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## Abstract

### Reconstruction of the Thoracic Vertebra with Ulrich ADD (Anterior Distraction Device)

Toru MARUYAMA, Tomoaki KITAGAWA, Satoru AOKI, Yukihiro ARAI, Takashi MATUSHITA  
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Teikyo University School of Medicine

Ulrich ADD (anterior distraction device), a kind of implants for the vertebral body reconstruction, has a unique feature: it can be extended after it was placed at the involved vertebral body, therefore, distraction force can be applied between cranial and caudal adjacent vertebral bodies. Its size variations facilitate its use for the single level reconstruction of the thoracic vertebra. Two cases of metastatic tumor of the thoracic vertebra were treated with Ulrich ADD.

Case 1: A 53-year-old female, who had undergone left mastectomy due to breast cancer at the age of 43, had metastatic lesion at T3. Because the lesion was located at the left half of the vertebral body and pedicle, left hemilaminectomy, pediclectomy, and posterior instrumentation were done and subsequently subtotal vertebral body resection and reconstruction with Ulrich ADD were done. Postoperative course was uneventful and the patient is disease-free ten months after surgery.

Case 2: A 56-year-old male without medical history suffered from acute-onset gait disturbance. Subtotal vertebral body resection, decompression, reconstruction with Ulrich ADD, and anterior instrumentation were done for the destructive lesion at T4. Diagnosis from resected specimen was adenocarcinoma, and the colon cancer was revealed by thorough inspection. The patient can walk without support five months after surgery.