The diagnosis and management of common shoulder disorders Jaime Candal-Couto Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon

Bones & Joints



Glenohumeral joint











Package





ANTERIOR



POSTERIOR



The Subacromial Space

Bones & Joints

 ELEVATION involves all 5 JOINTS
 EXTERNAL ROTATION only involves GLENOHUMERAL JOINT



















The Rotator Cuff

Subscapularis
Supraspinatus
Infraspinatus
Teres minor

Rotator cuff IntervalLong-head of biceps





The Rotator Cuff

Rotate the humerus with respect to the scapula
Compress the humeral head into the glenoid fossa, a critical stabilizing mechanism
Provide fine muscular balance of humeral motion











supraspinatus

Critical zone, Hypovascular? Prone to calcific deposits and tears

Nerves

Cervical Spine : C5/6
Brachial plexus:

Branches to scapular muscles
Axillary nerve
Suprascapular nerve

Common Shoulder Disorders



SHOULDER PROBLEMS: Pain and....




Making a diagnosis... Pain and:

<u>STIFF</u>	UNSTABLE	<u>"PAIN & WEAKNESS</u> ON ELEVATION"
Lack of External Rotation	Shoulder dislocates	Pain on elevation, IR, Night pain
MUST HAVE X- Ray	?recurrent	EXTREMELLY COMMON
Arthritis, AVN, tumour	MRI arthrogram	Rotator Cuff tears, Biceps tendon, Subacormial impingement, AC arthritis
FROZEN SHOULDER		

1: THE STIFF SHOULDER

LACK OF EXTERNAL ROTATION ■ X-RAY ■ NORMAL: ADHESIVE CAPSULITIS/FROZEN SHOULDER ■ ABNORMAL: ■ ARTHRITIS ■ TUMOUR ■ AVASCULAR NECROSIS ■ SEPSIS







Adhesive Capsulitis

 Pathophysiology uncertain but numerous theories proposed

Rotator interval primarily involved

 What occurs is a very significant synovitis followed by capsular and ligamentous fibrosis
 NORMAL X-RAY

Adhesive capsulitis

Middle aged
Bilateral but not usually simultaneous
F>M
Common in diabetics

Never make the diagnosis of frozen shoulder in the young or the elderly!!



ADHESIVE CAPSULITIS

MY PRACTICE

PATIENTS WANT TO GET BETTER TOMORROW RATHER THAN IN 2 YEARS TIME.

 IF EARLY: GLENOHUMERAL INJECTION
 IF ALREADY STIFF: MUA + INJECTION
 IF STIFF AND LATE: ARTHROSCOPIC CAPSULAR RELEASE

ADHESIVE CAPSULITIS

 MANAGEMENT VARIES WIDELY
 NATURAL HISTORY?
 PAIN-STIFFNESS-RESOLUTION
 DOES IT ALWAYS GET BETTER AFTER 2 YEARS?

ADHESIVE CAPSULITIS

Very good results in primary condition
Post-traumatic and diabetics less predictable.
URGENT REFERAL

THE ARTHRITIC SHOULDER

OA
RhA
AVN
CUFF ARTHROPATHY

THE ARTHRITIC SHOULDER

 INDICATION FOR SURGERY: INTRACTABLE PAIN
 SURGERY: JOINT REPLACEMENT
 ARTHROSCOPIC AND SOFT TISSUE SURGERY UNLIKELY TO HELP

JOINT REPLACEMENT

- STATE OF ROTATOR CUFF IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN PREDICTING OUTCOME:
- OA & AVN= GOOD PAIN RELIEF AND FUNCTION
- RhA & CUFF ARTHROPATHY: PAIN RELIEF ONLY.

ARTHROPLASTY OPTIONS

- HUMERAL HEMIARTHROPLASTY VS TOTAL SHOULDER REPLACEMENT
 HUMERAL RESURFACING VS STEMMED PROSTHESIS
- REVERSE POLARITY PROSTHESIS.









Cuff Arthropathy

Elderly
Pseudoparalysis
Weakness>stiffness













2: Recurrent Instability

■ Traumatic ■ TUBS ■ "Tight Tom" ■ "Torn Loose" Atraumatic ■ AMBRI ■ "Slack Alice" ■ "Born Loose" Traumatic Structural Instability

Muscle Pattern Instability

Atraumatic Structural Instability

Static Stabilizers (structural)





ANTERIOR



POSTERIOR

TRAUMATIC INSTABILITY





Traumatic recurrent anterior instability

Spectrum:
 dislocation------subluxation

Young dislocators >90% capsulolabral injury








Traumatic recurrent anterior subluxation

- Making the diagnosis is the challenge
 MRI
 MRI arthrogram
 EUA and arthroscopy
- If pathology confirmed, treat as recurrent dislocators
- Impingement in the young: instability till proven otherwise



Traumatic recurrent anterior instability

- Physio may help rehabilitation but does not prevent further dislocations.
- Operative treatment clearly superior at reducing <u>recurrence</u>
- Surgery reduces risk of post traumatic arthritis.

OPEN SURGERY:



OPEN SURGERY:



OPEN SURGERY:

REPAIR & TIGHTNEN THE CAPSULE

ARTHROSCOPIC SURGERY:

GRAB THE LABRUM NO NEED TO CUT HERE AND ATTACH IT TO GLENOID



STABILIZATION SURGERY:

15-20% RECURRENCENOT WITHOUT RISKS!

RISK OF RECURRENCE

STUDIES VARY WIDELY BUT ROUGHLY...



Traumatic anterior Iinstability

Recurrent: Surgery
First-time:

Splint in External rotation
Surgery if recurrent



Age >40

High incidence of <u>unhappy</u> patients
ON-GOING:
PAIN
WEAKNES
<u>STIFFNESS</u>

The rotator cuff is the weak link





POSTERO-SUPERIOR CUFF

ANTERIOR

POSTERIOR



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DO NOT MISS A LARGE TRAUMATIC CUFF TEAR IN A MIDDLE AGE WORKING PERSON AFTER A SHOULDER DISLOCATION

IF YOU REPARE IT EARLY YOU WILL IMPROVE THE PROGNOSIS DRAMATICALLY

Atraumatic Structural Instability

 SURGERY HISTORICALLY HAS PRODUCED MANY DISASTERS
 THERMAL CAPSULORRHAPHY

Capsular Shift May help



Muscle pattern instability

NEED SPECIALIST PHYSIO
Diagnostic challenge
Bizarre scapulo-humeral rhythm and abnormal patterns of muscle contractions

3: "Pain on Elevation"

"It hurts when I raise my arm and when I reach out for things.

It is really sore at night, can not find a comfortable position

I find it difficult to reach my back"

"My GP said it was Tendinitis and gave me an injection which took the pain away for a few weeks,
The physiotherapist thinks it is Bursitis. Also talks about Impingement What do you think?"

"I think you may have a Cuff Tear"

It is all very confusing















supraspinatus

Critical zone, Hypovascular? Prone to calcific deposits and tears

Failure of rotator cuff is commonly linked to shoulder symptoms AGE IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR **CONTRIBUTING TO CUFF FAILURE**
FORCE REQUIRED TO DISRUPT CUFF TENDON FIBRES



THICKENED C-A LIGAMENT

TENDON DEGENERATION





ADDITIONAL FACTORS

Compressive loads against coraco-acromial arch
Critical zone more susceptible
Changes in the coraco-acromial arch
Role of trauma?

"PROGRESSIVE CUFF FAILURE"

WHEN A FIBRE OF TENDON FAILS...

- Increases the load on the neighbouring, unruptured fibres, giving rise to the "zipper phenomenon"
- Detaches muscle fibres from bone, diminishing the force that the cuff can deliver
- Distorts local anatomy & blood supply, leading to progressive ischaemia
- Exposes more tendon to lytic enzymes of joint fluid

WHEN A FIBRE OF TENDON FAILS

Inflammatory response
Ischaemia
Mechanical compromise

■ All possible causes of pain



What do we see

Inflamed tendon

Partial thickness tears

Full thickness tears

Massive tears

AGE















DO TEARS HEAL??



NATURAL HISTORY

80% of partial thickness tears will progress
 ...but symptoms may improve
 Yamanaka et al 1983

Traumatic Cuff Tears

Healthy tendon is extremely strong and bony avulsion more likely to occur.

Acute traumatic tears occur in degenerative cuff.

Incidence

Cadaveric studies: 5-30%
 More common in older groups
 Partial thickness tears twice as common

Incidence

MRI & Arthrogram studies in <u>ASYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS:</u>
50% over 70 years of age
80% over 80 years of age
Partial thickness tears commoner in younger groups (24% age 40-60, 4% age less than 40)

Bilateral tears are extremely common!

Clearly, we do not understand why some patients are symptomatic

Clinical Scenarios:

Asymptomatic Cuff Failure Stiffness Posterior Capsule tightness ■ Weakness Pain on muscle contraction "Cuff pain" Crepitus Cuff Arthropathy

Clinical examination

Differential Diagnosis

ACJ arthritis
LHB patology
Suprascapular nerve pathology
C5-6 cervical spondylosis

Treatment

Since we do not understand the correlation of pathophysiology and symptoms very well ...

...it is even more difficult to know how to best treat the patient! Non-operative management should be the first line of action But consider surgery in acute traumatic full-thickness tears (eg after dislocation) Many patients may improve their symptoms despite progression of cuff failure

Non-operative management

ReassurancePhysiotherapySubacromial Injections





Open or Arthroscopic
Subacromial decompression

CA ligament release
Acromioplasty
Debridement of bursa

Cuff repair



If non-operative management fails
Severe symptoms
Longstanding symptoms

Can be extremely successfulCan be a waste of time

Rapidly evolving field!

Outcomes of surgery...

- Confusing, because indications for surgery are not strict
- Typically "70-80% good-excellent results at 5 years"
- Lack of comparative studies!!!
C-A Ligament release



Analogy with Trigger finger etc??











Other causes of pain on elevation

ACJ pathologyLong Head of biceps pathology

ACJ PAIN



ACJ PAIN

ARTHRITIS
AVN IN WEIGHT LIFTERS
Intra-articular disc related pain ?

ACJ PAIN

Localised pain to ACJ?Other pains in shoulder also?

ACJ injection

Very good diagnostic valueMay provide long term relief

ACJ RESECTION

REMOVAL OF LATERAL 50-10MM OF CLAVICLE.
 OPEN SURGERY

ARTHROSCOPIC SURGERYUSUALLY SUCCESSFUL



POORLY UNDERSTOOD
"HOURGLASS BICEPS"
"TRIGGER BICEPS"



01.mpg







BICEPS TENOTOMYBICEPS TENODESIS



Management Summary

Stiff shoulder: X-ray, consider early referral Instability: MRI arthrogram ■ Traumatic recurrent: Surgery Other: Specialist Physio Pain on elevation: USS +/- Xray Differentiate traumatic cuff tear from degenerative cuff defect Be aware of possible diagnosis ■ Conservative treatment first

