been revised two years later for late infection. Although she had been asymptomatic for a year, then gradual pain and sensation of insecurity had appeared.
On the examination, “clunk” is felt during the movements of the knee but the radiographs were normal except for a separated fragment of the medial femoral condyle (fig. 1 a). Then examination was repeated under fluoroscopic control and dislodge ment of femoral component was observed, when varus and valgus stresses were applied (fig. 1 b), but the component reduced when the stresses were discarded as in Figure 1 a. At the second revision arthroplasty, the femoral component was totally free from the bone and loosening of tibial component was also observed, and stemmed, cemented components were inserted (fig 1 d).

At the latest follow-up, three years postoperatively, the patient was symptom-free

**Discussion**

Although, loosening of the components after total knee arthroplasty is not as frequent as seen after total hip arthroplasty (2, 3), but still remains the

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*Figure 1.* (a) Anteroposterior radiograph of the knee shows no signs of dislodgement. (b) Dislodgement of the components are apparent when valgus and varus stresses were applied. (c) and (d) 12 years after revision.
main reason of revisions (1). On the other hand, dislodgement of the components, as the most severe form of loosening, has not been reported after total knee arthroplasty, to our knowledge, although dislodgement was reported after total hip arthroplasty. This is probably due to the potential stability of the knee joint that, normal loads bearing on the components tend to reduce them. Present case shows the necessity of stress radiographs when loosening is suspected and especially when the standard radiographs are normal.

References