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## Temporal Relationship between Symptomatic and Electrophysiological Improvement to Postoperative Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Patients: Preliminary study

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**Background and Objectives:** A nerve conduction study (NCS) has been known as a useful method to evaluate the therapeutic effect of operation in carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS). To evaluate the temporal relationship between symptomatic and electrophysiological improvement, we compared the preoperative symptoms and electrophysiological results with postoperative those.

**Methods:** We analyzed the NCS changes before and after minimal release of carpal tunnel in 26 patients (34 hands) with CTS. The time of postoperative symptomatic changes, postoperative electrophysiological changes and temporal relationship between symptomatic and electrophysiological changes were evaluated.

**Results:** The mean age was  $49 \pm 13$  years. The proportion of males to female was 8 and 92 percent. The median interval days between date of operation and those of postoperative NCS was 28.5 days. Postoperative symptoms improved in 17 hands, slightly improved in 13 hands, and have not changed in 4 hands. Electrophysiological improvements after operation were observed in 26 hands, and mostly appeared within 2 months. Symptomatic relief accompanied with electrophysiological improvement reported in 13 hands (50%). Moreover, the four hands with symptom, not relieved by decompression, showed electrophysiological improvement.

**Conclusions:** In this study, electrophysiological improvement was in consistency with symptomatic relief to some extent, but we got the result of disagreement between electrophysiological and symptomatic improvement.

**Key words:** carpal tunnel syndrome, nerve conduction study, temporal relationship

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.<sup>1,7-10</sup>

(onset latency) 3.9 ms  
 (CMAP) 5 mV  
 50.6 m/sec  
 40.6 m/sec

1. 가 2001 6 2003 2 가

SPSS  
 Wilcoxon signed rank test  
 0.05 가 p

1. 26 (34 ) 가 24 ,  
 2 49±13  
 1 120 4

가 26 (34 )

12 , 6 8 ,  
 3.6 28.5 가 2

Nicolet Viking IV

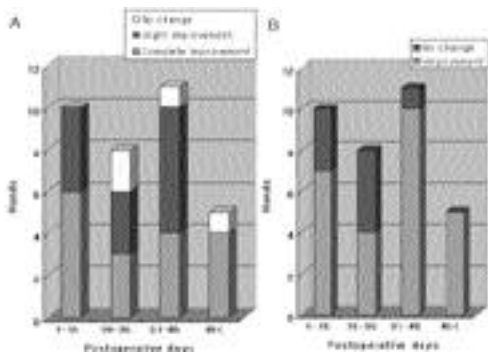
26 (77%)  
 30

), ( ) 37가 (23%)  
 (active electrode)  
 (abductor brevis) (belly)  
 (reference electrode) 가  
 5 cm

15  
 29 (85%)  
 45  
 30 18 30  
 16 , 9 8 (50.0%)  
 (Fig. 1-A).

electrode)

2. (SNAP)가 26 가 -  
 33.57±5.19 m/sec  
 4.98±



1.89ms 가 , 4.98±  
 9.27±5.29 mV, (CMAP)  
 m/sec . 34 55.9±5.91  
 , 9 가  
 , 6

, SNAP

2 28

Figure 1. Distribution of postoperative symptomatic (A) and electrophysiological (B) changes.

(p<0.05), CMAP



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 1,7,9 가,  
 test 가, Phalen  
 5  
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