

ILIZAROV PROCEDURE PRACTICE GUIDELINE

Patient Selection:

1. Established Criteria
 1. Limb lengthening when limb length (upper or lower) discrepancy \geq 5 cm
 2. Angular and multiplanar deformities
 3. Foot deformities, including lengthening of the metatarsals
 4. Congenital anomalies of the lower limbs (such as fibular and tibial hemimelia) that require both lengthening and correction of angular deformities
 5. Joint contractures
 6. Reconstruction of large bony defects secondary to tumors, trauma, infection, or other causes by means of bony transport. Congenital pseudoarthrosis of the tibia is a typical example where the Ilizarov method may be indicated
 7. Non-union and infected non-union of fractures
 8. Some acute fractures
 9. Fusion of joints
 10. Distraction of joints
 11. Amputation stump elongation
2. Other criteria are considered investigational and not allowed at this time.

Protocol for Treatment:

All patients who are felt to have the indications for the Ilizarov procedure and together with their family have been appropriately counseled by the involved physicians and desire to undergo this treatment for the above clearly-eligible conditions shall be scheduled for the following:

1. General pediatric clinic
2. Psychological evaluation
3. Social service evaluation
4. Physical therapy evaluation

These evaluations should be completed prior to the procedure being scheduled. Results of these evaluations will be reviewed by the involved orthopaedic staff physician. If there are not obvious contraindications to proceeding with the surgery, all information, including the orthopaedic surgery consultation, pediatric consultation, psycho-social and physical therapy evaluations will be forwarded to the Medical Director for approval. Following approval, the patient will be scheduled for surgery in a timely manner.

References:

Clinical Policy Bulletin: Ilizarov Method for Distraction Osteosynthesis. Aetna, 4/13/2007.
www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/200_299/0220.

Ilizarov Procedure, Cigna Healthcare Coverage Position, 7/15/2007.

The Use of Ilizarov Method in Children for Limb Lengthening, Hamdy RC, Fassier F, Lachapelle D, Gibis J, Gervais N, Duhaime M. Medscape General Medicine 1(1), 1999.