CENTER OF ORTHOPAEDICS AND TRAUMATOLOGY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL BRANDENBURG / HAVEL



### Ligament pathologies Posteromedial repair and reconstruction

#### ROLAND BECKER





#### Anatomy of the knee

#### **Isolated and combined instabilities**



# Anatomy of the medial aspect of the knee MHB



#### 1. sMCL superfical medial collateral ligament

- Primary stabilizer in Valgus between 0-90°
- Secondary stabilizer in IR and ER
- Proximal and distal insertion important

#### 2. POL posterior oblique ligament

- Primary stabilizer for IR primarly in Extension
- Secondary stabilizer to valgus and ER

#### 3. dMCL deep medial collateral ligament

- Secondary stabilizer to valgus in 60°
- Secondary stabilizer to IR
- Lowest load to failure and stiffness

### **ACL and MCL injury**





## Valgus-external rotation injury

- most common type of injury
- high incidence of MCL injury



Duncan et al., AJSM 1995; 23, Cimino et al., Arthroscopy 1994; 10





#### MCL injuries in 22/27 patients

- Superficial MCL in 17/27 patients (7 partial, 10 complete)
- Pol injured in 14/22 patients
- Semitendinosus and expansion in 14/22 patients
- Meniscotibial ligament on 11/22 patients.



The posteromedial corner of the knee: an international expert consensus statement on diagnosis, classification, treatment, and rehabilitation



Jorge Chahla<sup>1</sup> · Kyle N. Kunze<sup>2</sup> · Robert F. LaPrade<sup>3</sup> · Alan Getgood<sup>4</sup> · Moises Cohen<sup>5</sup> · Pablo Gelber<sup>6,7</sup> · Björn Barenius<sup>8</sup> · Nicolas Pujol<sup>9,10</sup> · Manual Leyes<sup>11</sup> · Ralph Akoto<sup>12</sup> · Brett Fritsch<sup>13</sup> · Fabrizio Margheritini<sup>14</sup> · Leho Rips<sup>15</sup> · Jakub Kautzner<sup>16</sup> · Victoria Duthon<sup>17</sup> · Danilo Togninalli<sup>18</sup> · Zanon Giacamo<sup>19</sup> · Nicolas Graveleau<sup>20</sup> · Stefano Zaffagnini<sup>21</sup> · Lars Engbretsen<sup>22</sup> · Martin Lind<sup>23</sup> · Rodrigo Maestu<sup>24</sup> · Richard Von Bormann<sup>25</sup> · Charles Brown<sup>26</sup> · Silvio Villascusa<sup>27</sup> · Juan Carlos Monllau<sup>28</sup> · Gonzalo Ferrer<sup>29</sup> · Jacques Menetrey<sup>17</sup> · Michael Hantes<sup>30</sup> · David Parker<sup>13</sup> · Timothy Lording<sup>31</sup> · Kristian Samuelsson<sup>32,33</sup> · Andreas Weiler<sup>34</sup> · Soshi Uchida<sup>35</sup> · Karl Heinz Frosch<sup>36,37</sup> · James Robinson<sup>26,38</sup>

- · Consensus based on the Delphi method
- 35 experts in the field of multiligament injuries
- 63 statements

Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2021 Sep;29(9):2976-2986.



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Statement		% Disagreement
Anatomy		
The key passive restraining structures of the Posteromedial Corner (PMC) of the Knee are the Superficial Medial Collateral Ligament (sMCL), the Deep Medial Collateral Ligament (dMCL) and the Posterior Oblique Ligament (POL)	100	0
The sMCL is the primary restraint to valgus rotation	100	0
Isolated rupture of the dMCL does not cause a clinically discernable increase in valgus laxity	82.9	17.1
The sMCL is the most important restraint to external tibial rotation on the medial side of the knee	100	0
The POL is an important restraint to internal tibial rotation in the extended knee	100	0
The semimembranosus is an important dynamic restraint	100	0

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### **Classification by Houghston**

#### Severity of injury

- Grade I Partial rupture of few fibers of the MCL, stabile in 0° and 30° of knee flexion
- Grade II SMCL# / POL intact, stabile in 0, unstabile in 30° (gapping 1.2mm in 0°)
- Grade III sMCL# + POL #, unstabile in 0° and 30° (gapping of 3.2mm in 0°)

Hughston, JBJS-Am 1976; Fetto et al., Clin Orthop 1978 LaPrade Sports Med Arthrosc Rev 2015

### **Grading according to MRI**



Grad I





Nakamura et al., AJSM 2003

#### Grad II

Grad IV



### Accuracy of MRI in acute knee injury

	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
Anterior cruciate ligament	90	94	77	98
Posterior cruciate ligament	100	100	100	100
Medial Meniscus	97	88	94	94
Lateral Meniscus	77	99	98	89

#### Fast Spin Echo without Fat Supression

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Accuracy
MCL	65.6	97.7	93.6
MM	94.1	81.3	90

Taketomi S The Knee 21 (2014) 1151-1155, Munshi M Clinical Journal of sports Medicine 10 (2000) 34-391

### "Wave sign" in valgus rotation grade III





Waving of the superficial layer

Waving of the Distal end

Entrapment in the medial compartment

Taketomi S. The Knee 21 (2014) 1151



### **Sterner lesion**



Displacement of the MCL superficially to the Pes anserinus = "Sterner lesion" of the knee

Surgery



### Diagnosis

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#### D

- Valgus laxity with the knee in slight valgus (15-30°) indiccates sMCL injury
- Pronounced valgus laxity in knee extension indicates combined injury sMCL, POL and ACL
- Dial test may indicate anteromedial rotatory laxity
- MRI compulsary
- Stress radiographies in chronic cases (after 6 weeks)
- Valgus stress radiographies helpful for aassessment of conservative treatment



- Large acute avulsion from the tibial site
- Acute bony avulsion form the tibial or femoral site



Wilson et al., Orthopedics 2004





Singel stage surgery recommended





Courtesy S. Scheffler

In multiligament injuries primary repair with anchors



#### Repair of the posterior oblique ligament by Hughston



Hughston et al., JBJS-Am, 1994



## **ACL Surgery**

• MCL tear and grad III instability in 0° + 30° of flexion

Increased incidence of persistant medial instability Risk of secondary instability after ACL reconstruction

Kannus et al., Clin Orthop 1988

Grade III Injury of the superficial and deep MCL (MRI)

In combination with ACL rupture increased rate of both medial and anterior injury

Nakamura et al., AJSM 2003



#### SINGLE STAGE PROCEDURE IN ACL AND MCL INJURY



### **Graft selection**

Significant more valgus instability when hamstrings are used for ACL reconstruction in MCL insufficient knees

Cadaver testing of valgus rotation: ACL-/ MCL+

ACL - / MCL -ACL recon. + ST/G-loading + ACL recon. - ST/G-loading -

-30% increase in valgus rotation -restoration of valgus stability -19% increase of valgus rotation



- Quadriceps tendon
- Patella tendon
- Allograft

Kremmen et al. AJSM 2018, Herbort et al., Am J Sports Med 2016

### **Surgery of medial instability**





#### Reconstruction of both sMCL and POL using the semitendinosus tendon

M. Lind AJSM 2009

### **Surgery of medial instability**





Technique by Lonergan and Taylor



#### Stannard modified technique to Kim

Technique by Wijdicks

Kim SE JBJS-Br (2008) 1323-1327, Roth J Sports Med Arthrosc Rev (2015) 2, 71-76



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Hughston, JBJS-Am 1976; Fetto et al., Clin Orthop 1978

#### Therapy

- Grade I Conservativ
- Grade II Conservativ, some times surgery in case of subjective instability
- Grade III Surgery

CAVE: COX-2 inhibitor delay MCL healing

Reider et al., AJSM, 1994; Indelicato et al., Clin Orthop 1990Jones et al., Clin Orthop 1986



### Management – Consensus statement

#### **Isolated PMC treatment**

•	Early, immediate range of motion up to 90° within a brace to prevent stiffness Isolated, complete PMC ruptures at the femoral side or midsubstance more favorable for conservative treatment Polyethylene tape re-enforcement ("internal bracing") not recommended	conservative
• • •	Displaced tibial avulsion with laxity Displaced femoral alvusion Intra-articular entrapment MCL - Sterner lesion Internal bracing not recommended	surgery



### Management – Consensus statement

#### **Combined PMC treatment**

- Partial and complete PMC injuries + ACL rupture:
  - 1. ROM-brace for PMC
    - 2. ACL-reconstruction
- sMCL + ACL rupture: early repair or reconstruction and ACL reconstruction
- Isolated ACL reconstruction in case of side-to-side valgus laxity of <3mm</li>
- PMC + ACL reconstruction in case of residual medial laxity following conservative treatment
- Internal bracing is not reccommended
- PMC + PCL rupture treated with a dynamic PCL brace
- Three ligament injuries involving MCL best treated by early reconstruction of all ligaments Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2021 Sep;29(9):2976-2986.



### Management – Consensus statement

#### Reconstruction

- PMC reconstruction should address both valgus and rotational laxity
- Individual PMC structures should be reconstructed preserving the intact parts
- Chronic PMC laxity requires reconstruction of the MCL and POL
- Long leg full weight bearing radiographies are necessary to assess alignment
- Varisation osteotomy should be considered
- Ipsilateral hamstring graft or allograft is the graft of choice for reconstruction
- Synthetic grafts are not recommended



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#### **Science Opens the Mind**

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