

3rd Annual Advanced Course on Knee Surgery  
January 17-22, 2010, Val D'Isere,

## Results of High Tibial Osteotomy Osteotomy: Review of the Literature

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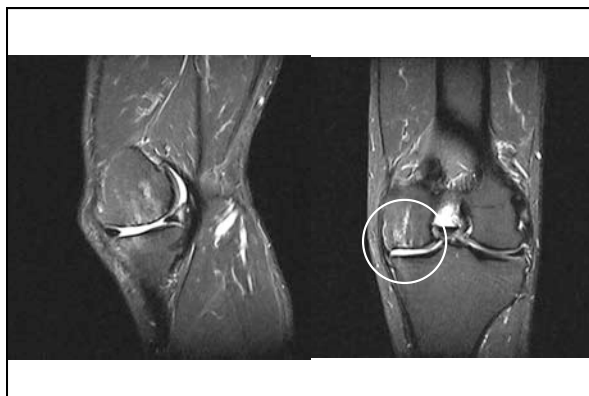


## Disclosures

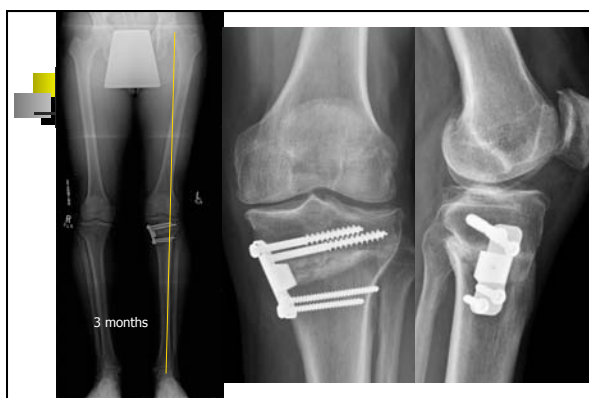
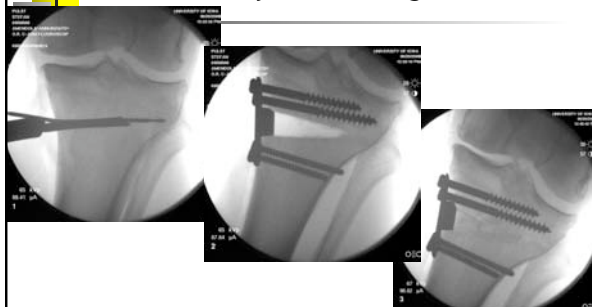
- Conflict of interest related to this presentation:
- Arthrex

## Introduction

- 53 yo male, former competitive runner and soccer player
- S/P bilat. medial meniscectomy in 2001 and 2005 & left microfracture in 2005
- Confirmed grade 4 cartilage loss med comp
- Now increasing med knee pain L>R with exercise and at rest..
- On exam now, stable knee with complete ROM, minimal swelling.



## OW osteotomy and bone graft



### Unicompartmental OA in the Young Patient

- Medial > lateral
- Varus > valgus
  - Post meniscectomy
  - Post ACL injury
  - Primary knee OA

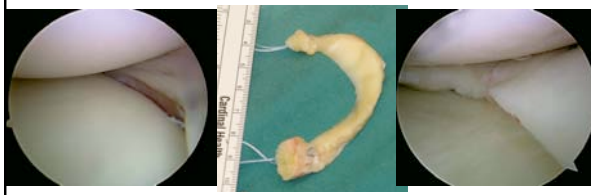


### Early Knee OA

- Operative Considerations:
  - Figure out the problem
    - Alignment, instability, meniscus, cartilage
  - Assess axial and sagittal plane alignment
  - Goals of surgery will affect decision
    - Decrease pain
    - Improve function for ADL's
    - Return to activity

### Early Arthritic Knee

- Often meniscal deficient
- Meniscal transplant?



### Early Arthritic Knee ≠ transplant

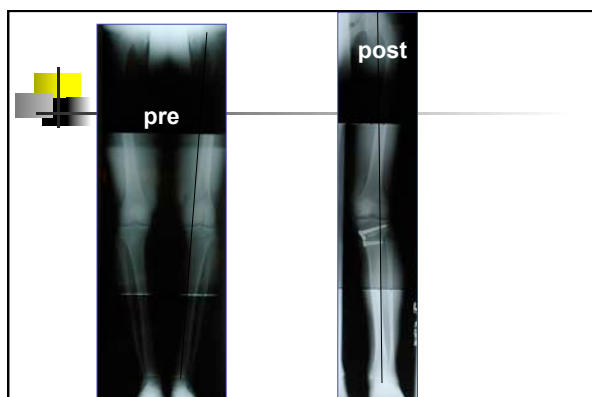
- Usually grade 4 changes
- Both on tibia and femur



### Osteotomy : technical issues

- Techniques for osteotomy:
  - Proximal Tibial
    - Lateral closing
    - Medial opening
    - Acute vs gradual distraction
  - Distal Femoral
    - Medial closing
    - Lateral opening





### Evidence for Osteotomy

**THE COCHRANE COLLABORATION®**

**Osteotomy for treating knee osteoarthritis (Review)**

Brouwer RW, Raaij van TM, Bierma-Zeinstra SMA, Verhagen AP, Jakma TSC, Verhaar JAN

**WILEY**  
Publishers Since 1807

- 13 studies, 693 pts
- 6 studies comparing 2 techniques
- 1 study HTO alone vs HTO +mcfx
- 4 HTO different post op rehab
- 2 HTO vs UKA

### Evidence for Osteotomy

**Osteotomy for treating knee osteoarthritis (Review)**

Brouwer RW, Raaij van TM, Bierma-Zeinstra SMA, Verhagen AP, Jakma TSC, Verhaar JAN

**Authors' conclusions**

- Based on 13 studies, we conclude that there is **'silver' level evidence** (www.cochranemsk.org) that valgus HTO improves knee function and reduces pain
- There is **no evidence** whether an osteotomy is more effective than conservative treatment and the results so far do not justify a conclusion about effectiveness of specific surgical techniques
- No difference between techniques or vs UNI

### Factors affecting results of HTO

- Heterogeneous population
- Variable indications
- Severity of disease/ knee condition
- Surgeon dependent
- Technical differences, ie fixation, techniques
- Patient expectations

**So review of the literature is imperfect !**

### Overall results of HTO

- good or excellent short and midterm results in isolated medial OA
- outcomes gradually deteriorate to a success rate between 60% and 70% at 10 years from surgery<sup>4</sup>.

| Authors                      | Year | Follow-up                            | Results                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nguyen et al. <sup>1</sup>   | 2003 | 7-10 years                           | success rate: 60% at 2 to 5 years, 50% at 6 to 10 years (and no 60% at 10 years)                          |
| Woolhead et al. <sup>2</sup> | 2004 | Mean of 7 years (range 3-10 years)   | success rate: 60% at 1 year, 50% at 3 years, 40% at 5 years and 30% at 7 years                            |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>3</sup>  | 2006 | Mean of 3.8 years (range 1-10 years) | 60% of good or excellent results at last follow-up                                                        |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>4</sup>  | 2006 | 3 to 13 years                        | 75% of good and acceptable outcomes at 3 years and 60% at 11 years                                        |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>5</sup>  | 2009 | 10 to 22 years                       | 75% of patients at 3 years, 55% at 10 years, 30% at 15 years and 10% at 20 years (failed revision: 17.6%) |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>6</sup>  | 2005 | 10 years                             | success rate at last follow-up was 65% (74%)                                                              |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>7</sup>  | 2004 | 3-20 years                           | success rate: 60% at 3 years, 50% at 10 years and 40% at 20 years (failed revision: 17.6%)                |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>8</sup>  | 2005 | 10 years                             | success rate: 60% at 3 years, 50% at 10 years and 40% at 20 years (failed revision: 17.6%)                |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>9</sup>  | 2006 | Mean 10 months (range 3-20 years)    | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>10</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>11</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
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| Verhaar et al. <sup>16</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
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| Verhaar et al. <sup>18</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>19</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |
| Verhaar et al. <sup>20</sup> | 2006 | Mean 10 years (range 3-20 years)     | significant improvement of pain and knee function                                                         |

From Bonasia, Amendola, Int Orthopaedics, Sept 2009

### Evidence for Osteotomy

Arch Orthop Trauma Surg (2004) 124:258-261  
DOI 10.1007/s00402-003-0545-5

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

Petri Virolainen · Hannu T. Aro

**High tibial osteotomy for the treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee: a review of the literature and a meta-analysis of follow-up studies**

- overall failure rate at 10 years was 24.6%
- Average probability of a good or excellent result after 60 months was 75.3% and after 100 months, 60.3%.

## Factors affecting outcome from HTO

- Negative effect
  - severe articular destruction
  - Undercorrected / overcorrected knees
  - advanced age
  - patello-femoral arthrosis
  - decreased range of motion
  - previous arthroscopic debridements
  - joint instability
  - loss of correction
  - lateral tibial thrust
- Positive effect
  - Valgus alignment post correction

## Complications of HTO

- Accurate correction improves results.
- Valgus **overcorrection** yields poor results:
  - Insall et al., JBJS (A) 1974*
  - Coventry et al., Or Clin NA, 1979*
  - Tjornstrand et al., CORR, 1981*
  - Aglietti et al., CORR, 1983*
  - Hernigou et al, JBJS, 1987*

## Overcorrection



40 yo F pain, valgus and hyperextension deformity, 20 yrs post hto

## Post revision Lateral CW Wedge HTO

1 yr post op



## Other factors

- Body mass index
  - No evidence to conclude BMI has any effect on outcome



## Evidence for Osteotomy

- Complications ( 10-41%)
  - Peroneal N injury
  - Anterior compartment syndrome
  - Overcorrection/undercorrection
  - Proximal tib fib joint
  - Patellar height
  - Non union / malunion
  - Revision to TKA



## Peroneal N injury

- Related to proximal tibiofib joint management



## Complications

- Intrarticular fractures
  - OW 11%, LCW 10-20%
- Non union
  - OW 1-4 %/ CWO 1-4%
- Infection
  - Internal fixation up to 4%
  - Ex-fix up to 54% ( pin tract )



## Open vs Closing Wedge HTO ?



vs



## Lateral Closing Wedge HTO

- Results deteriorate with time.
  - ~ 80% good/excellent @ 5 yrs
  - ~ 50% good/excellent @ 10 yrs

Ivarsson et al., JBJS (B) 1990  
 Coventry et al., JBJS (A) 1973  
 Coventry et al., JBJS (A) 1993  
 Insall et al., JBJS (A) 1984  
 Tjornstrand et al., CORR, 1981  
 Aglietti et al., CORR, 1983  
 Holden et al., JBJS(A), 1988  
 Matthews et al., CORR, 1988  
 Naudie et al., 1999  
 Billings et al., JBJS, 2000

## Why opening wedge?

- Advantages
  - Leave the fibula alone
  - One osteotomy
  - Maintains/corrects bony anatomy
  - Less likely to overcorrect
  - Revision to TKA ? simpler

## Why opening wedge?

- Disadvantages
  - Bone graft
  - Slope alteration
  - Patella height
  - Rehabilitation/WB





### Naudie et al, 1999

- Subset of patients
  - Age < 50 yrs and Flexion > 120 degrees
- Increased probability of survival
 

|          |     |
|----------|-----|
| 5 years  | 95% |
| 10 years | 80% |
| 15 years | 65% |

### HTO : Indications

- HTO may be a more predictable procedure in carefully selected patients with OA
  - Active, heavy demand
  - Pre op activity level
  - ROM > 120
  - Mild to moderate deformity
  - Age ?

### Evidence for Osteotomy

Repair of articular cartilage and clinical outcome after osteotomy with microfracture or abrasion arthroplasty for medial gonarthrosis

Knee, 2007

Daigo Matsunaga, Shaw Akizuki\*, Tsutomu Takizawa, Ikuya Yamazaki, Joji Kuraishi

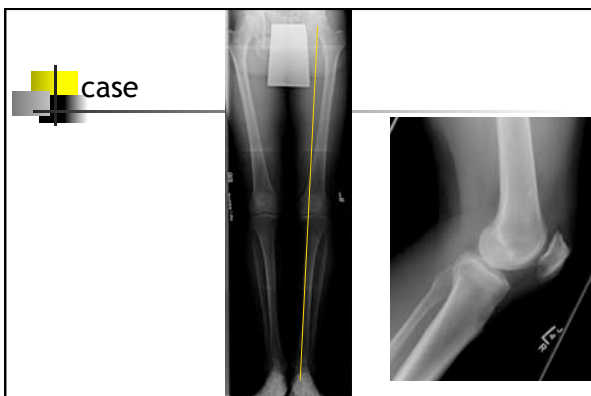
|                           | HTO group | MF group | AA group |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Total number              | 37 knees  | 26 knees | 51 knees |
| Age (years)               | 64.0±5.9  | 65.0±3.8 | 64.6±5.9 |
| Preoperative JOA score    | 49.8±6.8  | 52.5±8.7 | 52.4±6.0 |
| Postoperative JOA score   |           |          |          |
| One year after surgery    | 86.5±6.8  | 84.0±5.9 | 86.0±7.2 |
| Three years after surgery | 86.8±7.0  | 86.6±6.6 | 88.9±7.0 |
| Five years after surgery  | 88.9±4.8  | 85.6±7.4 | 87.0±7.8 |

- No difference at 5 years

### Case: 55 yo avid runner



### case



### 50 yo avid runner





