

## **“Spur-like lesion” on the Lateral Tibial Condyle -A Sign of Chronic Anterior Cruciate Ligament Tear -**

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### **Introduction**

Authors have found that some patients with chronic anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) tear had “spur-like lesion” on the lateral tibial condyle which was different from lateral capsular sign or degenerative spur. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the “spur-like lesion” and its significance in relation with chronic ACL tear.

### **Material and Methods**

Six patients had “spur-like lesion” on the lateral tibial condyle in simple roentgenogram. The location, shape, and size of the lesions were studied using anteroposterior roentgenogram and magnetic resonance imaging. The cause of primary injury, chronicity of the ACL tear and associated injury were also analyzed. All 6 patients were male and mean age was 33.8 (17~46) years.

### **Result**

The “spur-like lesions” were located from the level of 3.8 mm in average below the articular surface of the lateral tibial condyle to the apex of the fibular head and were protruded laterally or inferolaterally from just posterior to the Gerdy’s tubercle. Their shapes were triangular with either round or sharp ends. Average length of the lesion was 6.0 mm and average width of the base, 9.2 mm. The causes of injury were sports trauma in 5 cases and traffic accident in one. The chronicity of the ACL tear was from 8 months to 23 years. Medial meniscus tear was associated in all cases and lateral meniscus tear, in three.

### **Conclusion**

We suggest that a patient who has a history of trauma with the “spur-like lesion” on the lateral tibial condyle of the knee is expected to have chronic ACL tear and the “spur-like lesion” might be a healed Segond’s fracture (lateral capsular sign).