

Variation in Outcome in Tethered Cord Syndrome Noorulain Iqbal MD, MBBS; Salman Yousuf Sharif MD, FRCS [Liaquat National Hospital and Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan]



Introduction

Tethered Cord Syndrome

- Progressive neurological, urological, and orthopedic dysfunction
- Congenital fixation or tethering of the distal spinal cord
- Common problem in the developing world
- Lack of awareness among the young child bearing women

Objective

No uniform clinical scale to compare the presentations, outcome in each patient.

With suggestion from Prof Yamada- we came up with Karachi TCS Scale – validate results of various outcomes

Material and Methods

- 50 consecutive patients
- Treated for Tethered Cord Syndrome
- Liaquat National Hospital
- 2010-2014
- Pre and Post operative Karachi TCS Scale
- Various Associated Pathologies Compared

Karachi TCS Scale				
Score	Gait	Power	Bowel Bladder	Sensation
0	Unable to walk	No contraction	Total incontinence	No sensation
1	Severe bilateral defecit	Flickering	Intermittent incontinence uncontrolled	Diminished sensation
2	Severe unilateral deficit	Active movement with gravity eliminated	Intermittent incontinence, controlled	Full sensation
3	Mild bi or unilateral deficit	Active movement against gravity	Increased frequency	
4	Walks normally	Active movement resistance	Total control	
5		Normal		

BENEFITS

- Uniformity
- Pre-operative assessment
- Post-operative assessment
- Common Neurology Symptoms

DRAWBACKS

- Can not completely apply on children with respect to GAIT
- Small number of patients
- Examiner dependent
- Parent dependent



