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Abstract

Case

Posttraumatic limb-length discrepancies secondary to femoral malunion can be treated with a variety of external or internal lengthening systems. The PRECICE nail is an intramedullary device featuring an external remote control to activate a magnetically driven internal distraction mechanism. While this intramedullary system avoids the soft-tissue complications common to external lengthening, it has unique mechanisms of failure that are difficult to diagnose and that require a systematic approach.

Conclusion

In this case report, we describe a failure to lengthen with the PRECICE femoral nail and the subsequent steps taken to determine the root cause. We believe that this failure represents the first reported case of malfunction of the PRECICE femoral nail distraction mechanism since its 2013 redesign.