HIGH-VELOCITY INJURY: BILATERAL FLOATING KNEE

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**ABSTRACT**

“Floating knee” is the term used to describe simultaneous fractures of the femur and tibia in the same limb. This injury is caused by high energy violence. We report here a very rare case of bilateral floating knee in a 25-year-old male motorcyclist caused by a crash onto a car.

**Key words:** Knee, Bilateral, Floating

INTRODUCTION

“Floating knee” is the term used to describe simultaneous fractures of the femur and tibia in the same limb. This injury is caused by high energy violence, usually a road accident, and may be associated with life-threatening injuries. Mortality rates from floating knees range from 5% to 15% and amputations are reported in approximately 25% of patients.

We report a very rare case of bilateral floating knee. A 25-year-old male motorcyclist crash onto a car, and sustained bilateral fractures of the femur and tibia. On examination, he was hemodynamically stable; Glasgow Coma Scale was 15/15. The two lower limbs were deformed; however, there wasn’t any neurovascular compromise, nor soft tissue injury. The X-ray examination and computed tomography revealed an undisplaced bilateral fracture of femur and tibia. The patient was urgently taken to the operating theater; the different fractures have been stabilized. At 8-month follow-up, radiological union was seen on the radiographs.

**Figure A** preoperative X-Ray showing a bilateral fracture of the femur
**Figure B** preoperative X-Ray showing a bilateral fracture of the tibia
**Figure C** computed tomography showing a bilateral Floating knee
**Figure D** immediate postoperative x rays of the bilateral femur and tibia.