

## Periprosthetic Femoral Fractures

SMG

Northern Region  
Sunderland Trauma Teaching  
Nov 2011

### Aims

- Aetiology
- Scale of the problem
- Risk factors
- Approach to management
  - classification
  - treatment
- Outcomes

### Aetiology

- Intraoperative
- Postoperative

### Intraoperative pp#

- Increasing incidence

- Primary THR
  - Overall 1%
  - Cemented 0.3 - 1.2%
  - Uncemented 3 - 5.4%
- Revision
  - Cemented 3 - 6.3%
  - Uncemented 7 - 20%

Davidson, JBJS-Am 2008

### Intraoperative pp#

- Risk factors
  - Patient
  - Surgeon
  - Implant or technique



### Intraoperative pp#

- Risk factors
  - Patient
    - Osteoporosis (age, female sex, steroids...)
    - Metabolic bone disease
    - Abnormal bone (Pagets, osteopetrosis...)
    - Deformity
    - Previous surgery
    - Osteolysis
  - Surgeon
  - Implant or technique

### Intraoperative pp#

- Risk factors
  - Patient
  - Surgeon
    - Experience
    - Surgical approach
      - Anterolateral > posterior
    - MIS techniques
      - Adequate exposure & ST release, careful dislocation & implant removal reduce risk
  - Implant or technique

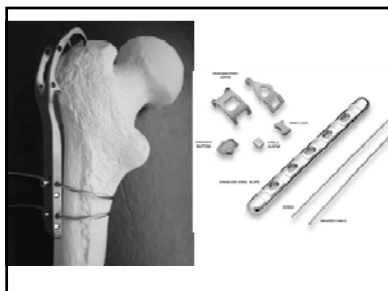
### Intraoperative pp#

- Risk factors
  - Patient
  - Surgeon
  - Implant or technique
    - Uncemented stems
    - Longer stems (femoral bow)
    - Impaction grafting (4-32%)
    - Prophylactic cables, strut grafts can reduce risk

### Intraoperative pp#

- Be aware of risk
- Pre-op planning
- Prophylactic measures
- High index of suspicion, 'change of resistance'
- Explore / on-table imaging
- Revision or fixation
- Implant must be stable at finish



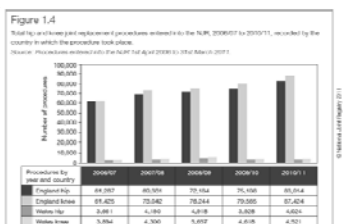


### Postoperative pp#

### Scale of problem

- Reported rates ~1% (0.1-2%) after primary THR
- Lindahl, J Arthroplasty 2005
  - Increasing incidence
  - Annual incidence 0.07% for first 18yr after THR
  - Accumulated incidence 0.4% after primary THR
  - 2.1% after revision THR
  - 80% type B fractures

### Increasing numbers of THR



### Increasing uncemented THR

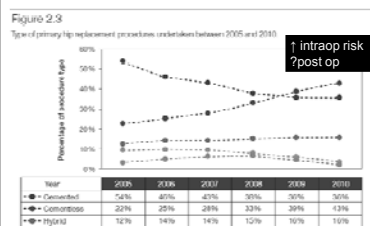


Table 3.4 Summary of NJR data, April 2003 to December 2010

Year of operation	Primary hip	Revision hip
Number of all NJR records		
2003 (April-Dec)	26,432	2,826
2004	48,032	5,238
2005	57,490	6,342
2006	59,715	6,889
2007	66,616	7,436
2008	69,859	7,633
2009	69,936	7,848
2010	68,907	7,852
All years	466,967	51,784

0.4% of 466,967 = 1868

Table 3.9 Patient characteristics for hip revision procedures in 2010, according to procedure type

	Single stage revision	Two stage revision	Two stage revision with cement	Two stage revision with cement and liner change	Total
No.	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	4,444
%	25%	25%	25%	25%	100%
Female	5,717	5,717	5,717	5,717	22,868
Male	4,326	4,326	4,326	4,326	17,338
Average age	70.8	69.3	67.7	72.34	69.83
SD	10.8	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Interquartile range	58.2-75.2	57.7-75.3	57.1-75.9	60.8-80.0	58.1-75.0
Gender					
Female	5,717	5,717	5,717	5,717	22,868
Male	4,326	4,326	4,326	4,326	17,338
Procedure type					
Single stage revision	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	4,444
Two stage revision	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	4,444
Two stage revision with cement	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	4,444
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Two stage revision with cement and liner change	1,111	1,111	1,111	1,111	4,444

731 revisions for pp# in 2010  
Not counting fixations

### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
- Weakened bone
- Implant/technique




### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
  - Female
  - Old age
  - Inflammatory arthritis
  - Medications
  - More active, younger
- Weakened bone
- Implant/technique




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### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
- Weakened bone
  - Osteoporosis
  - Loosening/osteolysis
  - Stress risers
- Implant/technique



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**Implant loosening**

- Bethea- 75% of 31 pp# associated with loose implant CORR 1982
- Beals- 27% of 93 pp# loose CORR 1996

### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
- Weakened bone
  - Osteoporosis
  - Loosening/osteolysis
  - Stress risers
    - Cortical perforation
    - Screw holes
    - Press-fit stem tip
- Implant/technique


**Cortical perforation**

- Larson- strength only 44% of intact femur J Orthop Res 1991
- Talab- 4 # of 14 perforations in 500 THR CORR 1979

**?bone grafting and protected WBing**

### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
- Weakened bone
  - Osteoporosis
  - Loosening/osteolysis
  - Stress risers
    - Cortical perforation
    - Screw holes
    - Press-fit stem tip
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### Postoperative pp#, risk factors

- Patient
- Weakened bone
- Implant/technique
  - ?higher risk cemented
  - Large press-fit stems
  - Impaction grafting

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**Mayo clinic 1997**

- 0.6% of 17,579 cemented primary
- 0.4% of 2,078 uncemented primary
- 2.8% of 3,265 cemented revisions
- 1.5% of 1,132 uncemented revisions

**?elects age & bone quality in those chosen for cemented**

### Assessment & management

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History
  - What happened?
  - Details of previous surgery, date, implants etc
  - ?pain & mobility prior to #
  - Anything to suggest infection
  - Co-morbidities

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History
- Exam

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History
- Exam
  - Soft tissues
  - Scars
  - ?infection
  - Neurovascular status
  - General health

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History
- Exam
- Investigations

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- History
- Exam
- Investigations
  - Bloods, inc ESR, CRP
  - ?aspiration / biopsy
  - General work-up
  - Xrays
  - ?CT
    - esp for acetabulum
    - ?osteolysis / poly wear
    - Component position

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- X rays:

### Assessment

- What do you need to know?
- X rays:
- Fracture location
- Fracture pattern
- Stem stability- is it fixed or loose?
- Quality of remaining bone stock

## Classification

Vancouver- Duncan & Masri, ICL 1995

- Validated, reliable
  - Brady, J Arthroplasty 2000
  - Rayan, JBJs-Br, 2008
- Allows: assessment of fracture management planning

## Classification

Vancouver- Duncan & Masri, ICL 1995



## Classification

Vancouver- Duncan & Masri, ICL 1995

Type A 4%

Trochanteric region



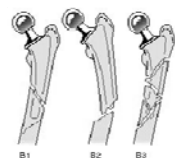
## Classification

Vancouver- Duncan & Masri, ICL 1995

Type B 87%

Around stem or slightly distal to tip

B1-stable 19%  
B2-loose 45%  
B3-inadequate bone stock 37%



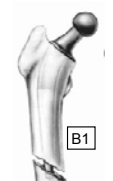
## Type B

Stem stability?

Yes

No

Adequate remaining bone stock?



## Classification

Vancouver- Duncan & Masri, ICL 1995

Type C 9%

Well below stem



## Treatment

Goals

- Fracture union
- Maintain or obtain functional prosthesis
- Restoration of WBing function

Options

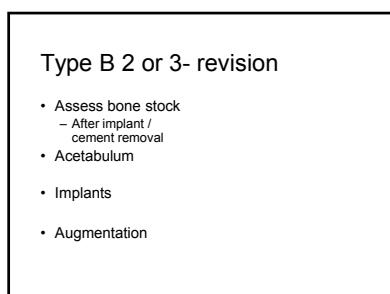
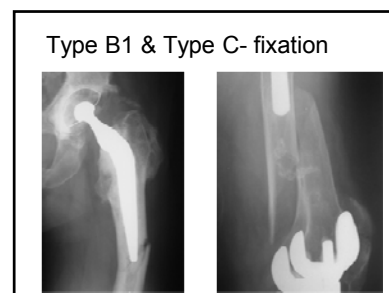
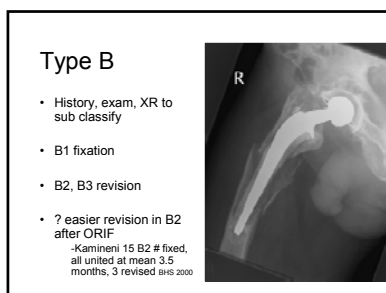
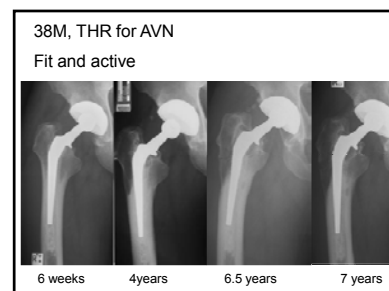
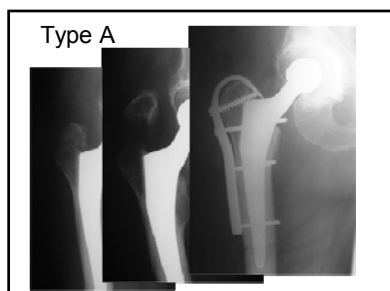
- Prevention
- Protected WBing
- Non operative management
- Revision
- Fixation

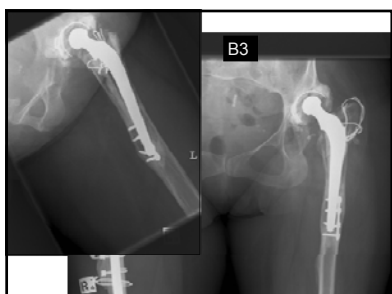
## Classify & plan treatment

## Type A

- If fracture stable- ?non-op unstable- fix
- If implant loose- revise







### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum:
  - Loose, worn, malpositioned?
- Implants
- Augmentation



### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum:
  - Loose, worn, malpositioned?
- Implants
- Augmentation



### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Must have axial & rotational stability
- By-pass distal extent of # by at least 2 cortical diameters
- Fixation as proximal as possible but as distal as necessary

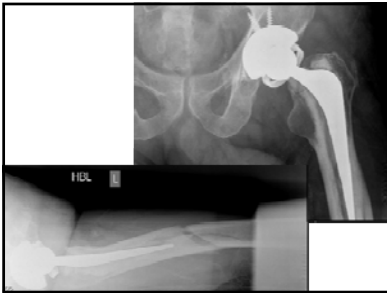
### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Is the isthmus intact?
- Is there a need for distal screw fixation?
- Is the whole femur deficient?



### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Is the isthmus intact?
- Is there a need for distal screw fixation?
- Is the whole femur deficient?

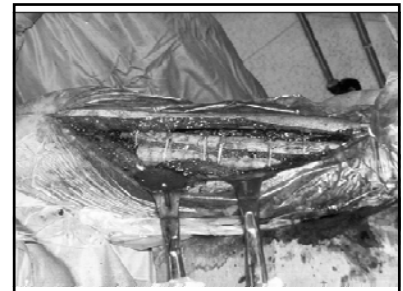


### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Acetabulum
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Is the isthmus intact?
- Is there a need for distal screw fixation?
- Is the whole femur deficient?

### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- Assess bone stock
- Fracture pattern
  - Long spiral
    - Lower bending moment
    - Heal faster
  - Transverse / short oblique
    - Higher bending moment
    - Heal slower
- Acetabulum
- Implants
- Augmentation
  - Additional support
    - Strut grafts
  - Restoration of bone stock
    - Impaction bone grafting



### Type B 2 or 3- revision

- These are complex cases
- Plan carefully
- Be prepared!

### Type B1 & Type C







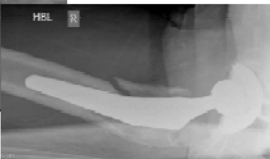
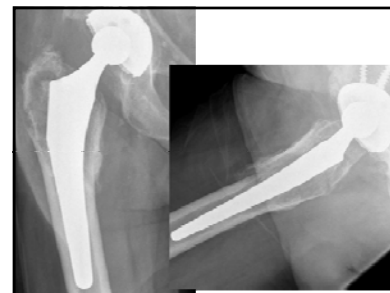
### Treatment options

- Non operative
  - Undisplaced, stable #, good bone

Johansson JBJS-A 1981  
Cooke JBJS-B 1988

# missed in A&E  
?low type A or B1


### Treatment options

- Non operative
  - Very elderly, unfit
  - If # reduction can be achieved & maintained

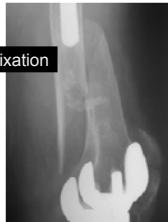
### Treatment options

- Adolphson- 21 treated in traction, all united.  
6 reoperation for malunion  
Arch Orth Tr Surg 1987
- Beals- 93 # in 86 patients  
28% treated non-op  
45% malunion or marked shortening  
11% non-union  
CORR 1996
- Mont & Maar- review 487 patients satisfactory  
outcome with traction in 57% along stem, 43% at tip,  
77% distal to tip  
J Arthroplasty 1994

### Type B1 & Type C




Internal fixation



not  
How to fix pp#


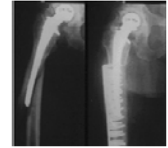
not  
How to fix pp#

- Lag screws alone
- Circlage alone



not  
How to fix pp#

- Mennen plates

not  
How to fix pp#



not  
How to fix pp#

- Noorda- 36 pp# treated with Mennen plate  
10 non-union with 20-30° varus  
8 plates broke

JBUS-A 2002

### Type C

- # distal to stem tip
- Standard principles of fracture fixation
- May need to overlap distal part of stem to avoid stress riser



### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation



### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- High rate of fixation failure in some reports, up to 30-50%
- Probably B2 misclassified as B1

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Careful preop X ray analysis
  - Intact interface
  - Lucent lines, I-C; B-C; I-C
  - Cement mantle # alone is OK
- Fluoroscopy
- Intraoperative assessment

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Careful preop X ray analysis
- Fluoroscopy
  - Screen, look for movement
- Intraoperative assessment

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Careful preop X ray analysis
- Fluoroscopy
- Intraoperative assessment
  - If stem tip accessible through #
  - Arthrotomy, dislocate & test

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- 45 stems classified pre-op as B1
- 20% (9) of stems found to be unstable, reclassified as B2 intra-op

Corten, JBJS-Br 2009

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Increased failure:
  - Medial comminution
  - Varus malreduction



### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation
- Stem / cement filling canal
- Proximal fracture extension
- Large bending moment

### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation



### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation



### Type B1

- More difficult
- Assessment of stem stability
- Accurate reduction
- Control of proximal fragment
- Implants
- Augmentation

### Fixation of pp fractures Testing of plate constructs

- Plates with cables alone
- Plate + prox cables, distal bicortical screws
- Plate + prox unicortical screws, distal bicortical
- Plate + prox uni + cables, distal bicortical
- Cortical allografts + cables

Tested in axial compression, bending, torsion

### Fixation of pp fractures Testing of plate constructs

- Plates with unicortical screws & cables proximal + bicortical screws distal best
- Multifilament cables better than monofilament

Schmotzer, J Arthroplasty 1996

### Locking Compression Plates

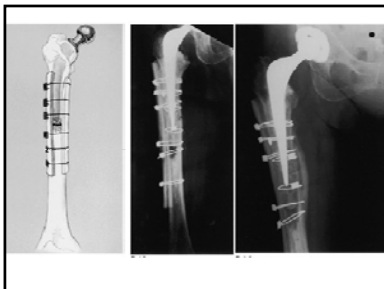
- Well suited to osteoporotic bone
- Angle stable construct
- Blood supply preserved
- Enables MIPO
- Coaxial combination holes



### Cortical strut allografts

- Use cables not wire to attach
- 3 cables in each segment
- 2 struts, lateral and anterior
- Avoid medial stripping
- Use struts 1/3 diameter of host bone
- Freeze dried less stable in torsion than fresh frozen

Haddad, JBJS Am 2002

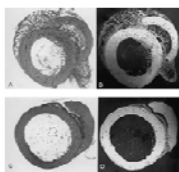


### Cortical strut allografts

- Chandler- anatomic union 16 of 19# at 4 mths  
2 non-union, 1 delayed  
Sem Arthroplasty 1993
- Haddad- 19 strut grafts alone, 21 graft + plate  
39 united, returned to preinjury level  
JBJS-A 2002

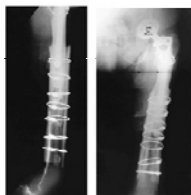
### On-lay cortical allograft struts

- Cook- improved healing with OP1 CORR 2000



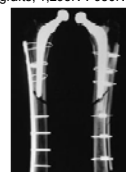
### On-lay cortical allograft struts

- Expensive- \$2500 femoral allograft, limited availability
- Difficult to shape
- ?disease transmission
- Weaken over 4-6mths



### Biomechanical testing

- On-lay cortical allograft struts
- Dennis- Ogden plate biomechanically stronger than 2 strut grafts, 1,295N v 950N JOT 2001



### Plate fixation

- Ogden- 100% union 10 #. No complications Orth Trans 1978
- Corten- 97% (29 of 30) united at 6.4mths JBJS-Br 2009
- Sen- 83% union, of 12# Acta Orth Belg 2007
- Ricci- 100% union of 41 # JBJS-A 2006

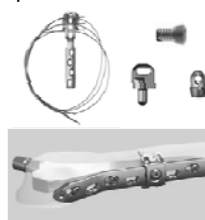
### Current Concepts for B1#

- Cable -plate systems designed for pp#
- Single lateral fixation device
- Biplanar fixation



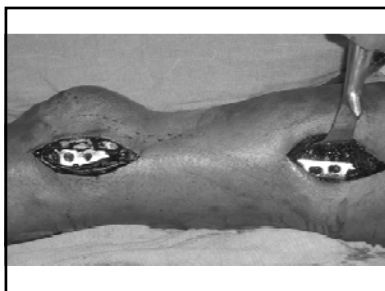
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### Current Concepts for B1#

- Cable –plate systems designed for pp#
- Single lateral fixation device
- Biplanar fixation
- Less invasive (possible)
- Indicated when:
  - No medial comminution
  - Accurate reduction
- Fix long
  - At least 4 bicortical equivalent either side of #
- Combined screws & cables



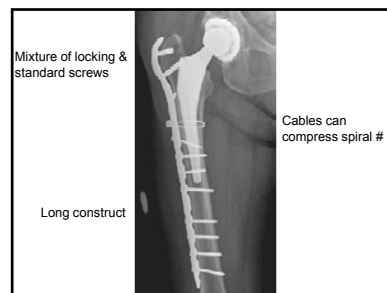
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### Current Concepts for B1#

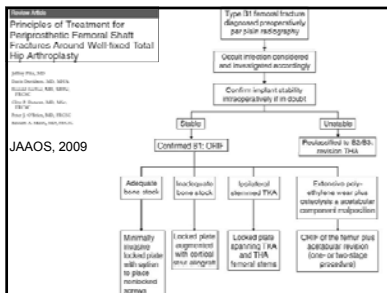
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- Single lateral fixation device
- Biplanar fixation
- Less invasive (possible)
- Indicated when:
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  - Accurate reduction
- Fix long
  - At least 4 bicortical equivalent either side of #
- Combined screws & cables



### Current Concepts for B1#

- Cable –plate systems designed for pp#
- Single lateral fixation device
- Biplanar fixation
- Wider exposure required
- Indicated for :
  - more unstable #
  - Poor bone quality
- 2 plates or plate + cortical strut graft





### Summary

- Uncommon but serious problem after joint replacement
- Incidence increasing
- Treatment depends on
  - location & pattern of #
  - stability of implant
  - adequacy of bone stock
- Fixation or revision
- Phone a friend!

### Summary

BE PREPARED!

Any questions?