The investigation about the cause of the failure during ureteroscopic lithotripsy for the upper ureter stones
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Introduction and Objectives: We investigated causes of the failure when patients diagnosed with upper ureter stones were operated ureteroscopic lithotripsy.

Materials and Methods: Between Jan, 2009 to Dec, 2013, 88 patients who underwent ureteroscopic lithotripsy after they were diagnosed with upper ureter stones. We classified Group 1 which was 62 patients succeeded in removal of stones and Group 2 which was 26 patients failed. Each group was compared with age, sex, stone size, the number of stones, Previous SWL history, lithotripter use status, body mass index, pyuria status, hydronephrosis status, acute pyelonephritis status, Previous URS history, safety guide wire use status, complications and operation time.

Results: There is no statistically significant difference between two groups about age, sex, stone size, the number of stones, Previous SWL history, lithotripter use status, body mass index, pyuria status, hydronephrosis status, acute pyelonephritis status, Previous URS history, safety guide wire use status and operation time. However, statistically significant success rate was observed when we used lithotripsy machine (p<0.001) and safety guide wire (p=0.006). There is no difference between two groups in complication rate. Causes of the failure were stone migration 20 patients (77%), ureteral injuries 2 patients (8%), access failure of ureteroscopy to stones 2 patients (8%), stone impaction 1 patient (4%) and renal pelvis stricture 1 patient (4%).

Conclusions: We expect that using lithotripsy machine and safety guide wire during ureteroscopic lithotripsy for upper ureter stone can help reduce operation failure.