

# Acute Achilles tendon wounds in children from motorcycle accidents: epidemiological, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects

Franck Grah Lohourou



## ABSTRACT

Acute open injuries of the Achilles tendon resulting from motorbike accidents in children are common in our setting. We conducted an observational study, with retrospective data collection from the medical records of children managed for an acute Achilles tendon open injury, caused by motorcycle rear wheel spokes from January 2017 to December 2019. The aim of our study was to describe the epidemiological, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of these lesions in our environment. During the study period, 51 children totalising 51 acute Achilles tendon injuries were identified. There were 33 boys (64.7%) and 18 girls (35.3%) with a sex ratio of 1.8. The mean age was  $09.1 \pm 3.2$  years with extremes of 4 and 15 years. The pupils were mostly affected, in 80.4% of cases (n=41). Injuries were mostly sustained during the school period representing 94.1% (n=48). The section of the tendon was complete in 60.78% of patients (n=31). The predominant associated lesions were calcaneal fractures observed in 21.6% of injuries (n=11). The right side was more affected, with 84.3% (n=43). The number of rear passengers on the motorcycle was superior or equal to 3 children in 82.3% of circumstances of the accident (n=42). Postoperative complications were infectious in 39.2% (n=20); skin necrosis represented 13.7% (n=7). With at least a 6 months follow-up, the functional result evaluated according to the Mc Comis score was excellent in 29.3% (n=15); good in 35.3% (n=18); average in 17.7% (n=9) and poor in 17.7% (n=9) of cases respectively. The percentage of acute open Achilles tendon injury is high in students and is significant during the school year. Emergency definitive repair by suturing is possible for wounds seen early. The immediate postoperative course can be marked by infectious complications.

**Keywords:** wound, Achilles tendon, motorcycle, child

## BIOGRAPHY

Franck Grah Lohourou is a Professor at Pediatric Surgery Unit Bouaké University Hospital Center (Côte d'Ivoire).

6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Pediatrics and Pediatric Surgery , March 11-12, 2022 | Webinar

Bouake teaching hospital, Republic of Cote d'ivoire

Citation: Franck Grah Lohourou, Acute Achilles tendon wounds in children from motorcycle accidents: epidemiological, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects, 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Pediatrics and Pediatric Surgery , March 11-12, 2022 | Webinar