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**Dudko O.G.**

**LOWER EXTREMITY FUNCTIONAL STATE AFTER PLATE OSTEOSYNTHESIS OF LONG BONE FRACTURES**

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Osteosynthesis of bone fractures with plates is very common procedure. The number of these surgeries, as well as the removal surgeries for lower limb fractures is increasing. The fracture healing rate and the functional state of lower extremity after different types of plate osteosynthesis can be used to evaluate the results of plate osteosynthesis. Patients reported outcome measures scales are commonly used to determine the function of the extremity after surgery or other pathology. The Lower Extremity Functional Scale (LEFS) is a validated instrument that was used in many clinical studies.

The aim of the study was to evaluate the functional state and removal rate after plate osteosynthesis of bone fractures of femur and tibia and to check in which cases the plate is disturbing a patient and we have to remove it. The study was performed in the Traumatology and Orthopaedics Department of Bukovinian State Medical University during January 2021-November 2021. The patients after surgeries were examined clinically and radiologically, and LEFS was used to evaluate the functional state of lower extremity.

Osteosynthesis of fractures of lower extremities by means of plates and screws was performed in 96 cases. Plate osteosynthesis was performed for 32 femoral fractures and 64 tibial fractures. The removal surgeries were performed for 7 patients with femoral fractures and 10 patients with tibial fractures. The follow-up period was 20,5 months (from 3 to 38 months). The removal rate for tibial fractures was 28,4 %. For femoral fractures it was 17,9%. The average functional score after femoral and tibial fractures was  $49.41 \pm 1.96$ . Patients who had osteosynthesis