

Intra-articular Lower Limb Fractures

PV Fearon

7th March 2011

Part 1

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals 
NHS Foundation Trust

pipkin

Type I



Type II



Type III



Type IV

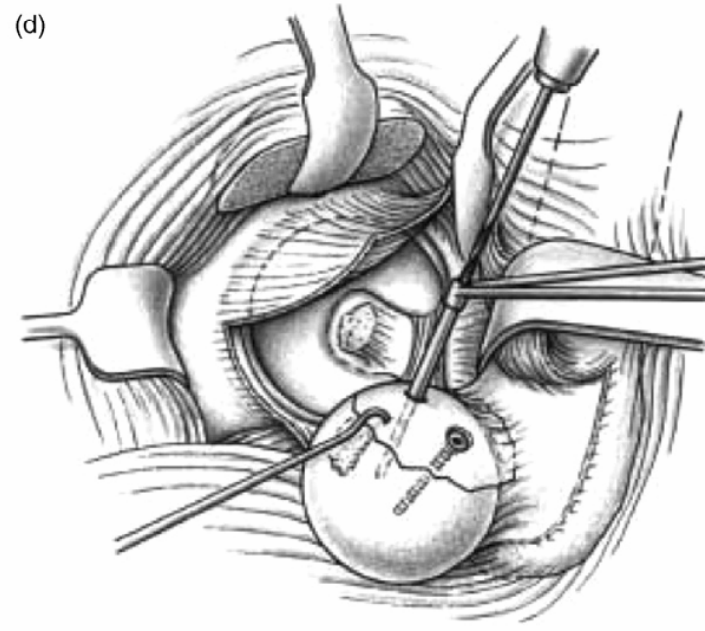
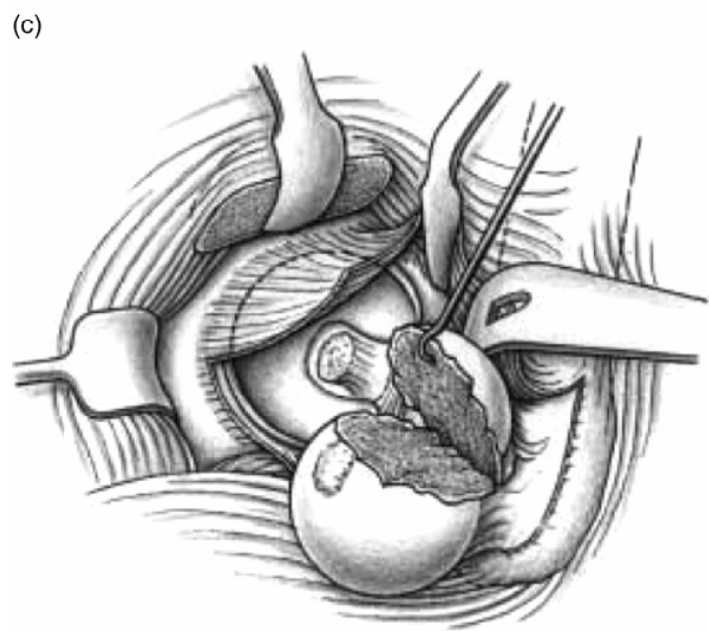
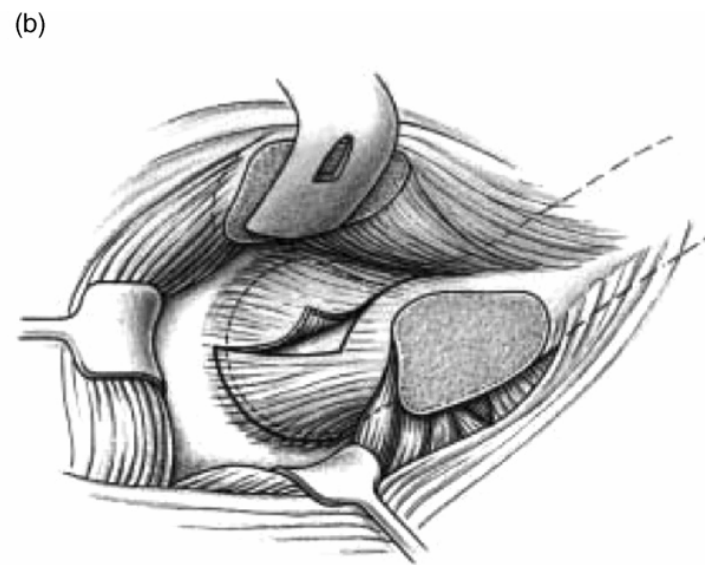
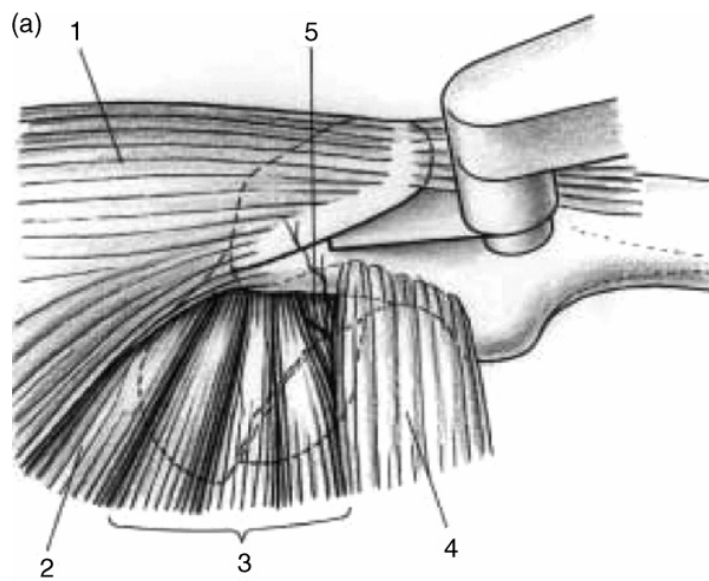


Type I, femoral head fracture inferior to the fovea centralis

Type II, fracture extended superior to the fovea centralis

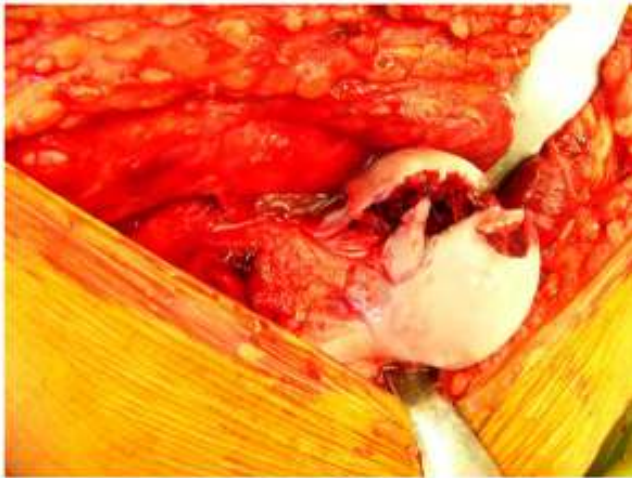
Type III, any femoral head # with an associated femoral neck #

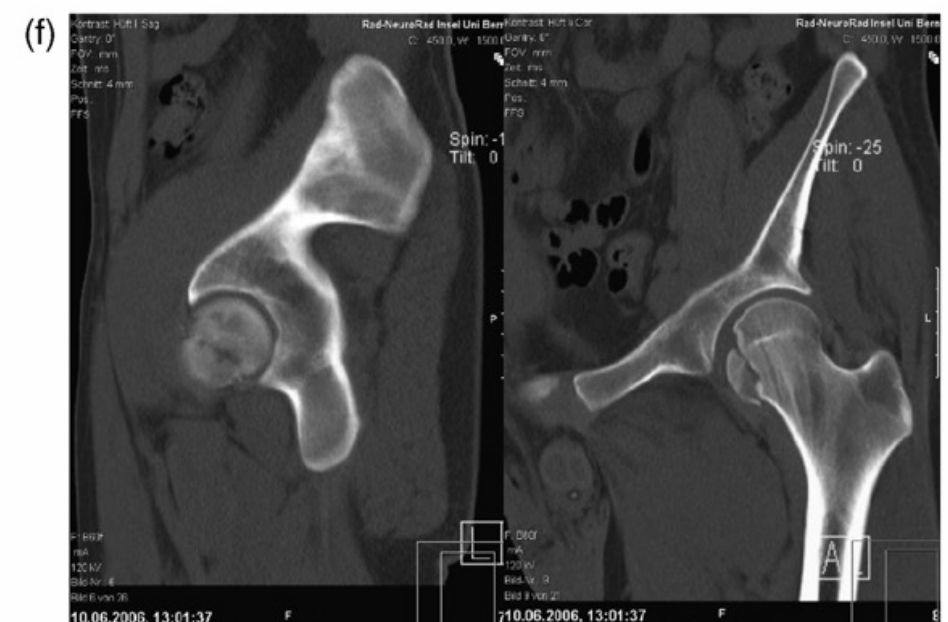
Type IV, any femoral head # with an associated acetabular #





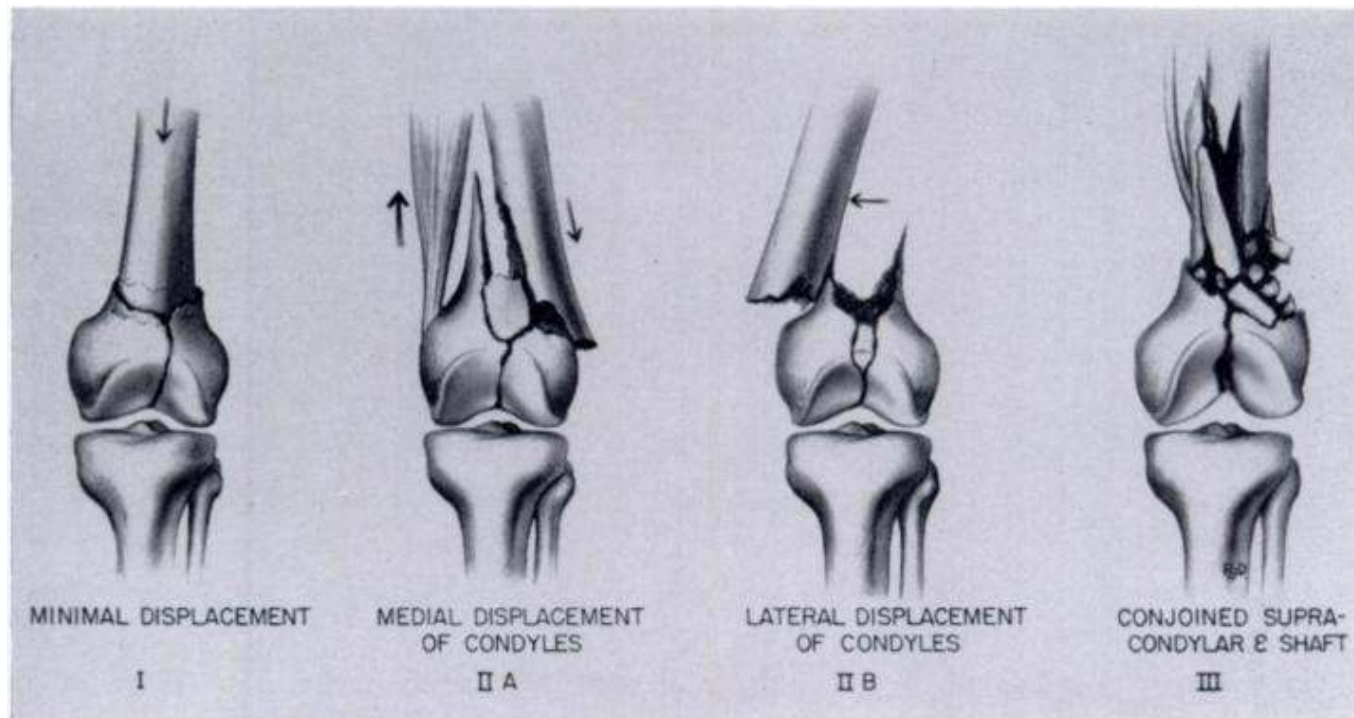
Femoral head injuries: Which treatment strategy can be recommended?
Henle et al.,
Injury, Int. J. Care Injured (2007) 38, 478—488





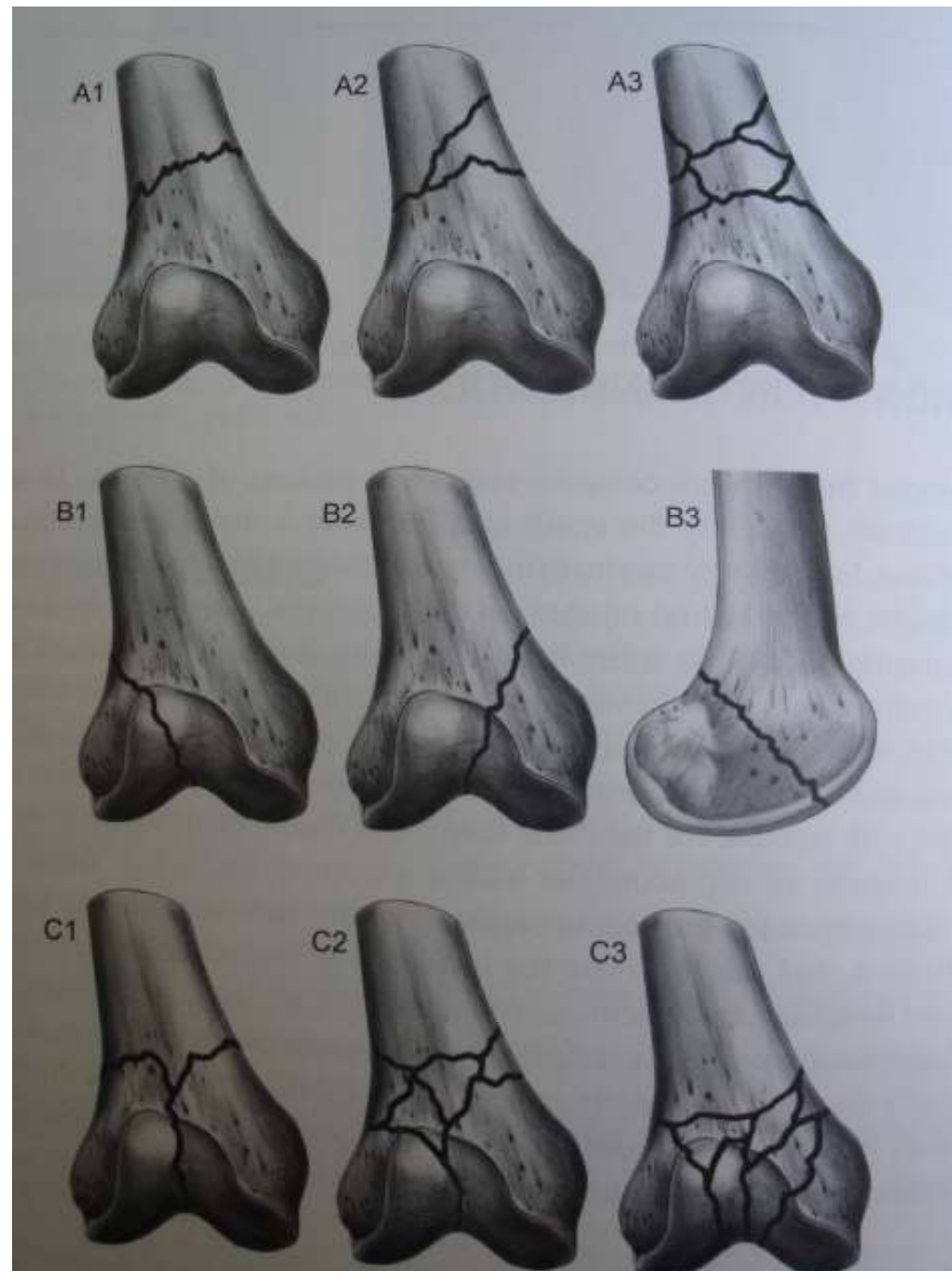


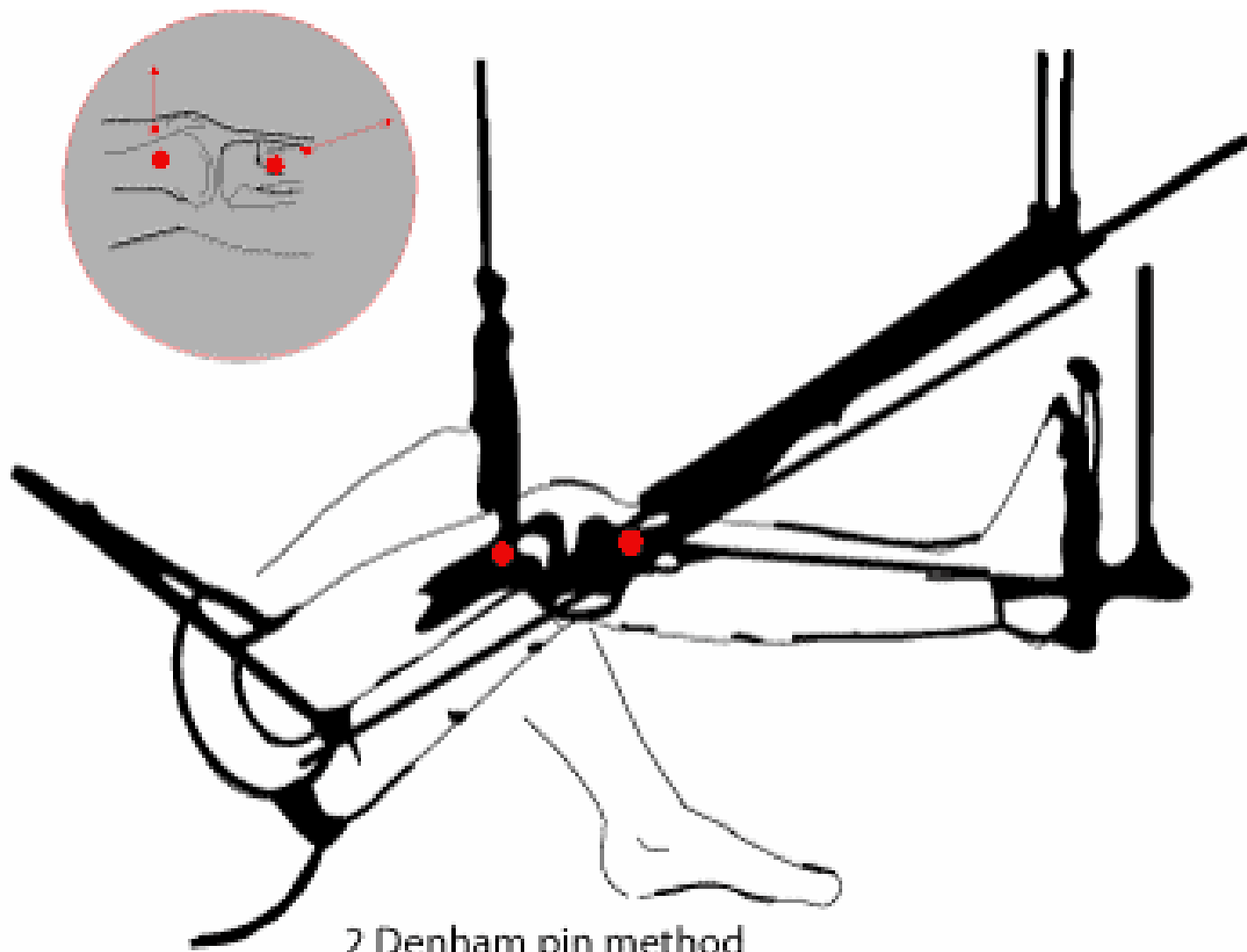
Distal Femur



NEER et al., JBJS 1967;49:591-613.

Supracondylar Fracture of the Adult Femur: A STUDY OF ONE HUNDRED AND TEN CASES

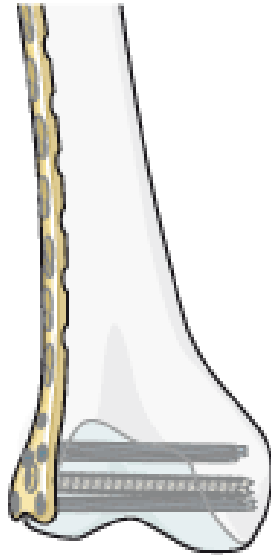






LISS

subchondral



Condylar
plate

subchondral



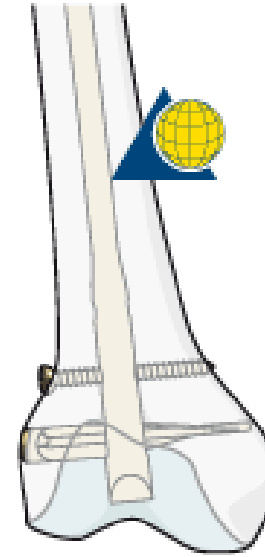
95° Angled
blade plate

1.5 – 2 cm



95° Dynamic
condylar
screw

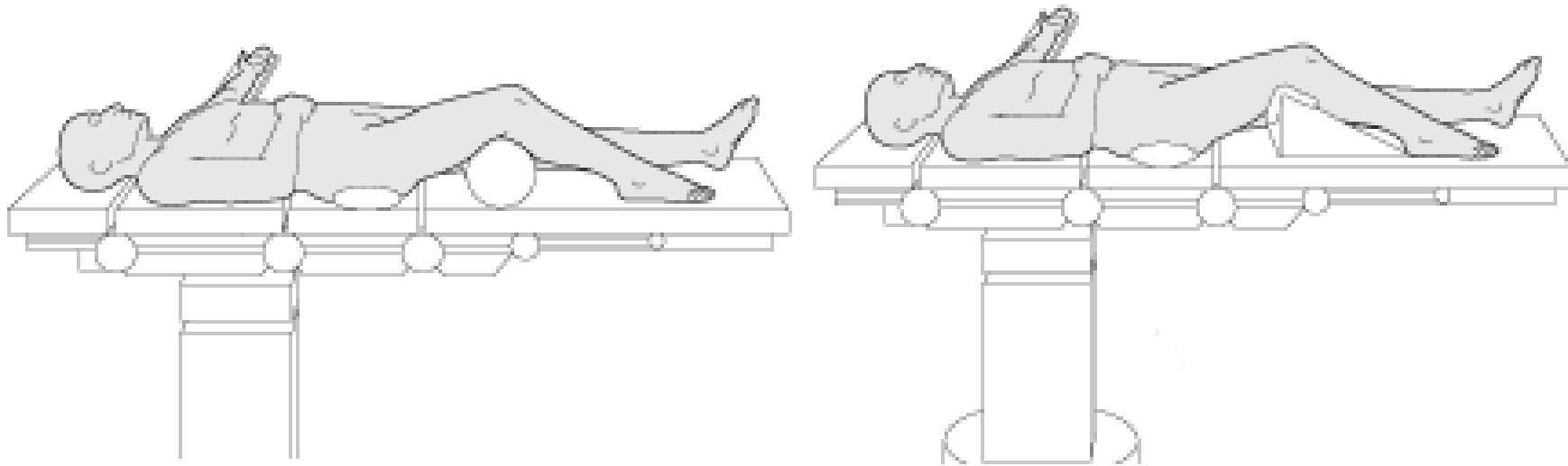
2 cm

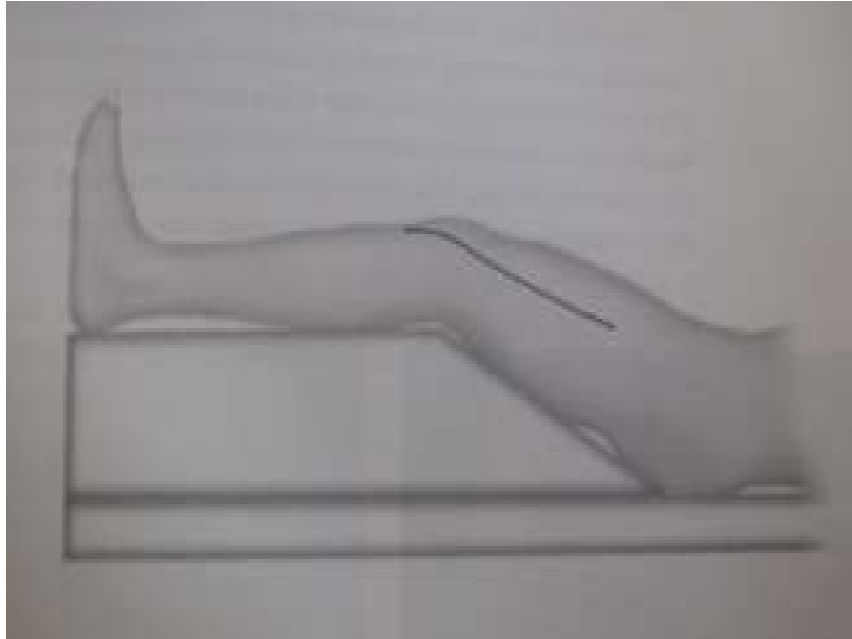


Retrograde
nail (with 2
locking screws
or spiral blade)

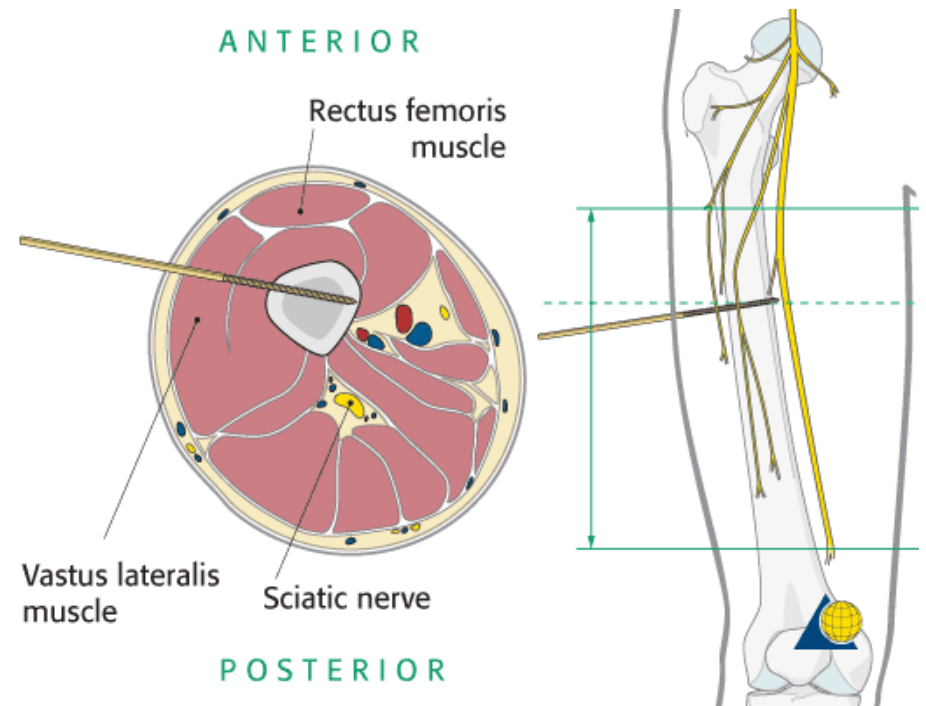
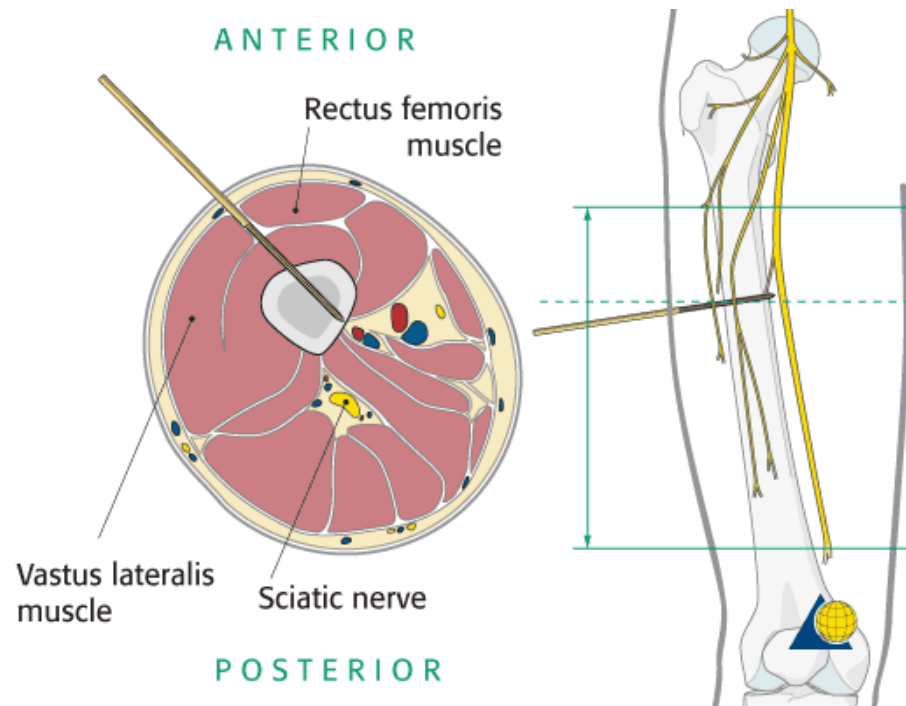
6 cm

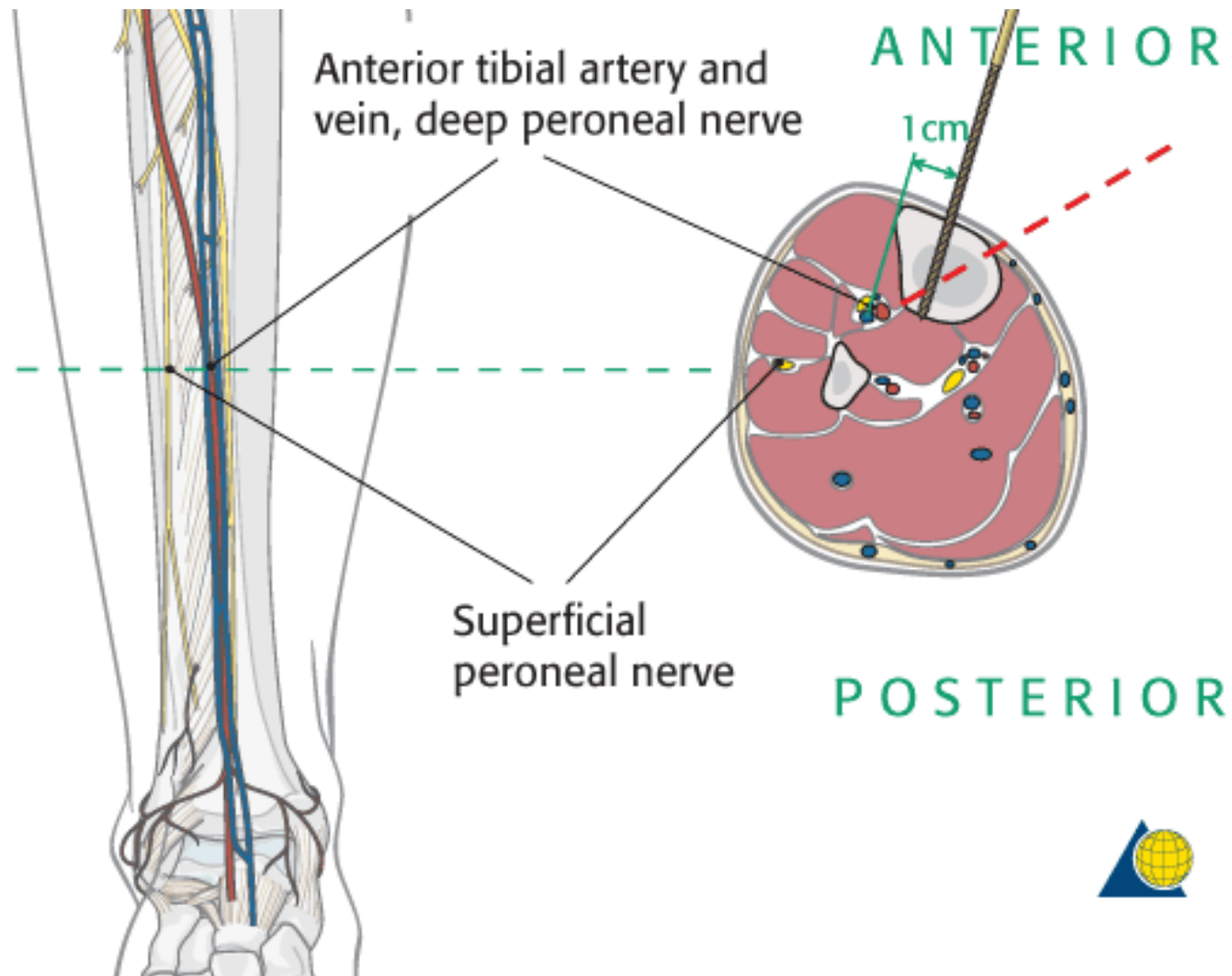
Set up











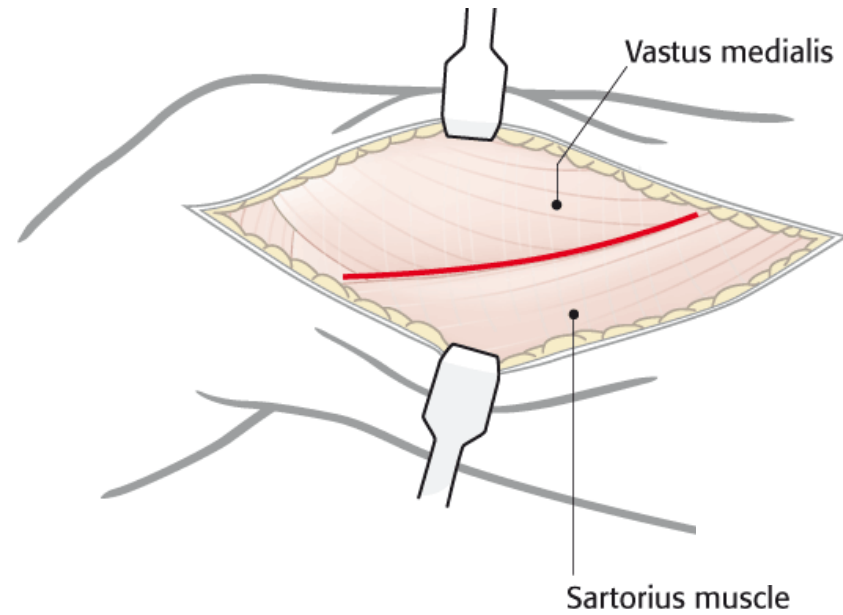
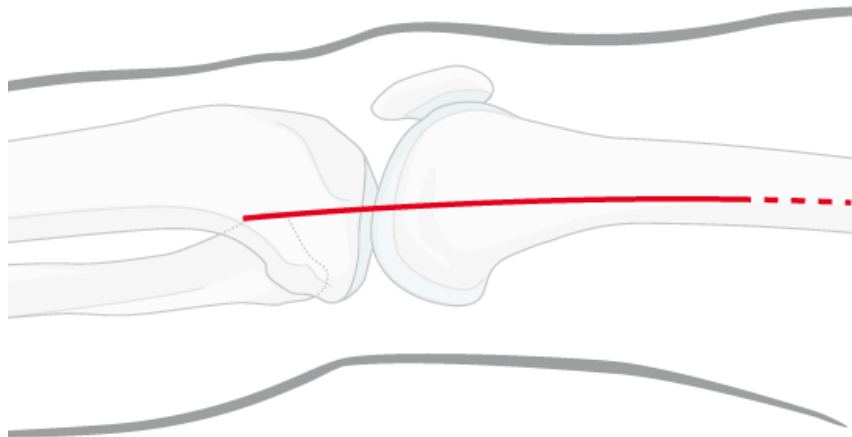
Approaches

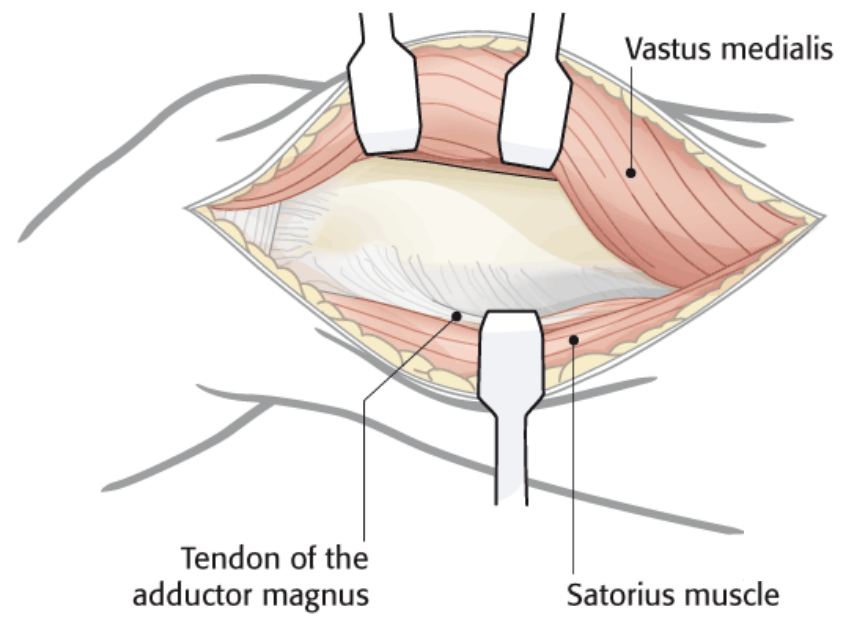
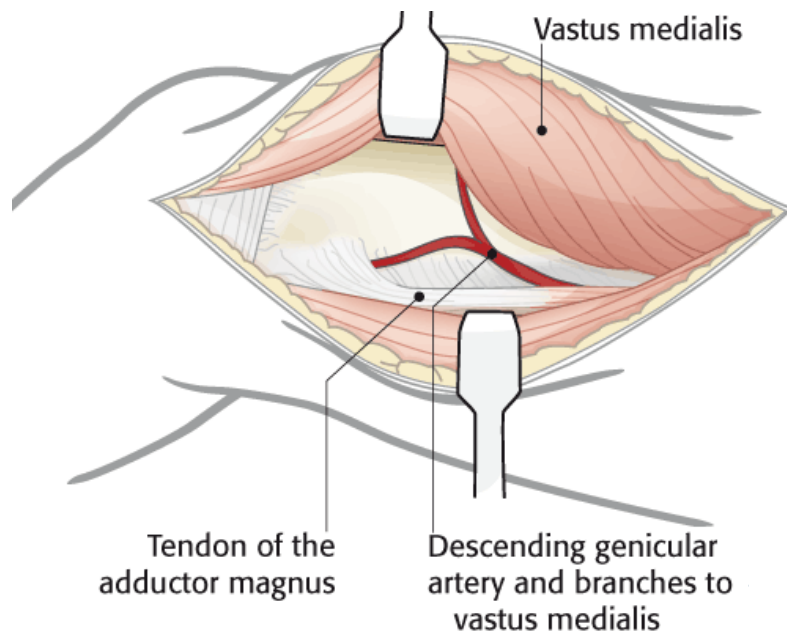
- Femur
 - Medial
 - Ant lat
 - Post lat

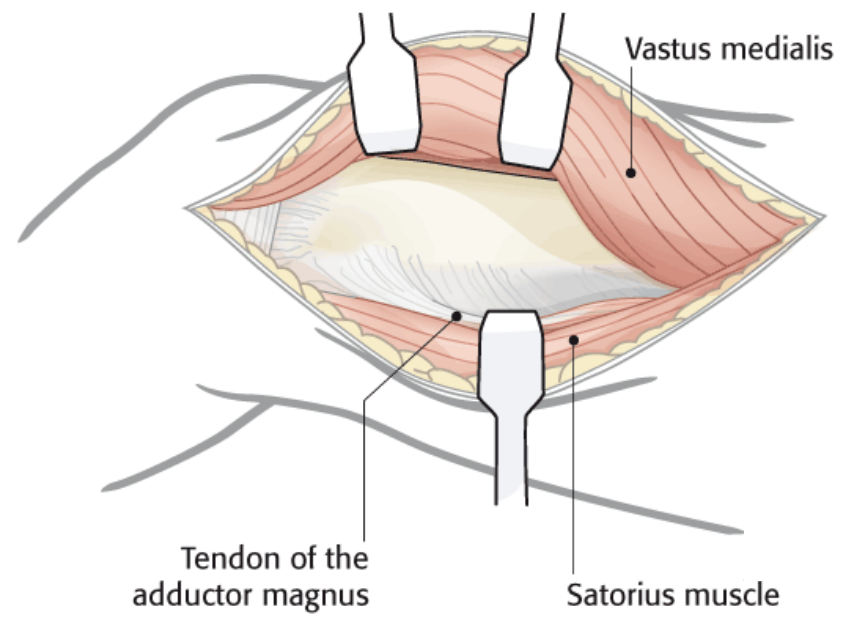
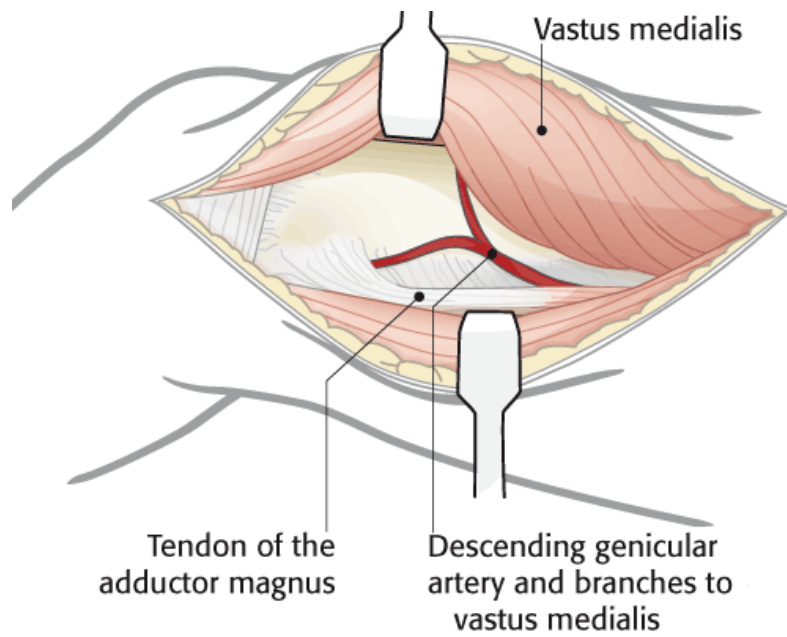
Medial Femur

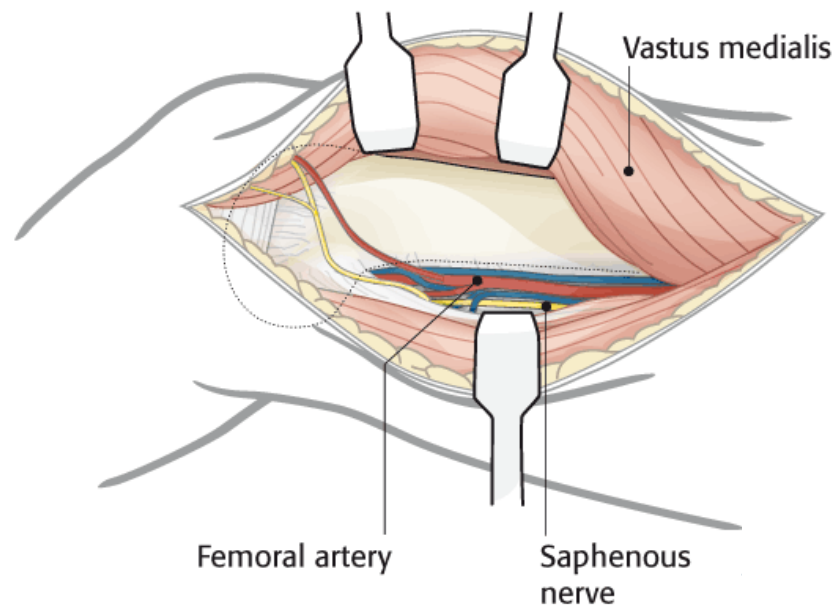
- Midway patella & posterior femoral condyle
- Proximal 10-13 cm (femoral artery)
- Between Vast Med & Add Mag (saphenous structures)
- Perforators & geniculate vessels

Medial Approach

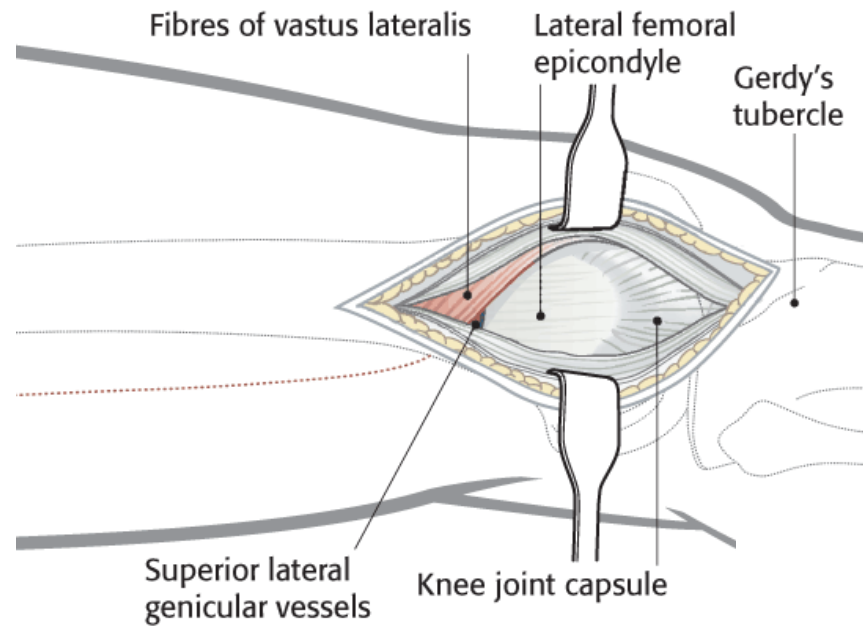
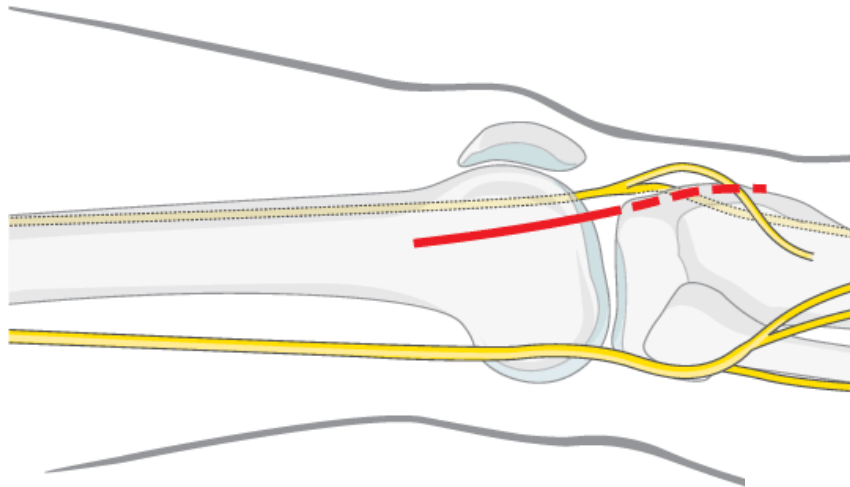




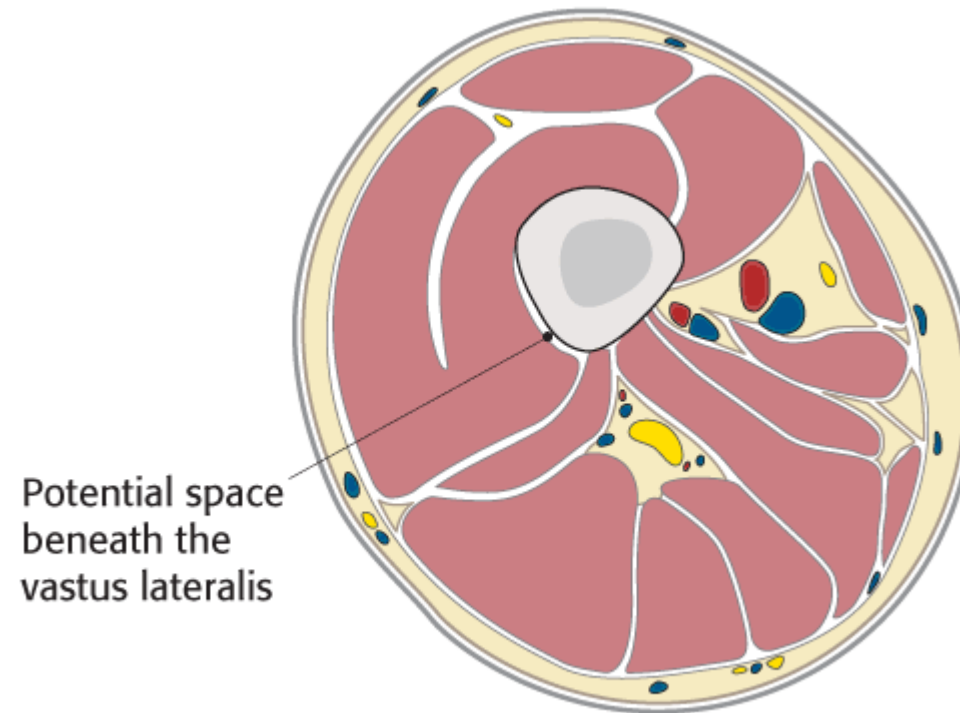




Lateral



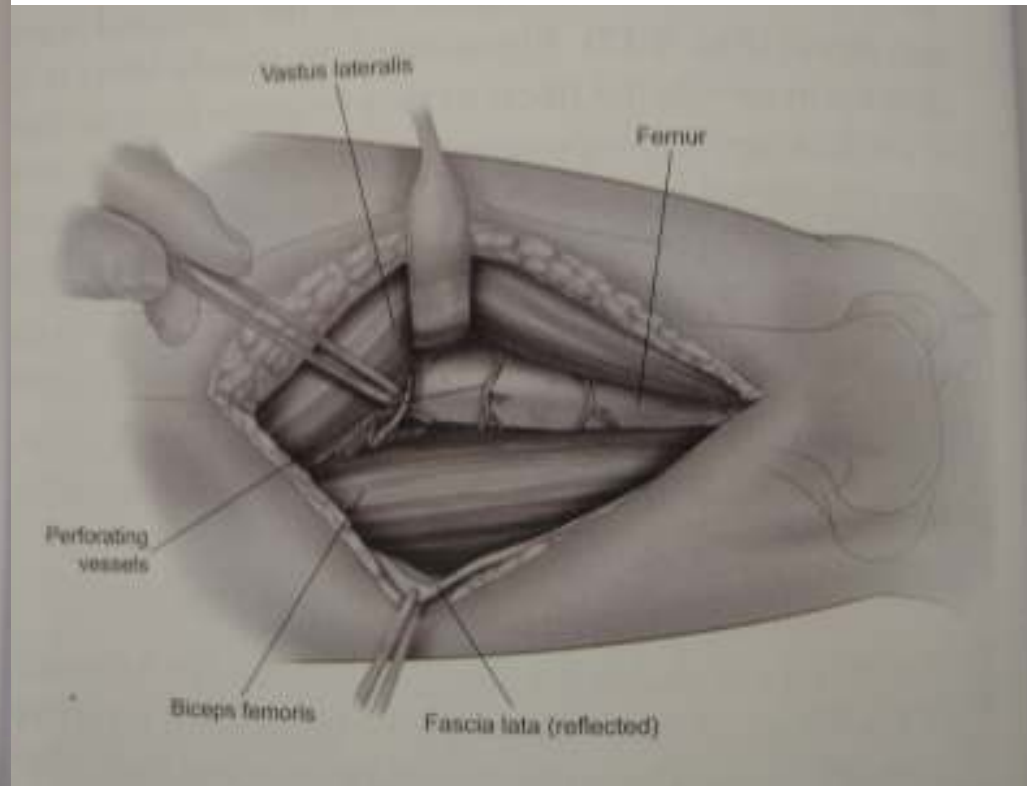
Lateral



Posterolateral

- Post edge LFC
- Split Fascia lat
- Elevation vastus lata (perforators)

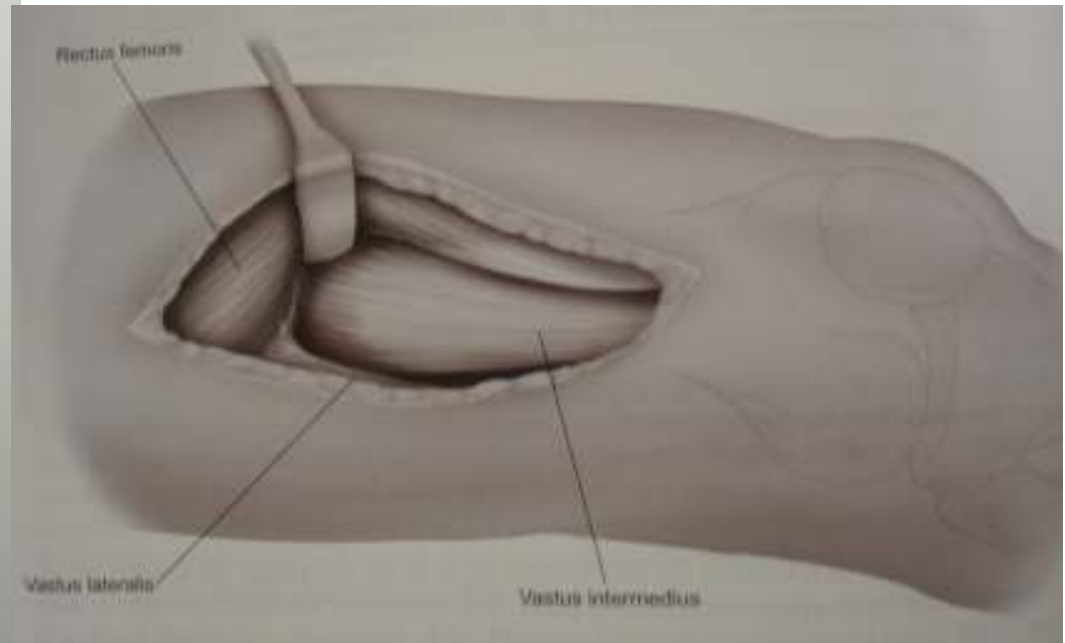
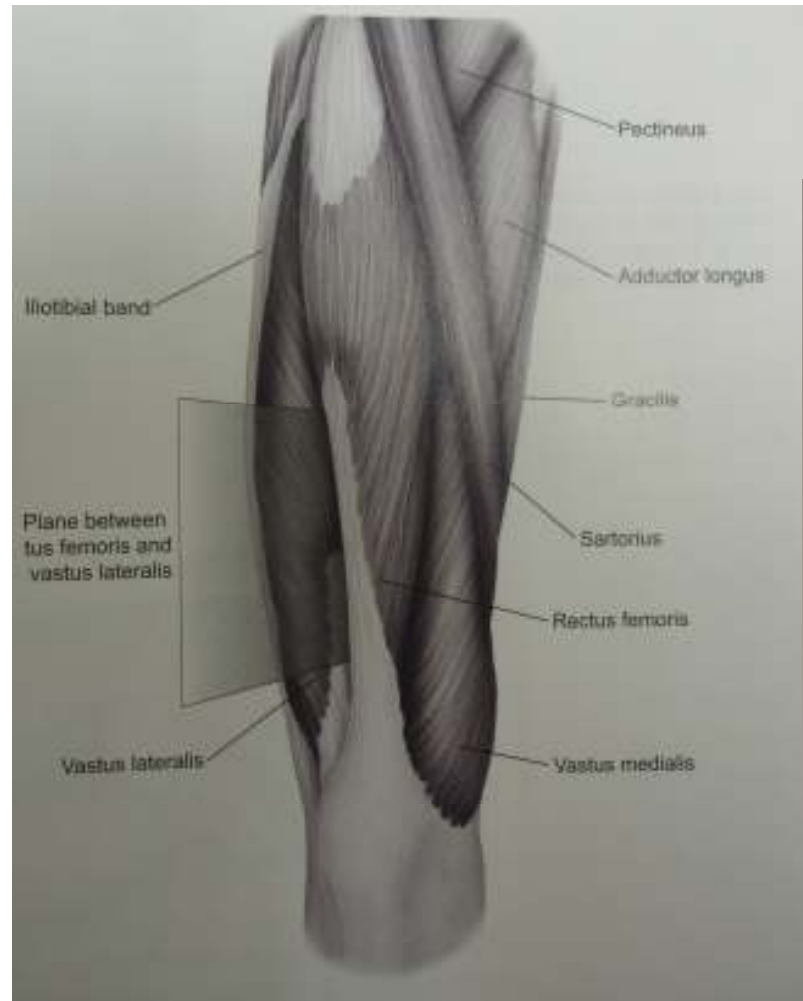
Posterolateral



Anterolateral

- ASIS – lateral patella
- Rectus femoris / vast lat
- Lateral femoral circumflex A
- Split vast intermed

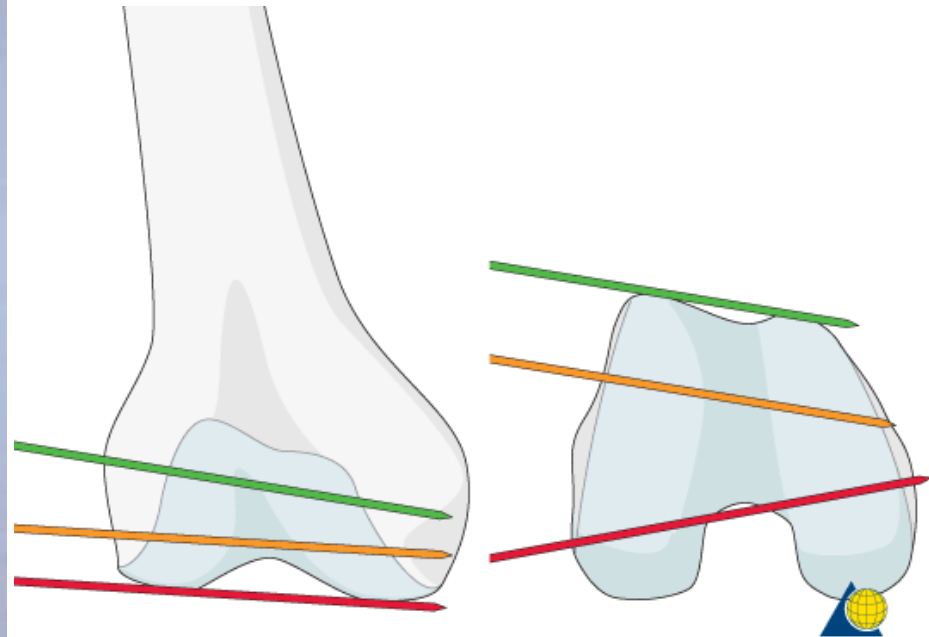
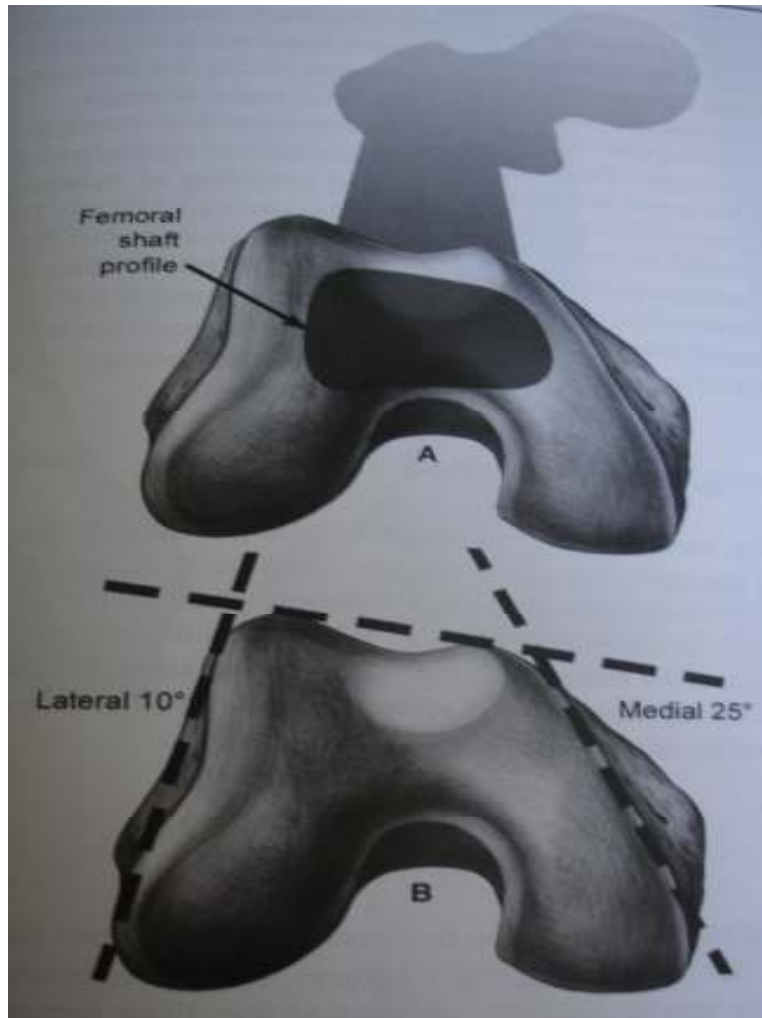
Anterolateral



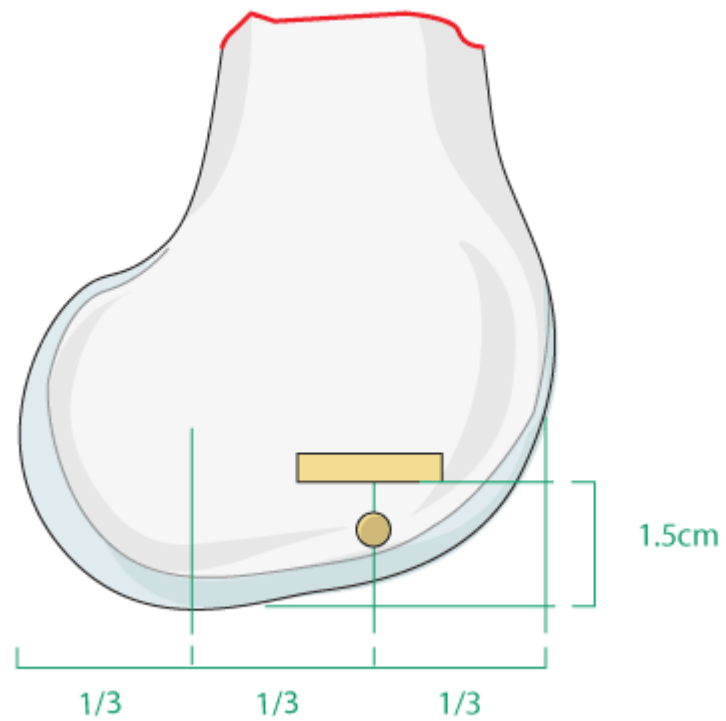
Stop

- Review approaches
- FRCS exam

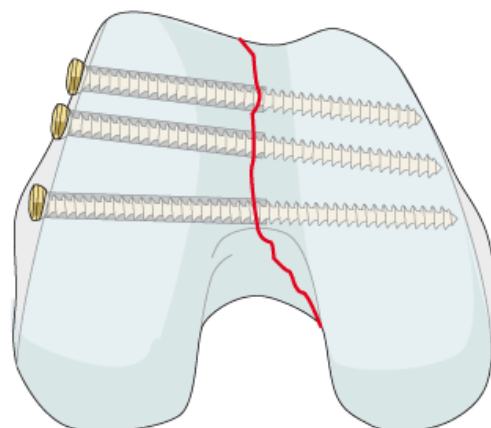
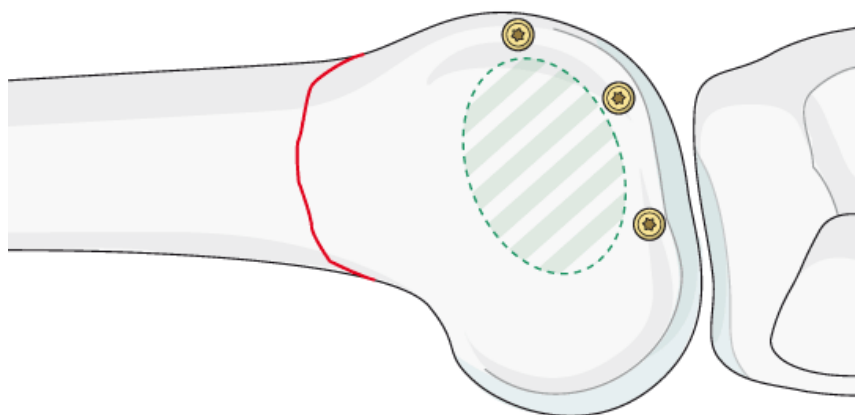
Anatomy

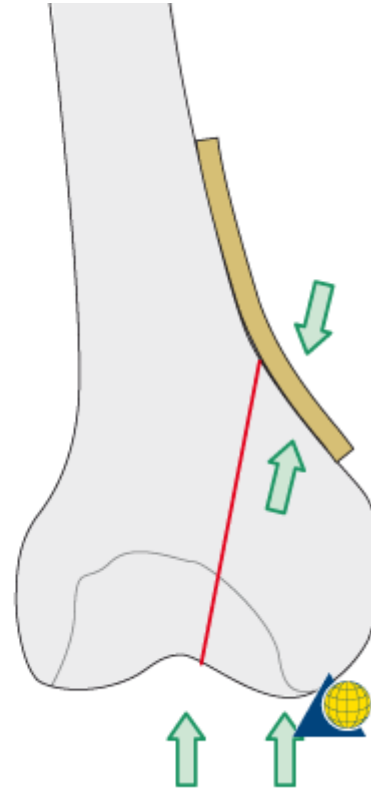
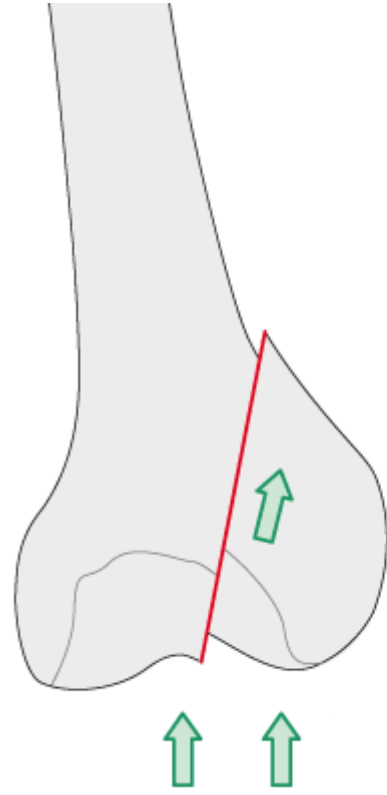


Orientation

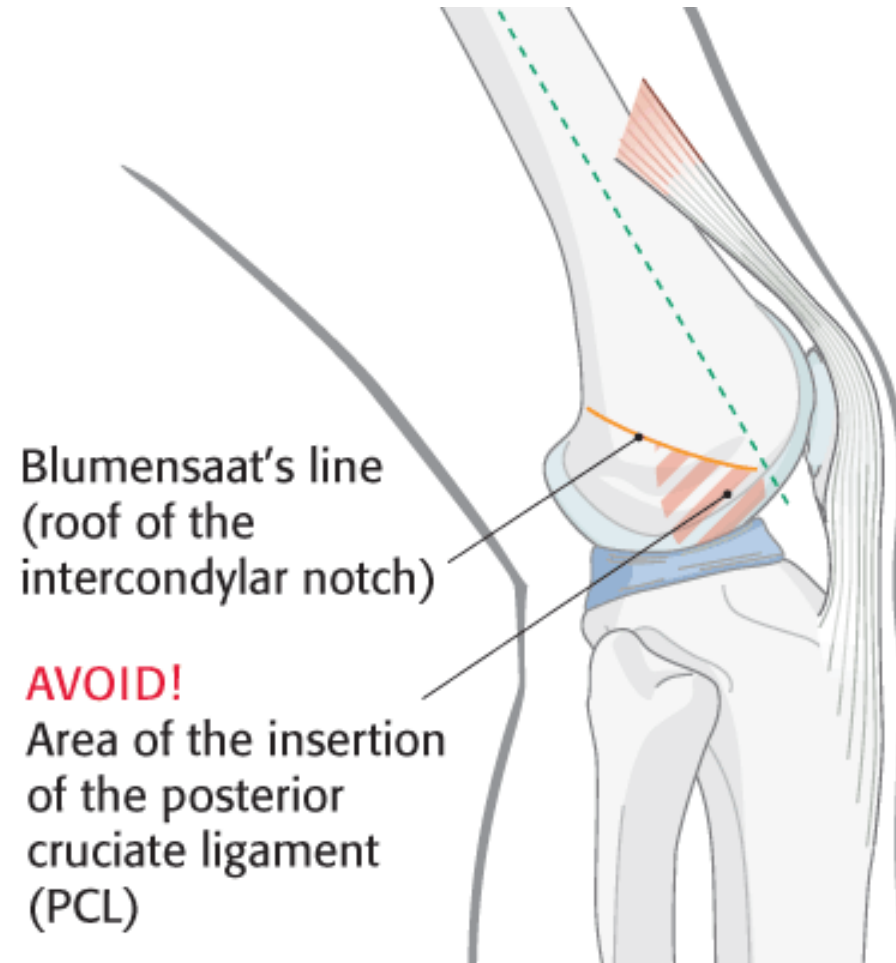






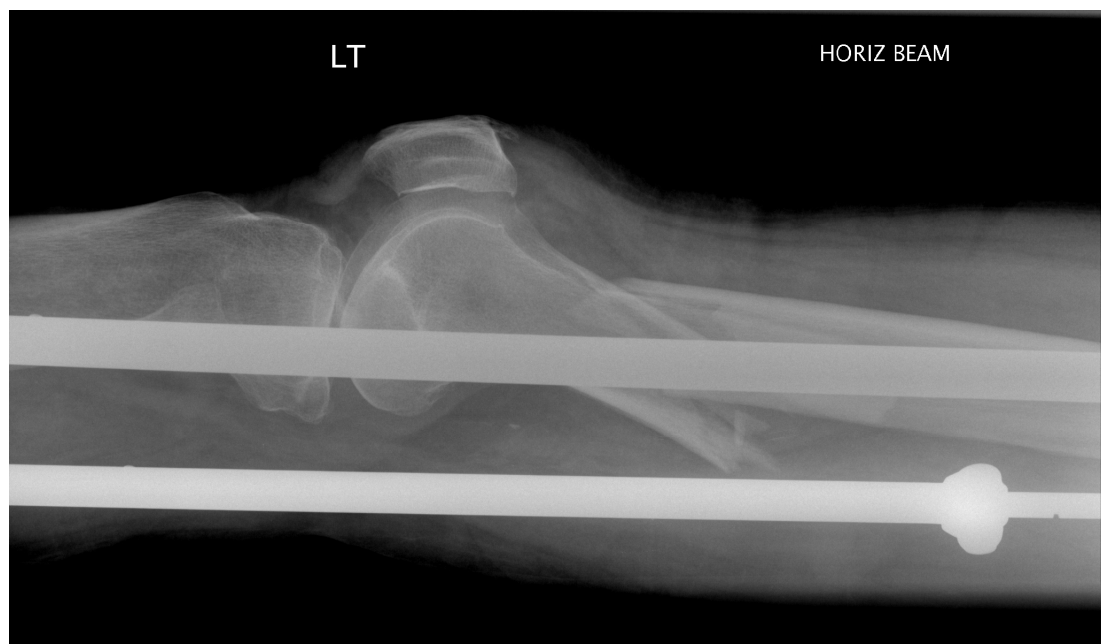


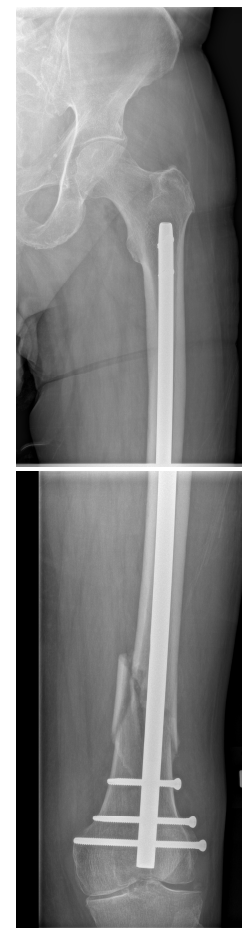
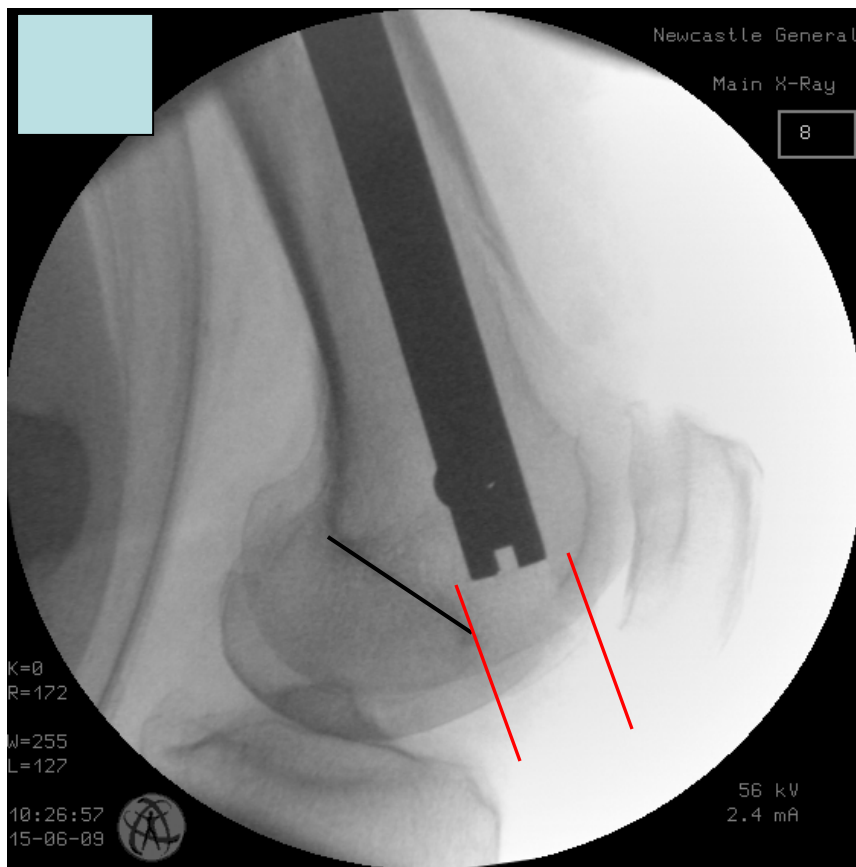
Retrograde Nailing



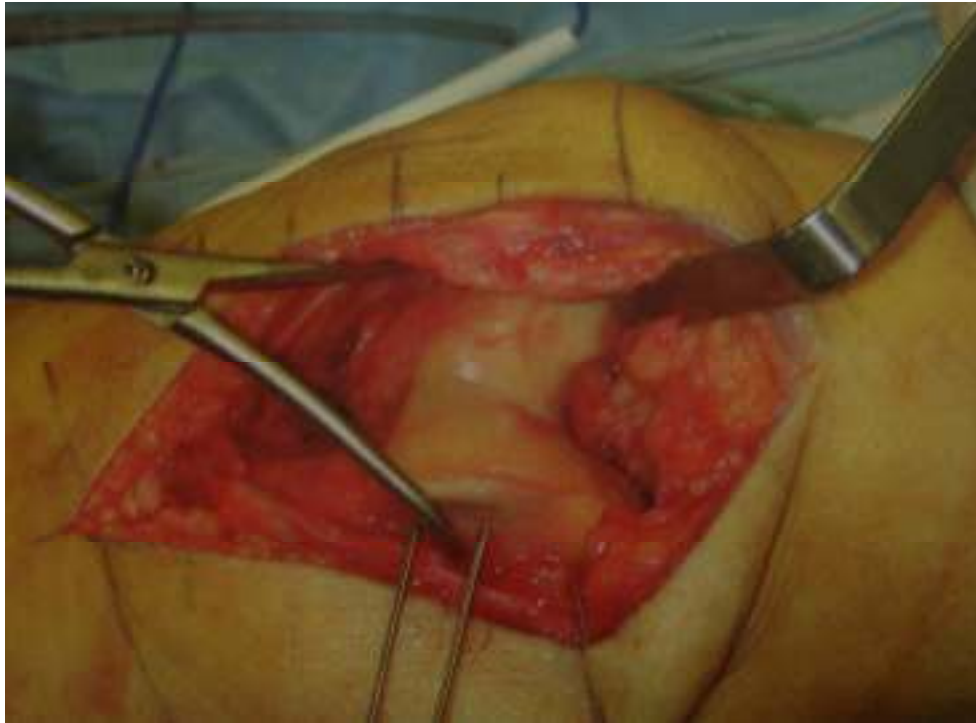
Case Example







Principles







The Association Between Supracondylar-Intercondylar Distal Femoral Fractures and Coronal Plane Fractures

- discuss

- Isolated coronal #s (Hoffa) uncommon
- Can be difficult to diagnose
- Challenge to treat

J B&J S 2005;87:564-569 Nork et al.,

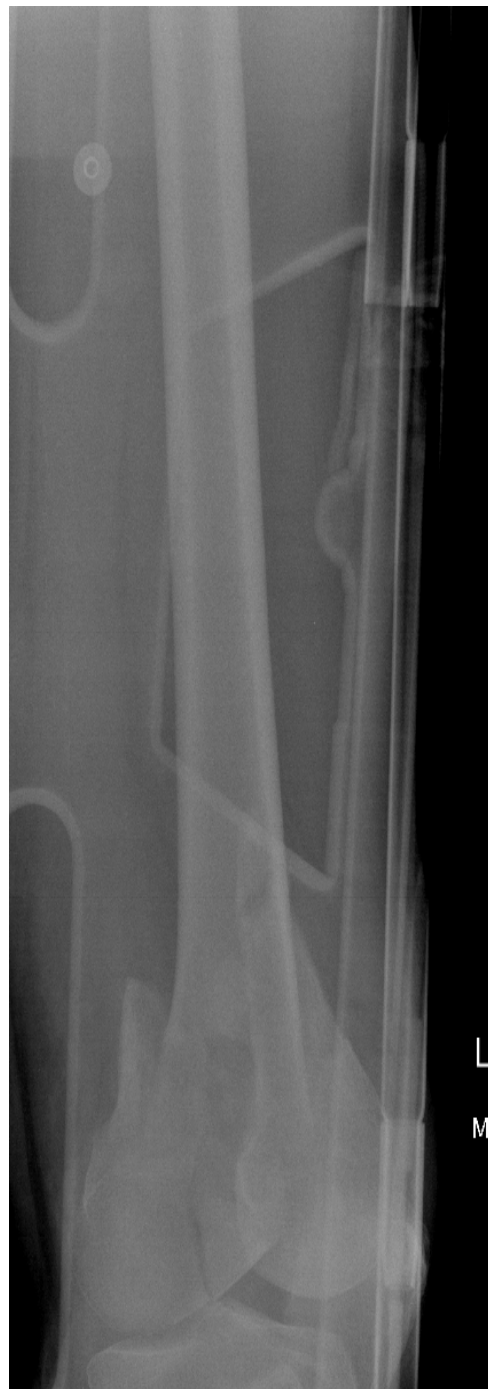
- 202 supracondylar-intercondylar #s
- 38% hoffa # (77 of 202#s)
- 77% single condyle (59/77) – 85% lateral
- 23% bicondylar (18/77)
- Open #s x2.8 hoffa involvement





- 10 hofa #s unrecognised preoperatively
 - None occurred in CT screened
 - Implication for fixation esp medial
-
- Preoperative CT
 - Strongly recommended high energy distal femur #s, esp open fractures

Case







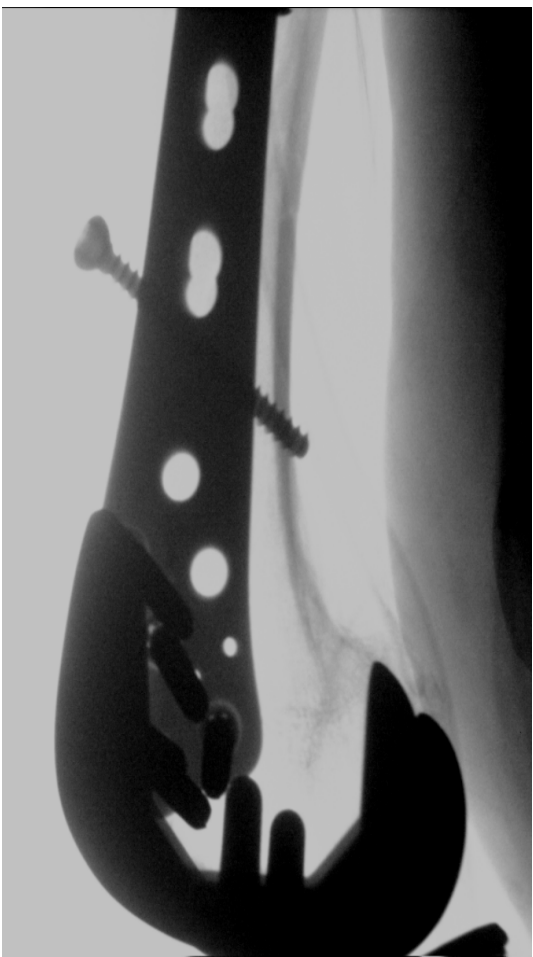




Case









Fixation of distal femoral fractures above total knee arthroplasty utilizing the Less Invasive Stabilization System (L.I.S.S.)

- Injury, Int. J. Care Injured 32 (2001) S-C-64-75

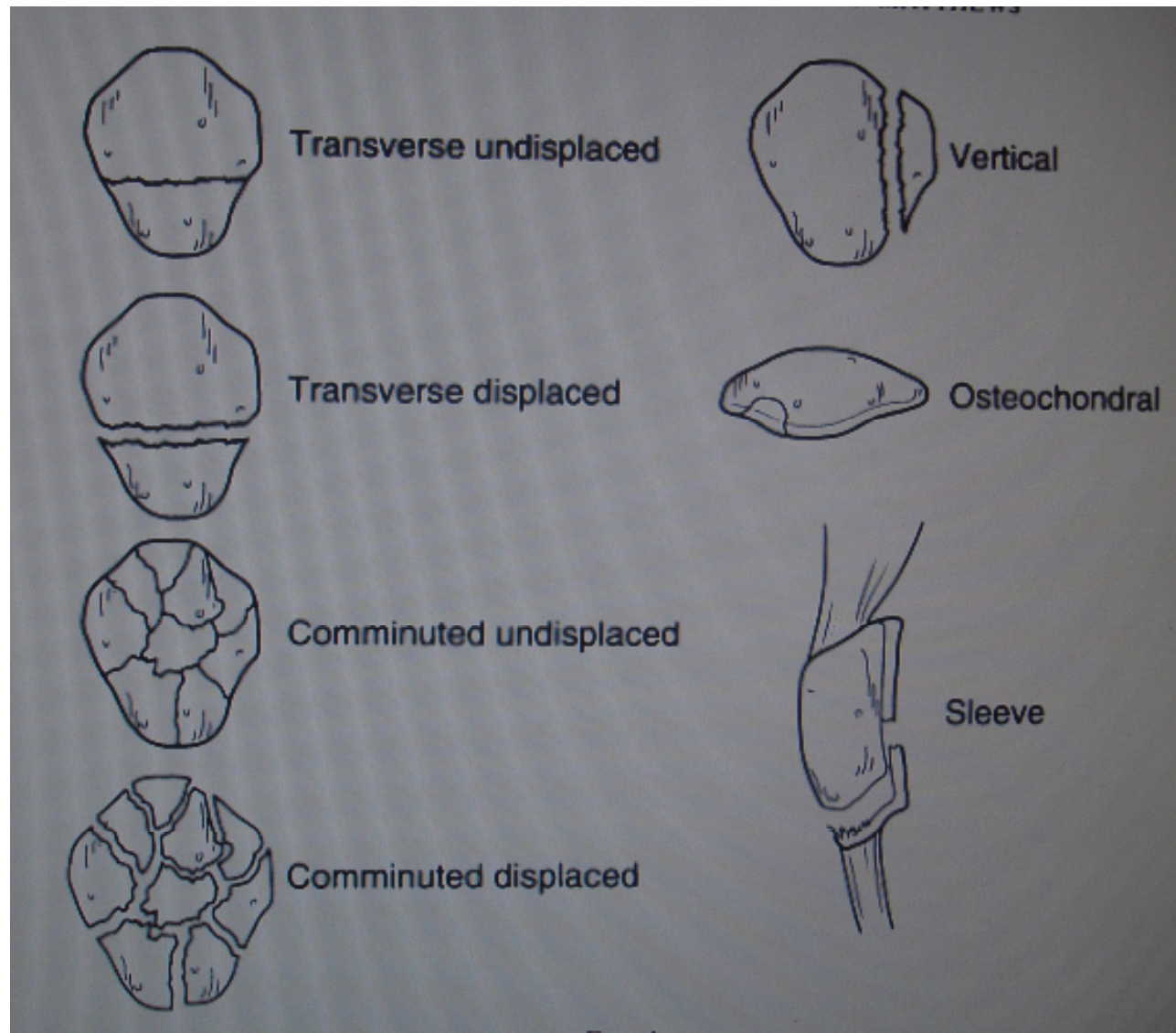
Kregor et al.

Intra-articular fractures of the distal femur: a long-term follow-up study of surgically treated patients

- J Orthop Trauma. 2004 Apr;18(4):213-9
- 67 cases (5-25 yr follow up)
- Average age 45 years (range 16-94 years)
- isolated fractures scored significantly better functionally
- secondary osteoarthritis in 36%
- Knee function increases through time
- Range of motion does not increase after 1 year.

Break

Patella Fractures



MOI

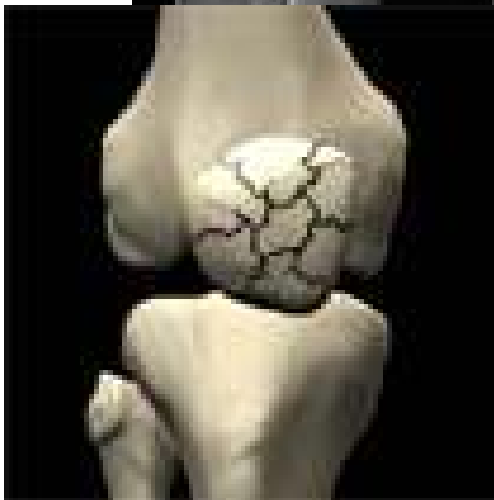
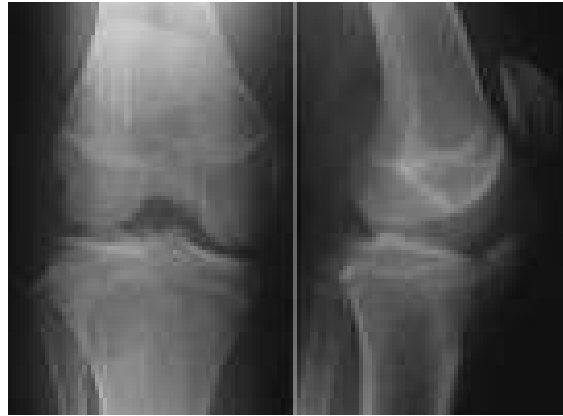
- Direct
 - Higher degree comminution
 - Less displacement #
 - More articular cartilage damage
- Indirect (rapid flexion/contacted quads)
 - Less comminution
 - Increased # displacement
 - Less cartilage damage

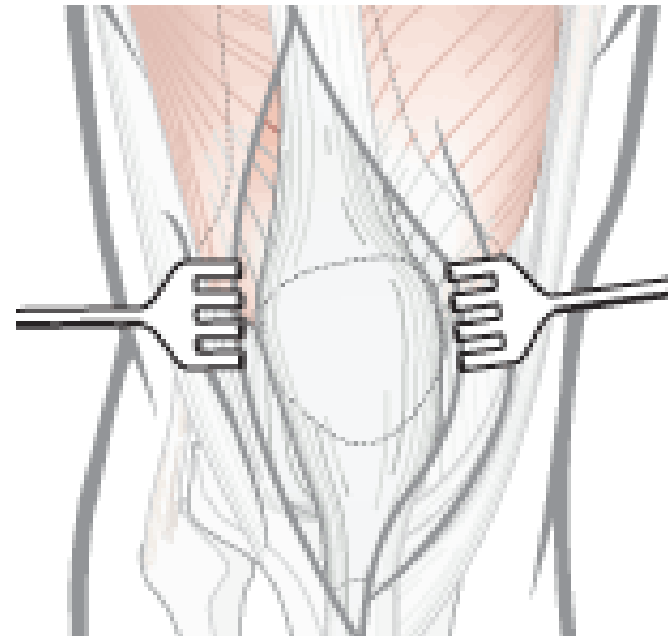
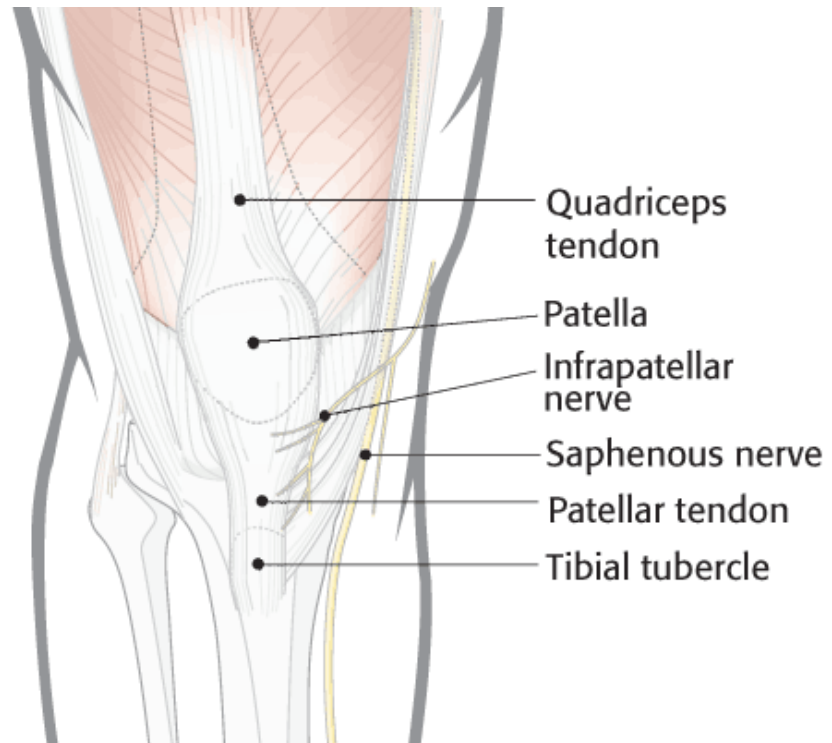
Bipartite

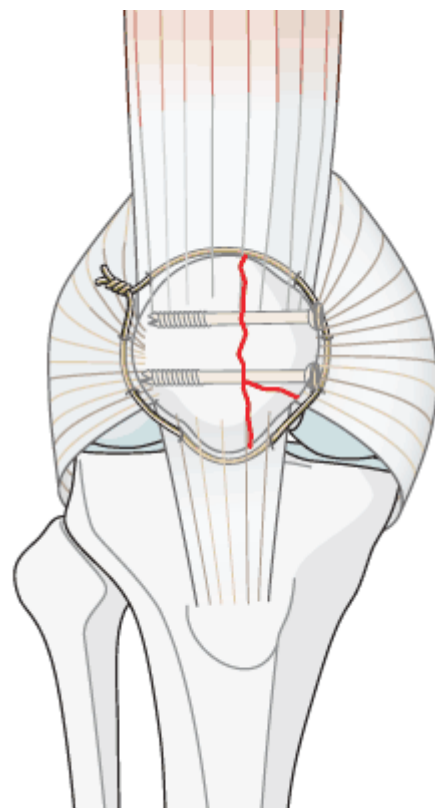
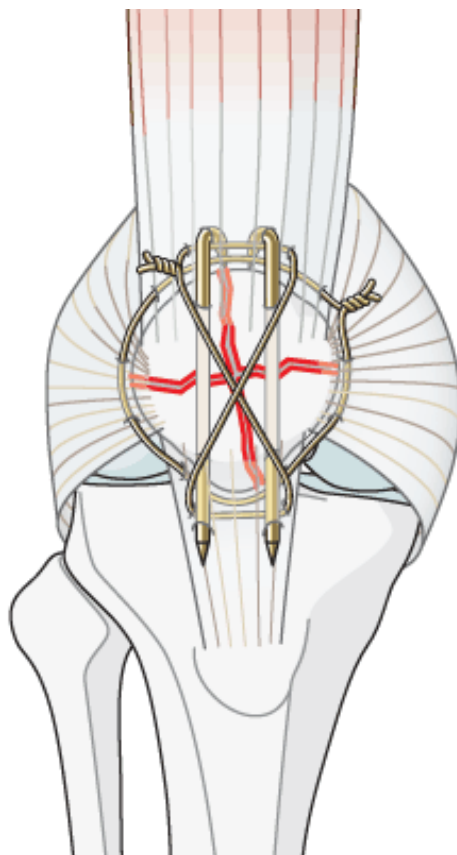
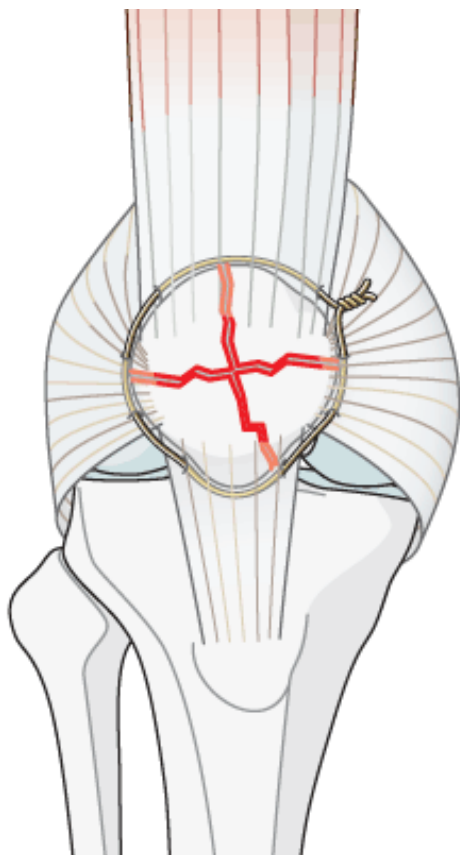


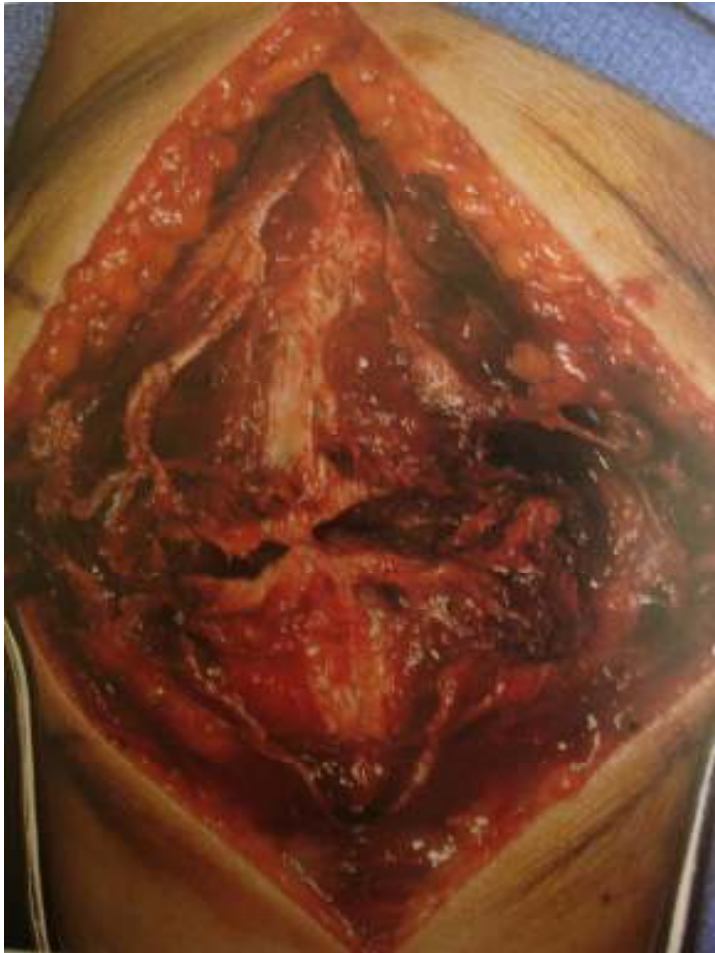
2% population
2% symptomatic
57% unilaterally

75% superolateral
20% lateral/vertical
5% inferior pole



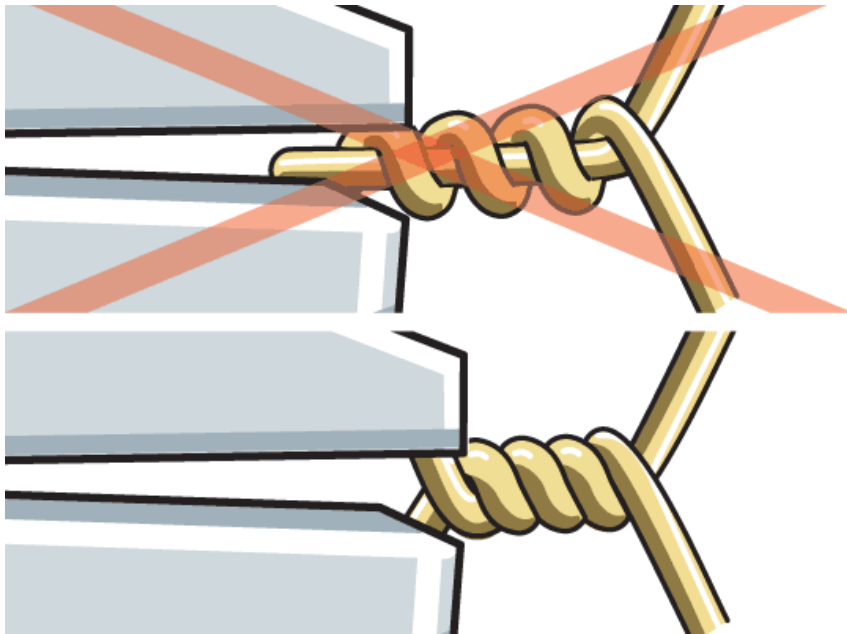






Correct Technique

- Retinacular repair!



Biomechanical Evaluation of Current Patella Fracture Fixation

Techniques Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma:1997(11)351-356



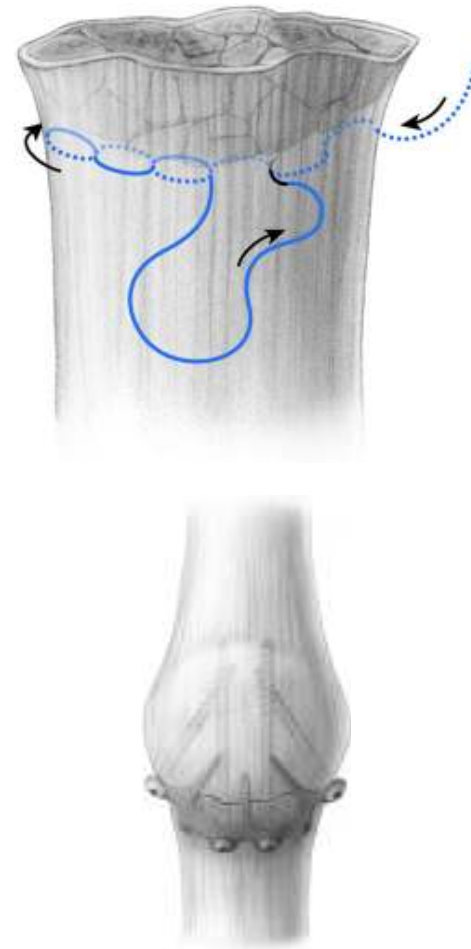
Inferior Pole

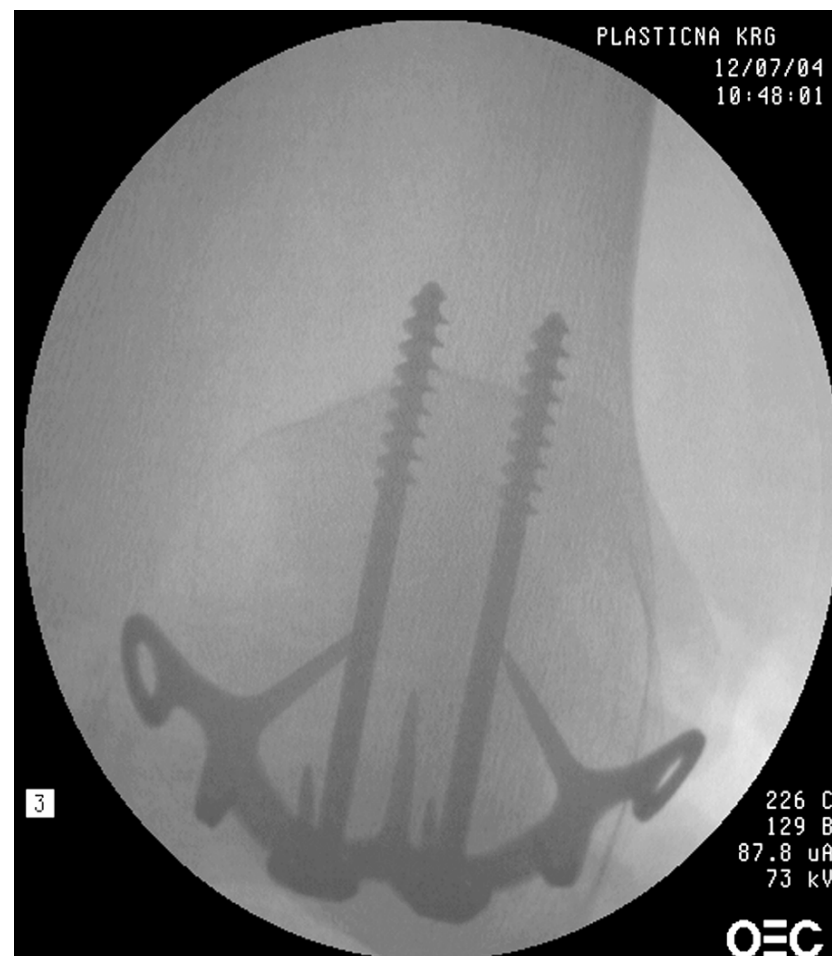
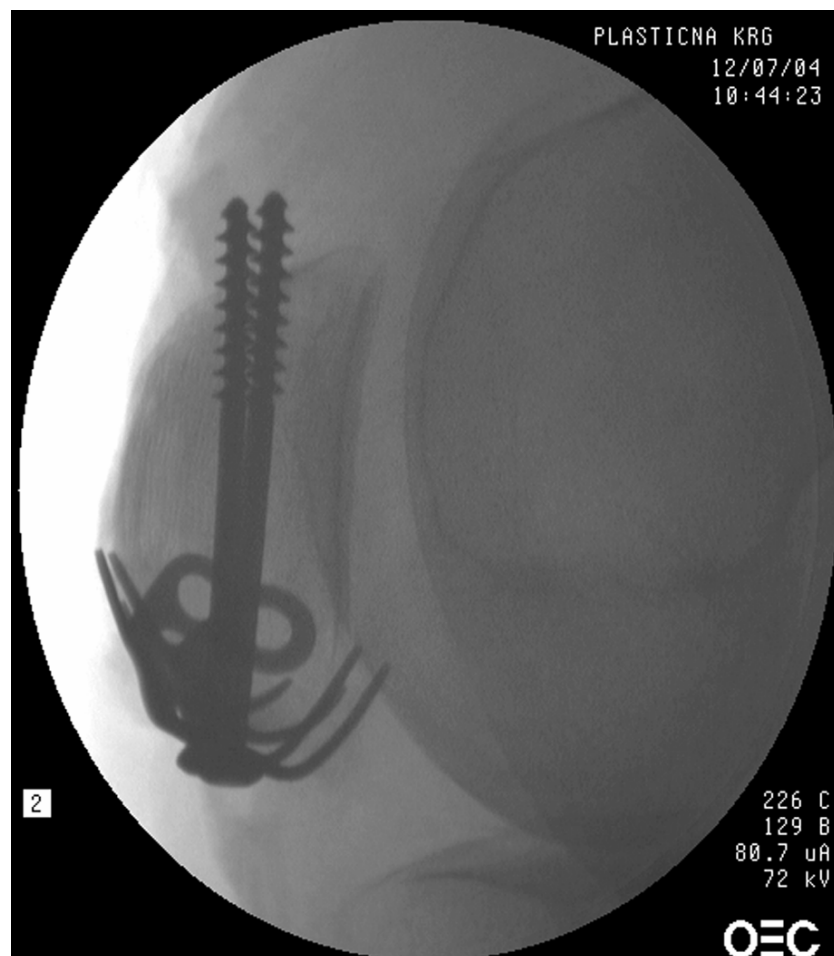


- Inferior patella pole avulsion fractures: Osteosynthesis compared with pole resection
- Veselko & Kastelec
- 2004;86:696-701

- 14 ORIF – basket plate
- 14 resection
- Patellofemoral score & height
- Sig diff
 - Knee pain
 - Level of activity
 - ROM
 - Patella baja ass with poor outcome







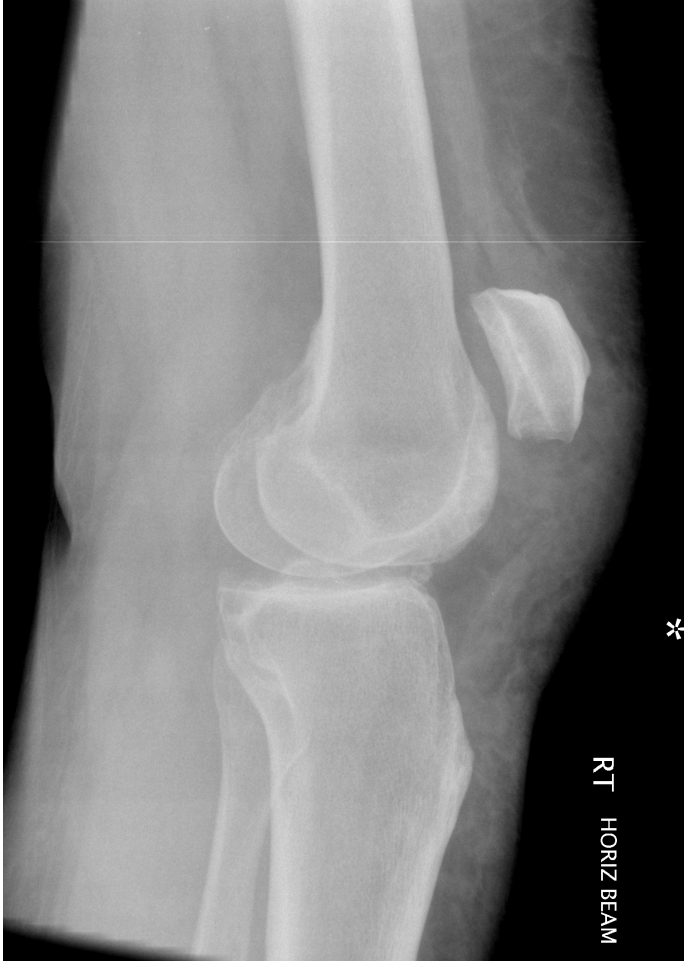
Complications

- Haemarthrosis
- Infection
- Loss of fixation/reduction
- Saphenous nerve damage
- Delayed/nonunion
- Arthrofibrosis
- PTOA





- osteotomy of the tibial tubercle and partial restoration of patellar height.





Patellar Fracture After Total Knee Arthroplasty

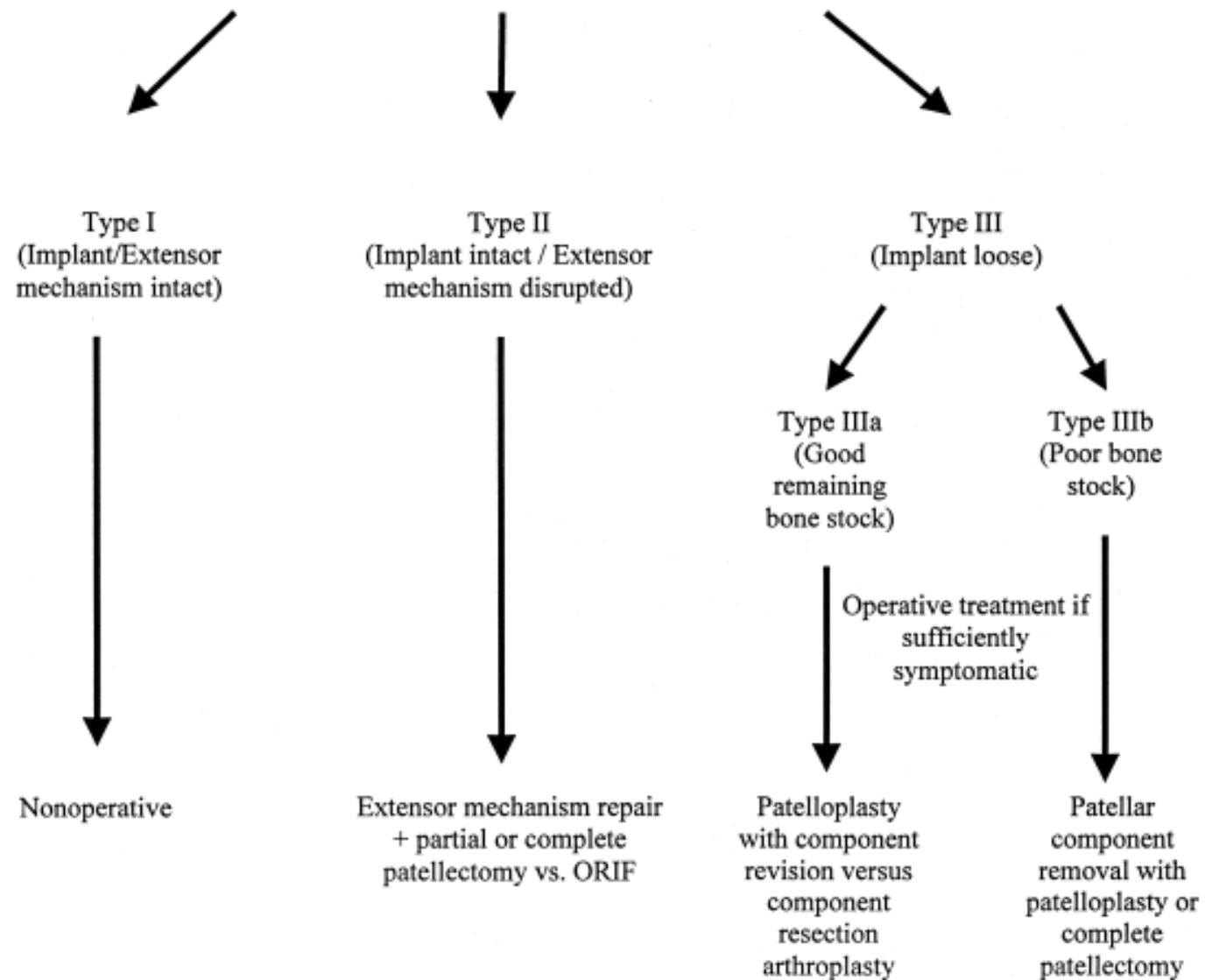


Ortiguera & Berry 2002;84:532-540



TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Patellar Fracture After TKA



Patellectomy

- Loss of patella fulcrum
- Decrease in moment arm
- Relative lengthening of quads
 - Can result in:-
 - Knee instability
 - Extensor lag
 - Quads atrophy
 - Loss of extensor strength

Open Fractures of the Patella: Long-Term Functional Outcome

- Journal of Trauma-Injury Infection & Critical Care: 1995 (39);439-444
- Average ROM 112 degrees, at an average follow-up of 21 months.
- Secondary surgical procedures 65%-symptomatic hardware
- Good to excellent knee scores 17 of 22

Tibial Plateau Fractures

Overview

Geometry

Classification

Management

Outcome studies

Interactive cases

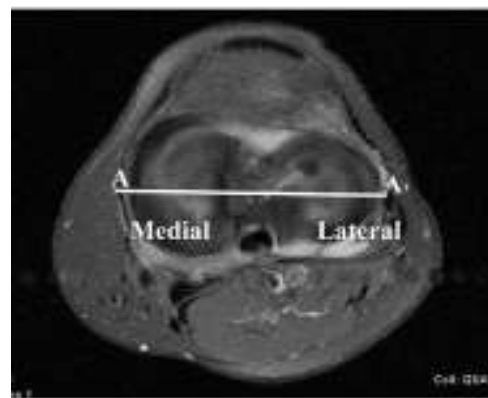
Geometry of Tibial Plateau

- Articular surface & ligaments
- Control biomechanical behaviour of joint
- Geometry TP direct influence
 - Biomechanics of TFJ
 - Translation
 - Location of centre of rotation
 - The screw home mechanism
 - Strain biomechanics of ligaments, eg ACL

Geometry of Tibial Plateau

- Articular surface & ligaments
- Control biomechanical behaviour of joint
- Geometry TP direct influence
 - Biomechanics of TFJ
 - Translation
 - Location of centre of rotation
 - The screw home mechanism
 - Strain biomechanics of ligaments, eg ACL

Tibial Coronal Slope



(a)

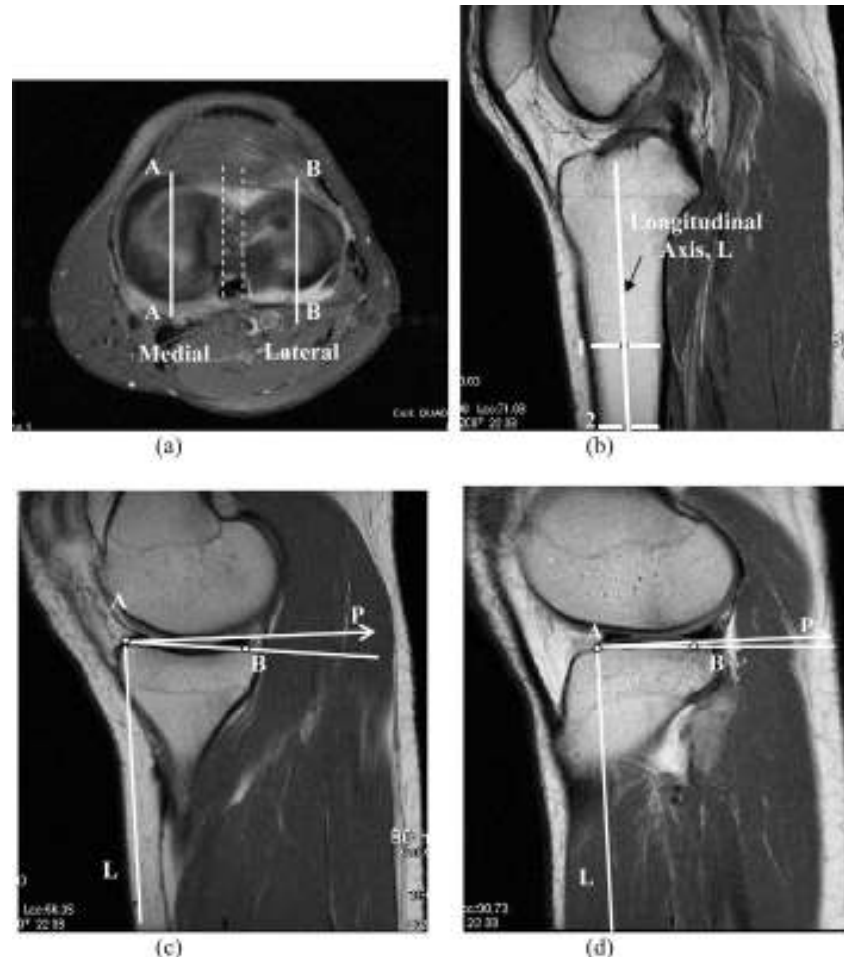


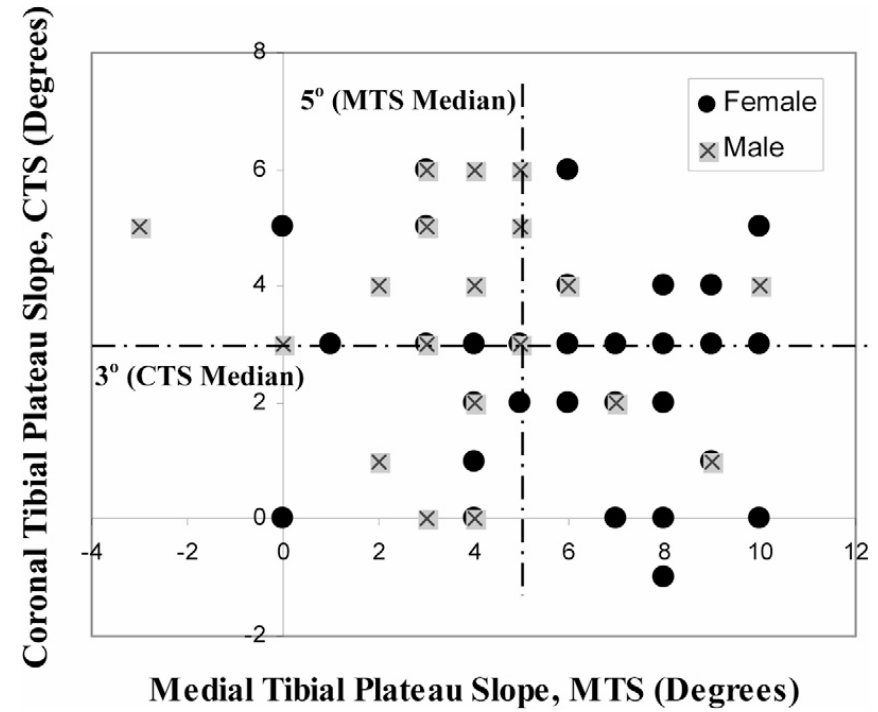
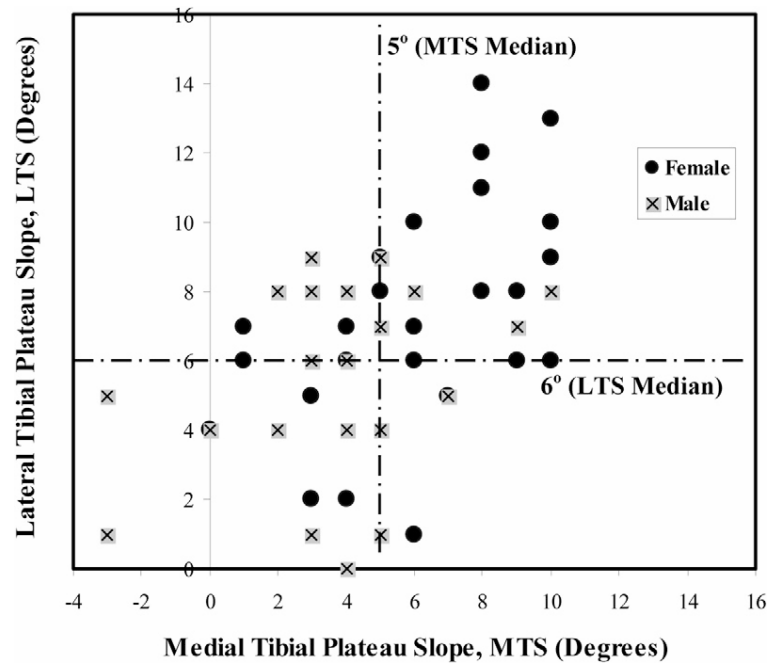
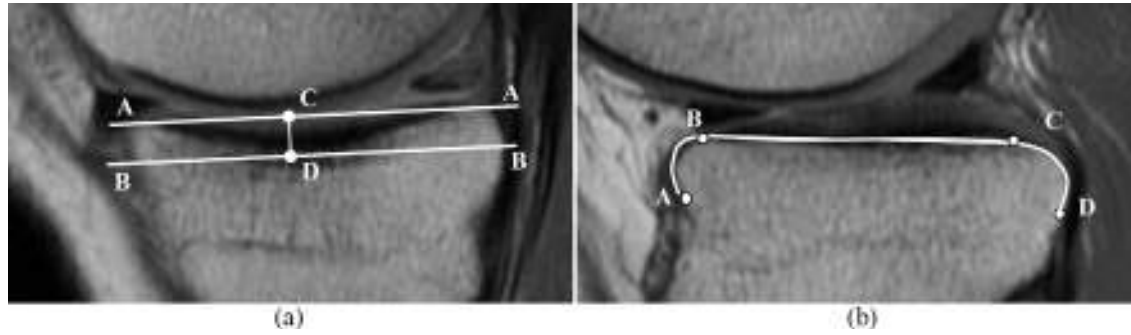
(b)



(c)

Medial & Lateral Tibial Slopes





- Hashemi et al., 2008;90:2724-2734
- 22♂ 23♀ skeletally mature, healthy knees
- 3 slopes
- medial & lateral tibial slopes greater ♀
- Coronal tibial slope greater ♂
- ?risk to OA, injury, preop planning arthroplasty

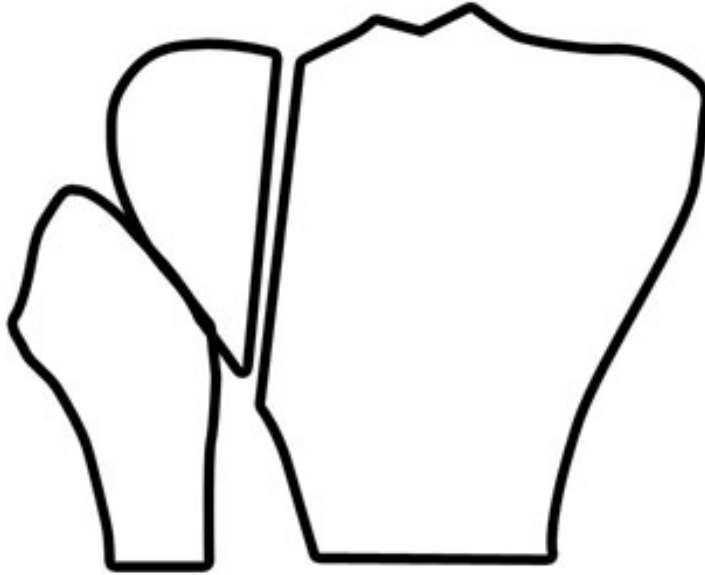
Plateau Fractures

Incidence

- 1% of all fractures
- Bimodal
- Young adults, older females

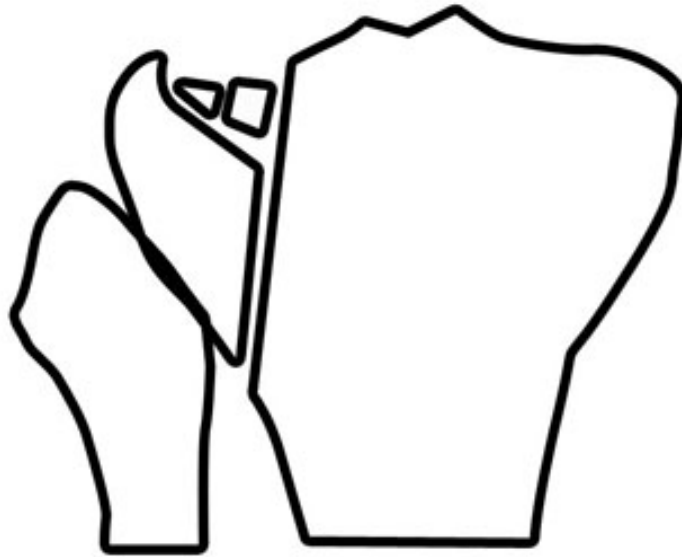


Classification

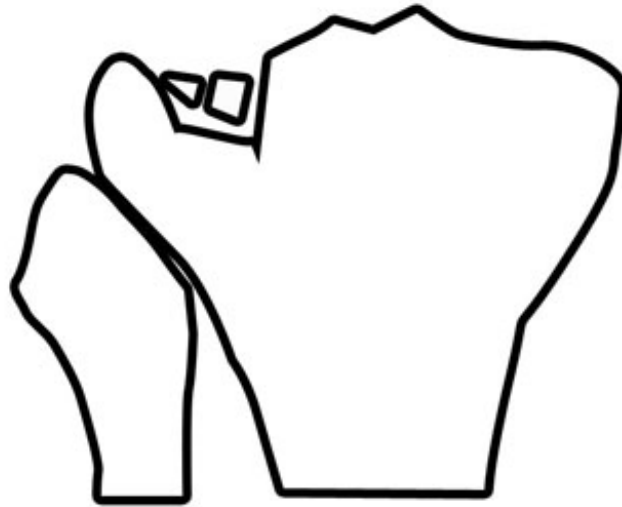


- **Schatzker I** - Split without depression
- Aetiology: valgus stress
 - younger patients with stronger bones, which are resistant to depression
- Associated injuries: Lateral meniscal tear





- **Schatzker II** - Split depression (Most common)
- Aetiology: valgus or axial stress.
 - older patients, osteoporosis, bones do not resist depression
- Associated injuries: Lateral meniscus, medial meniscus, and medial collateral ligament



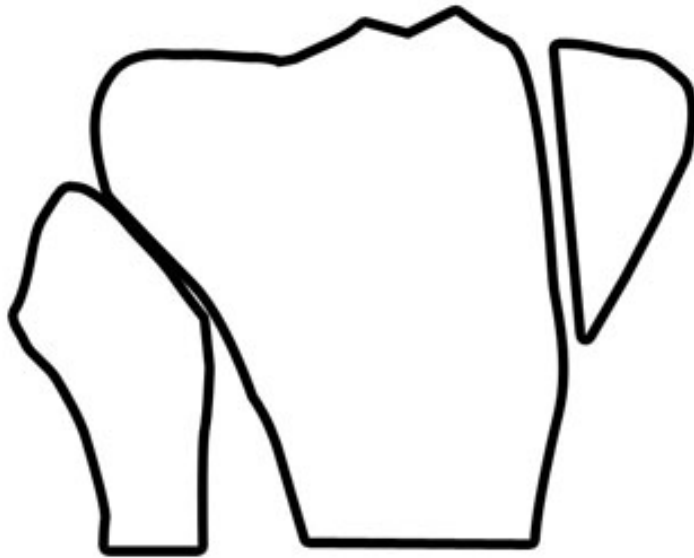
- **Schatzker III** - Lateral depression
- Aetiology: Older patients, osteoporosis
 - Often just due to a fall
- Associated injuries: If the depressed fragments are lateral and posterior, it is associated with joint instability.

- ***The Incidence of Soft Tissue Injury in Operative Tibial Plateau Fractures: A Magnetic Resonance Imaging Analysis of 103 Patients***

- Gardner et al., 2005 ;19:79-84



- 77% sustained a complete tear or avulsion of 1 or more cruciate or collateral ligaments
- 91% had evidence of lateral meniscus pathology
- 44% had medial meniscus tears
- 68% had tears of 1 or more of the posterolateral corner structures of the knee
- The most frequent fracture pattern was a lateral plateau split-depression (Schatzker II) (60%)
- No pure depression injuries (Schatzker III, AO/OTA 41-B2) were seen
- Though the clinical importance of injury to each of these structures is unknown, the treating surgeon should be aware that a variety of soft tissue injuries are common in these fractures
- In addition, all fractures had at least 1 cortical split visible on magnetic resonance imaging, implying that pure depression patterns are very rare or may not exist



- **Schatzker IV** - Medial tibial plateau fracture
- Aetiology: Varus stress
 - Often severe trauma, dislocated knee
- Associated injuries: cruciates, LCL, peroneal nerve, popliteal artery

Medial Sub-Classification



Lateral # progression = severity increases

Neuro/vascular injuries in C-type classification

Risk of compartment syndrome increases A(14%) - B(33%) - C(67%)

JTII&CC 2007;63;1418-21 Wahlquist et al.,

Compartment Syndrome

Definition:

“A condition in which the circulation to, and function of tissues in, a closed space are compromised by an increased pressure within that space.”

Incidence

- 7.3 and 0.7 per 100 000 for males and females respectively

(McQueen et al, 2000)

Risk Factors



Acute compartment syndrome

WHO IS AT RISK?

M. M. McQueen, P. Gaston, C. M. Court-Brown

From the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, Scotland

- tibial diaphyseal fractures, thigh, forearm, buttock
- age < 35
- men

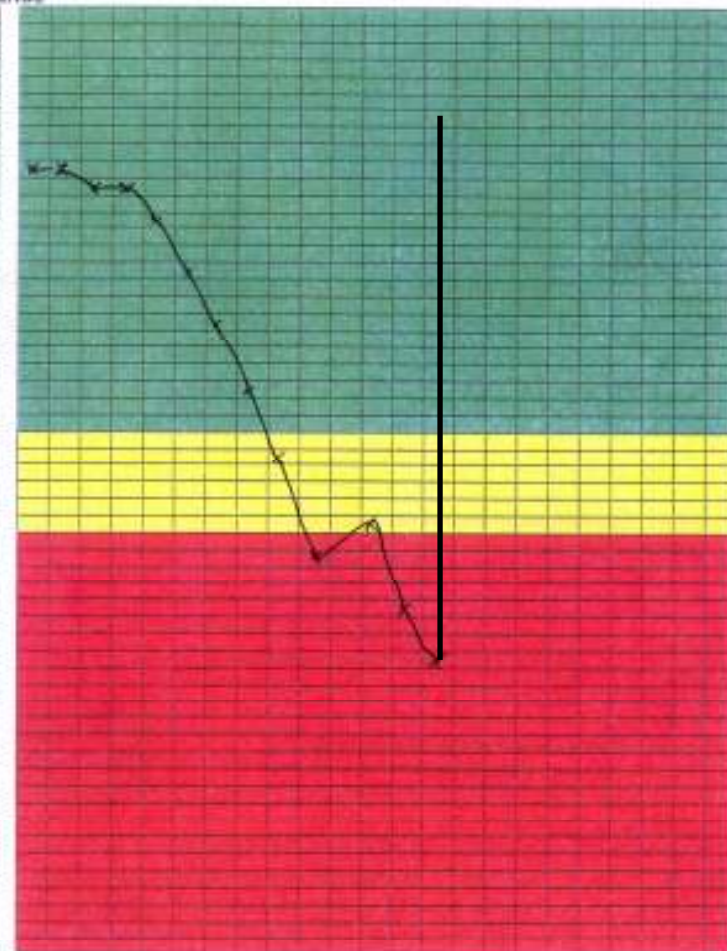


- Continuous pressure transducer
 - 14 gauge needle
 - Arterial line

Date _____

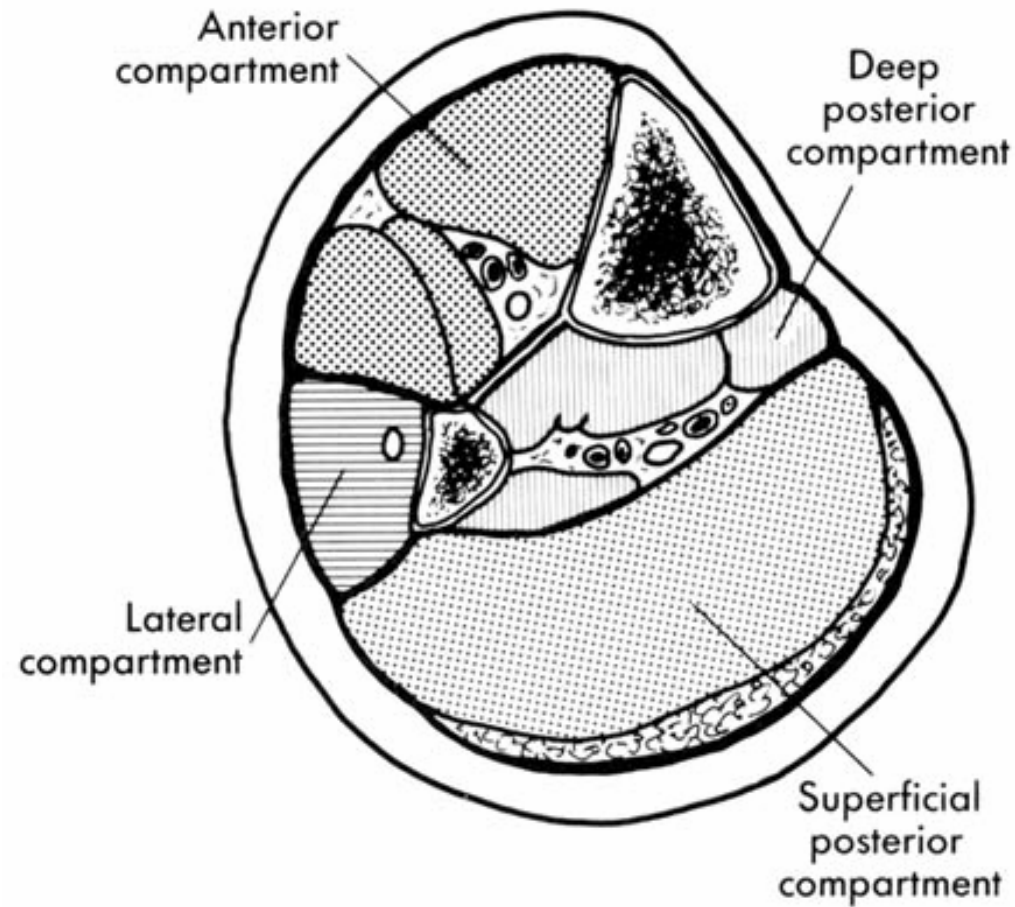
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

60
59
58
57
56
55
54
53
52
51
50
49
48
47
46
45
44
43
42
41
40
39
38
37
36
35
34
33
32
31
30
29
28
27
26
25
24
23
22
21
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5

[illegible]

10. <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/locate/locate>

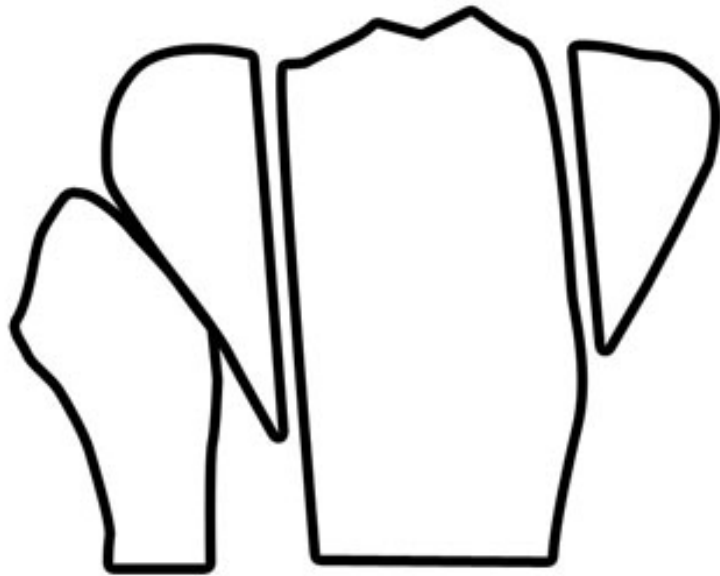
Fasciotomy



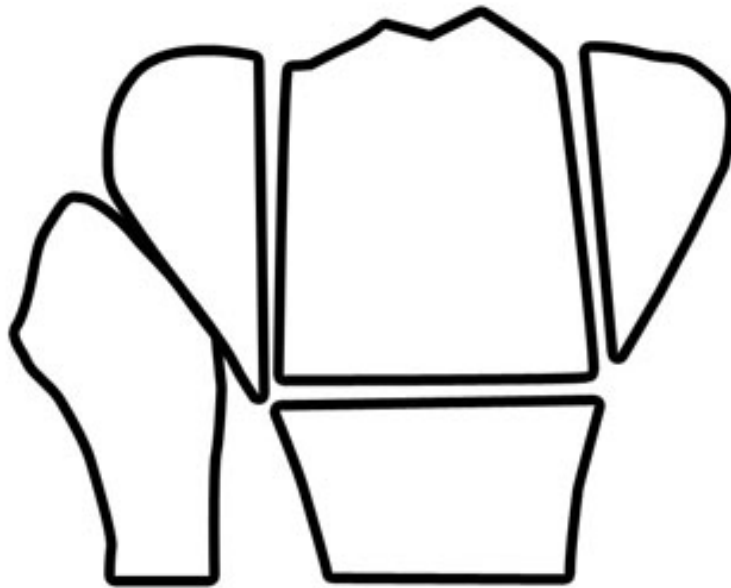


Two incisions:

1. Medial: half way between posterior tibial border and mid point
Posterior compartment and deep compartment
2. Lateral: half way between tibial crest and fibular line
Anterior and lateral compartments.



- **Schatzker V** - Bicondylar
 - Metaphysis is still in continuity with the diaphysis
- Aetiology: axial stress with severe trauma
- Associated injuries: Neurovascular, ACL, meniscal



- **Schatzker VI** - Metaphyseal fracture that separates the articular surface from the diaphysis
- May involve the medial, lateral, or both articular surfaces
- Aetiology: High-energy trauma
- Associated injuries: Neurovascular injury, compartment syndrome, meniscal, ACL, and collateral ligaments

Initial Management

- ATLS
- Neurovascular exam & document
- Appropriate x rays
- Splintage / External fixation
- Further imaging
- Treatment plan

AO Principles

- # reduction + fixation to restore anatomical relationships
- # stability by fixation or splintage as the personality of the fracture and injury dictates
- Preservation of the blood supply to the soft tissues and bone by careful handling and gentle reduction
- Early safe mobilisation

Surgical Planning

- Anatomical fracture configuration
- Reduction plan!
- Mode of use (fracture healing environment)
- Open v's MIPO
- Need a locking plate?
- Can you use convention fixation
- Do you need an anatomical plate?
- Pattern of locking screws and sequence

Fracture Reduction

- Anatomical v's alignment (art v's met)
- Open v's percutaneous ? mode of use
- Time to surgery
- Reduction aids
- Not after insertion of locking screws
- Use of screw types and sequencing

