ELBOW FRACTURES THE PLACE OF TOTAL ELBOW ARTHROPLASTY



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Management Philosophy

- Rigid internal fixation
- Minimal immobilisation

John et al - J.Bone Joint Surg 1994:76B;793-6

- O.R.I.F 49 patients
- Age 75-90 years
- Very good results 31%
- Good results 49%
- Fair / Poor results 20%
- But 5% constant pain

Pereles et al – J.Trauma 1997:43; 578-84

- O.R.I.F 18 patients
- Age over 60 years
- Clinical and SF-36 Health Survey
- 28% Moderate pain during activity

Caja et al – Injury 1994:25;433-8

- O.R.I.F. 22 patients
- Movement / Functional outcome depends on age
- Even with early mobilisation results worse in the elderly

Distal Humeral Fractures: Total Elbow Arthroplasty

Cobb and Morrey – J.Bone Joint Surg 1997:79A;826-32

- 20 patients
- Age 48-92
- Mayo Score 15 Excellent 5 Good
- Mean movement 25 130
- But 9 patients had rheumatoid arthritis

Distal Humeral Fractures: Total Elbow Arthroplasty

Gambirasio et al – J Bone Joint Surg 2001:83B;974 - 8

- 10 patients
- Mean age 84 years
- Mean Mayo Score 94
- Mean follow up only 17 months

Distal Humeral Fractures: Total Elbow Arthroplasty

Garcia et al – J Bone Joint Surg 2002:84B;812 - 6

- 19 patients
- Mean age 73 years
- Mean follow up 3 years
- Mean DASH 23 (0.92 63.3)
- Mean Mayo 93(80 100)











Total Elbow Arthroplasty

Indications

- Cobb and Morrey 1997
- Mean age of patients 72 years
- Has that changed over the years

Total Elbow Arthroplasty

- Review of the literature
- E-mail survey

Literature Review 1995 - 2005

50 papers

- 2123 T.E.A.

6 papers

- T.E.A. for distal humeral fractures

1 paper

- T.E.A. for non-union

1 paper

- T.E.A. for post-traumatic arthritis

E-mail Survey

"When would you perform a total elbow arthroplasty for a distal humeral fracture, taking into account the patient's age, sex, occupation and co-morbidities".

E-mail Survey – Acute Fractures

- 1. Comminuted fractures age 75 yrs +
- 2. Comminuted fractures with osteopenia age 70 yrs +
- 3. Comminuted fractures with degenerative arthritis 60 yrs +
- 4. Comminuted fractures with inflammatory arthritis- no age cut off
- 5. Comminuted fractures with pathological bone- no age cut off
- 6. Comminuted fractures with reduced life expectancy- no age cut off

E-mail Survey

Distal humeral fracture non union, age 70 yrs +

Post traumatic arthritis, age 60 yrs +











Reconstruction in the presence of bone loss at the elbow



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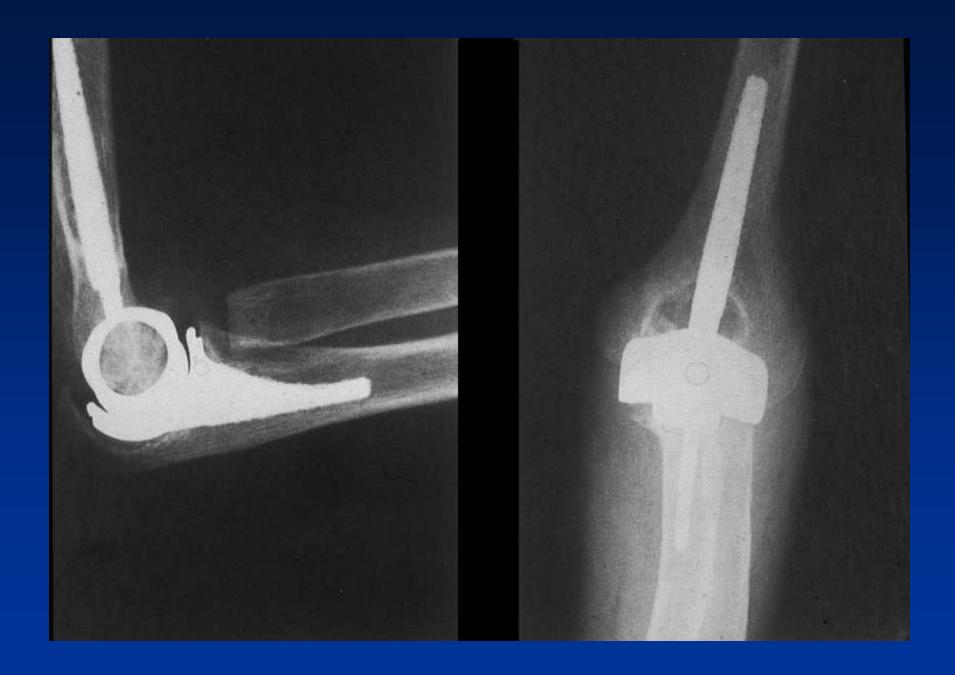
CAUSES OF BONE LOSS

- Inflammatory disease
- Elbow fractures
- Failed total elbow arthroplasty

- Standard implant
- Custom implant
- Standard implant with impaction grafting
- Standard implant with autograft
- Standard implant with allograft

Standard implant





Custom implant





Standard implant with impaction grafting







Standard implant with autograft







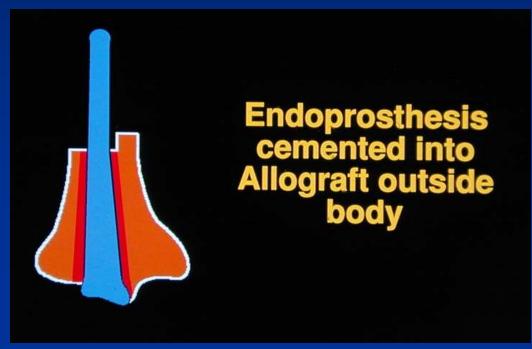


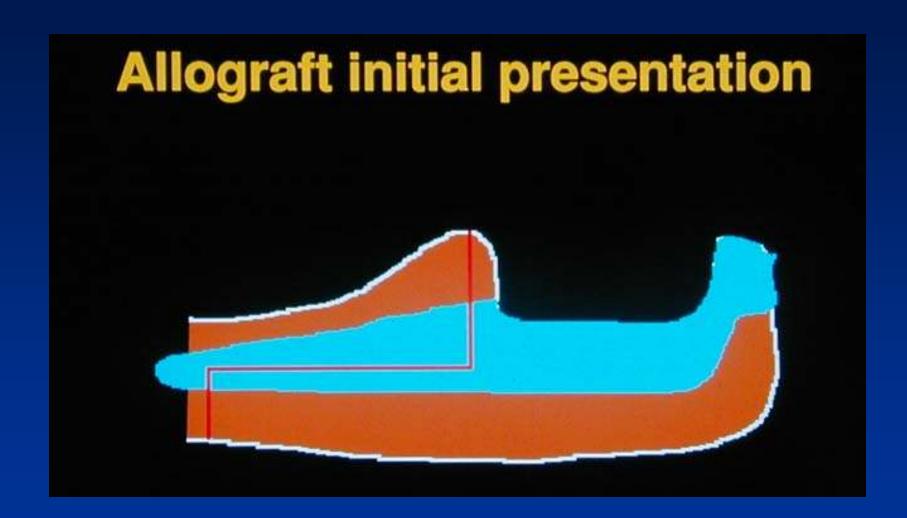


RECONSTRUCTION OPTIONS

Standard implant with allograft











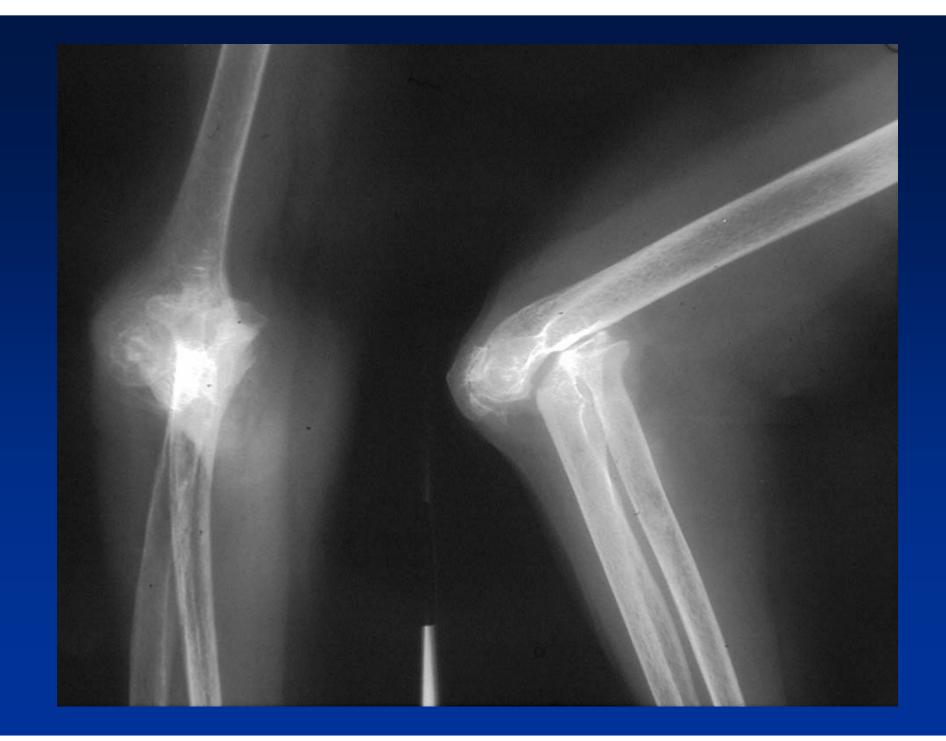


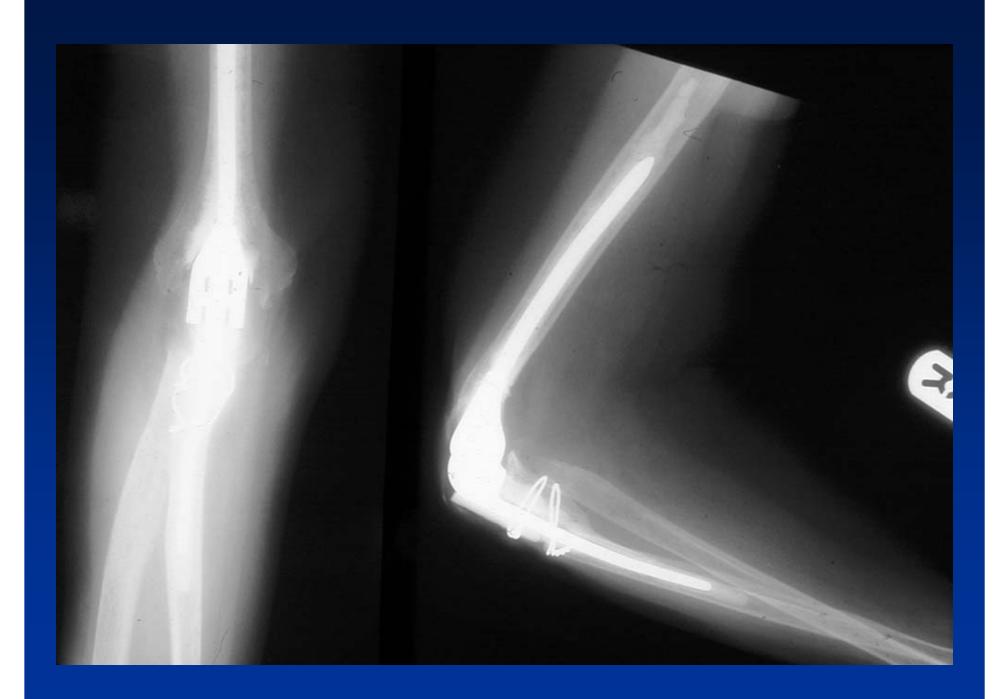








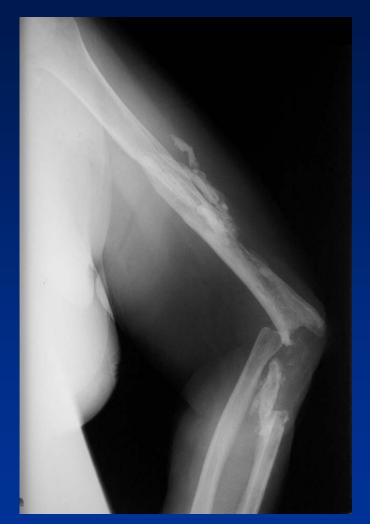




































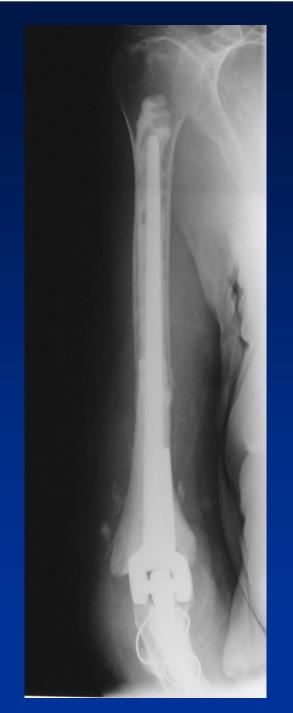












































TOTAL ELBOW ARTHROPLASTY FOR BONE LOSS

Summary

- Choosing the appropriate reconstruction technique can enable elbow salvage even in the presence of massive bone loss