Introduction

The tibial diaphysis is the most frequent site of open fractures. The care of the parts is well codified. Controversies exist as to the means of stabilization of these fractures in emergency. The aim of this work was to evaluate the results of the treatment of open fractures of legs by interlocking nailing in emergency.

Patients and methods

It was a retrospective study of patients operated between June 2013 and December 2017, at the departmental university hospital of Ouémé Plateau, for open fracture of legs. A total of 37 patients were studied in this study. At the time of the initial trauma, the average age was 37.6 years (with extremes of 24 and 70 years). There were 26 men for 11 women. The therapeutic results were evaluated according to the criteria of Karlström and Olerud.

Results

Thirty-three (33) patients consolidated within an average of 4.2 months (2.2 and 8.3 months). Three patients had nonunion. Three surgical site infections (SSI) were successfully treated with antibiotic therapy. Functional evaluation was done according to Karlström and Olerud criteria. There were 20 cases of excellent results, 6 cases of good results, 3 cases of acceptable results and 4 cases of poor results.

Conclusion

In open fractures of Grade I, II tibia and some type III fractures, interlocking nailing can be performed with minimal complications and excellent functional results.

Keywords: open fractures; legs; emergency; interlocking nail