CHAPTER 8.11

Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Surgery

Prof Dr Saw Aik

Distraction osteogenesis is an innovative procedure developed by G. Ilizarov in the middle of last century for the management of recalcitrant non-union and severe deformities. The procedure was introduced to Italy in early 80's before subsequently disseminated to the rest of the world. Distraction osteogenesis was first performed on Malaysia in 1988 when Dato' Dr K.S. Sivananthan lengthened two tibias and one femur with Ilizarov external fixator. In 1991, the first Ilizarov workshop was organised by in Kuala Lumpur were a few experts including Dr R. Cattaneo and Dr D. Paley were invited to train our local surgeons on the procedure. Subsequently, a group of academic staffs from University

Radiograph of showing left tibia lengthening (during and after the procedure) for an 11-year-old boy using Ilizarov external fixator (with permission of Dato' Dr K.S. Sivananthan).