

**Common Orthopaedic Conditions  
of the Shoulder:  
From Young Athlete to Weekend Warrior**

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**A PA's Guide to the Musculoskeletal Galaxy  
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# Disclosures

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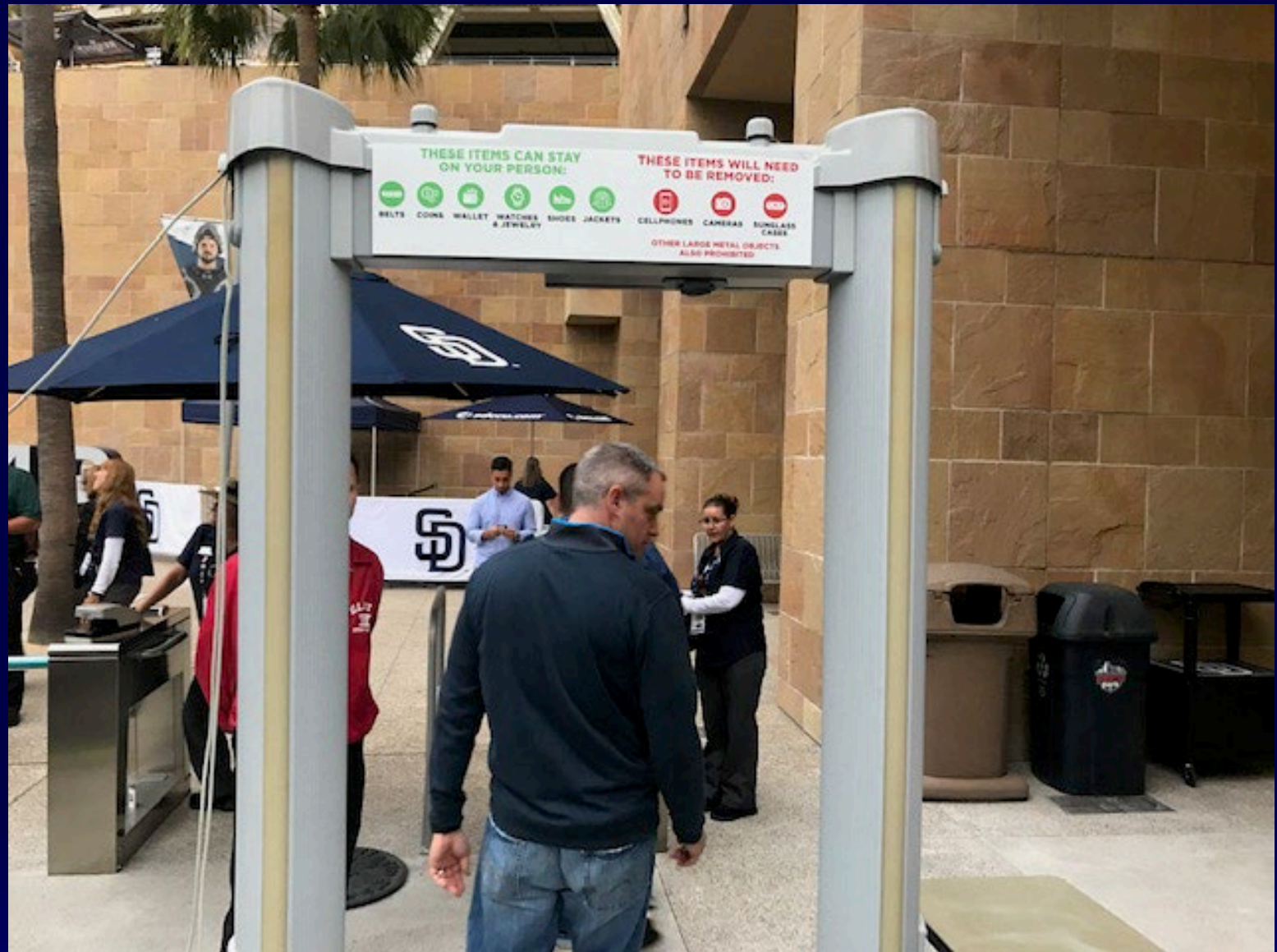












**THESE ITEMS CAN STAY ON YOUR PERSON:**

- BELTS
- COINS
- WALLETS
- WATCHES
- SHOES
- JACKETS

**OTHER LARGE METAL OBJECTS ALSO PROHIBITED**

**THESE ITEMS WILL NEED TO BE REMOVED:**

- CELLPHONES
- CAMERAS
- SUNGLASS CASES









# AMBITION

THE JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES SOMETIMES ENDS VERY, VERY BADLY.

# The Shoulder - An Intern's View



# The Shoulder

- Most flexible joint in the human body
- 360 degree circumduction!
- Most complex joint in the human body
- Remarkable combination of strong bones, flexible ligaments and tendons, strong cartilage and muscles
- Undisputed champion of joints
- Case closed



# Objectives

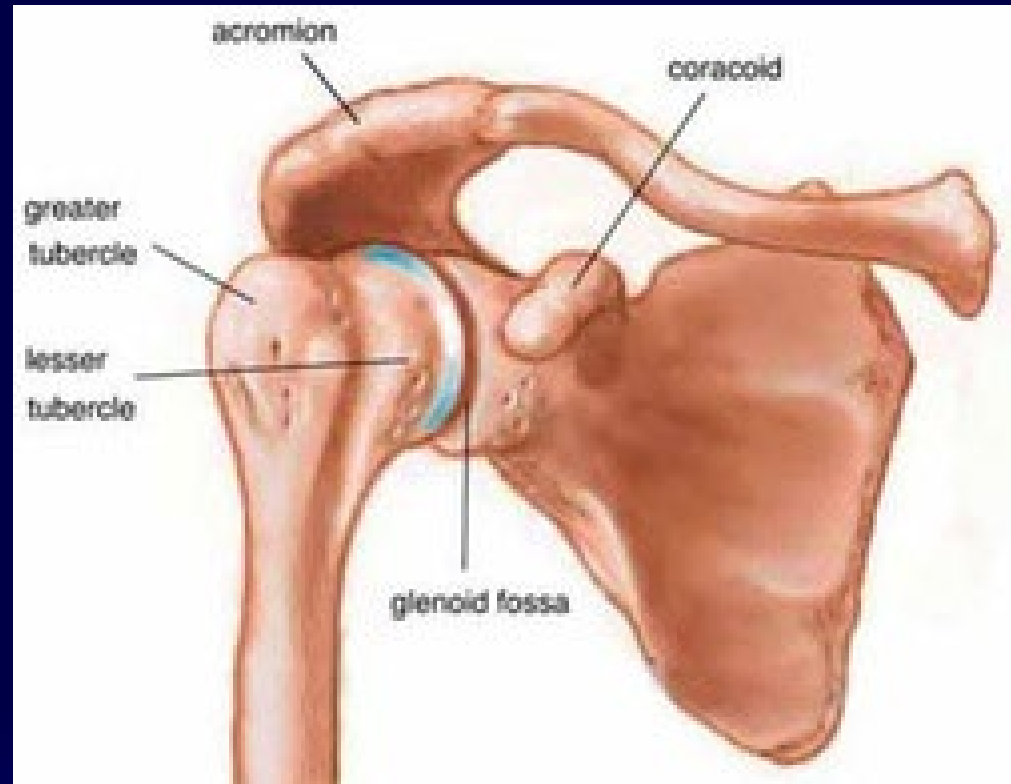
- Know how to properly evaluate a patient with a shoulder injury or symptoms of chronic shoulder conditions
- Formulate an appropriate differential diagnosis based on history and PE findings
- Recommend initial treatment plans for patients with shoulder injuries and conditions
- Leave here having recognized the shoulder as the greatest joint in the human body

# Part 1: Young Athlete

- Shoulder anatomy
- SLAP Lesions
- Shoulder dislocations
- Shoulder instability
- Labral injuries
- AC joint separations

# Shoulder anatomy

- Three bones
  - ❖ Scapula
  - ❖ Humerus
  - ❖ Clavicle
- Joints
  - ❖ Glenohumeral
  - ❖ Acromioclavicular
  - ❖ Sternoclavicular
  - ❖ Scapulothoracic

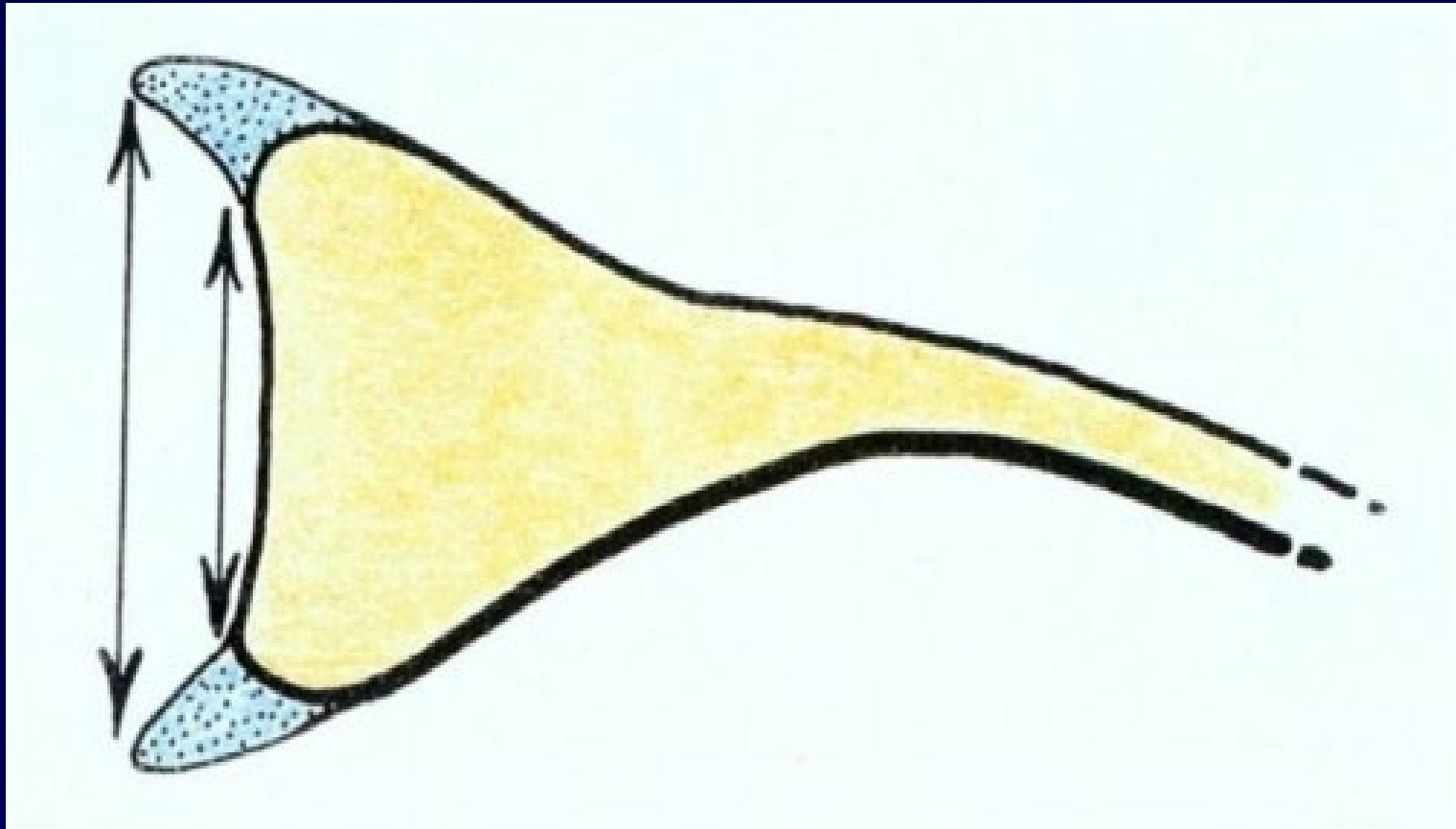


# Labral anatomy

- Soft tissue sleeve surrounding glenoid
- Contiguous with joint capsule
- Clock face nomenclature
- LH Biceps attaches on the supraglenoid tubercle at 12 o'clock



# Labral anatomy



# Case #1

- 24yo RHD collegiate baseball pitcher presents with 3 month h/o intermittent right shoulder pain
- Exacerbated by throwing, lost velocity
- Localized deep and radiates down the front of his upper arm
- Aggravated by overhead reaching, throwing
- Partially relieved by NSAIDs

# Case #1

- Exam reveals good ROM except slightly limited internal rotation
- Positive O'Brien's test
- Positive biceps load test
- No significant weakness
- Plain x-rays normal
- Any other studies?



# CAUTION



Knee MRI Magnetic  
Field!

Electromagnetic forces  
may cause doctor to  
lose common sense!



# Case #1



# Case #1

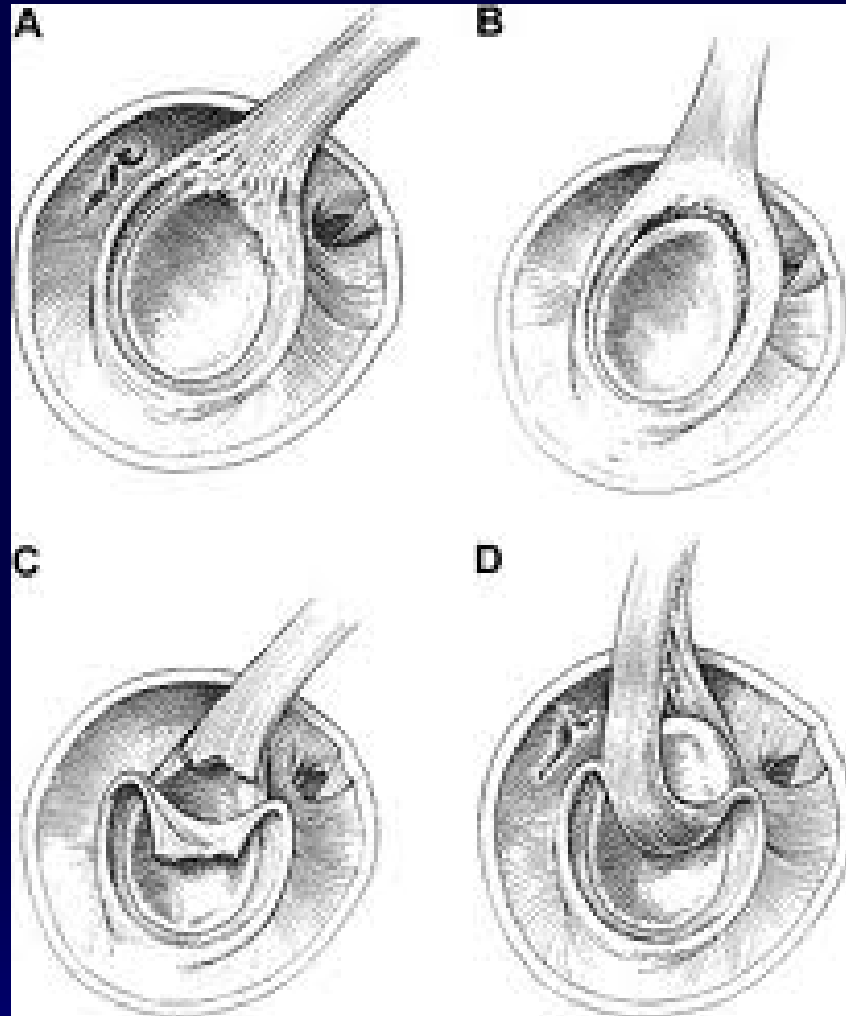
- Diagnosis?

# SLAP Lesions

- Superior Labral Anterior Posterior
- Common in overhead athletes
- Degenerative, attritional injury
- Labral tear of variable size at biceps anchor
- May involve a portion of the biceps

*Snyder et al. Arthroscopy, 1990.*

# SLAP Lesions



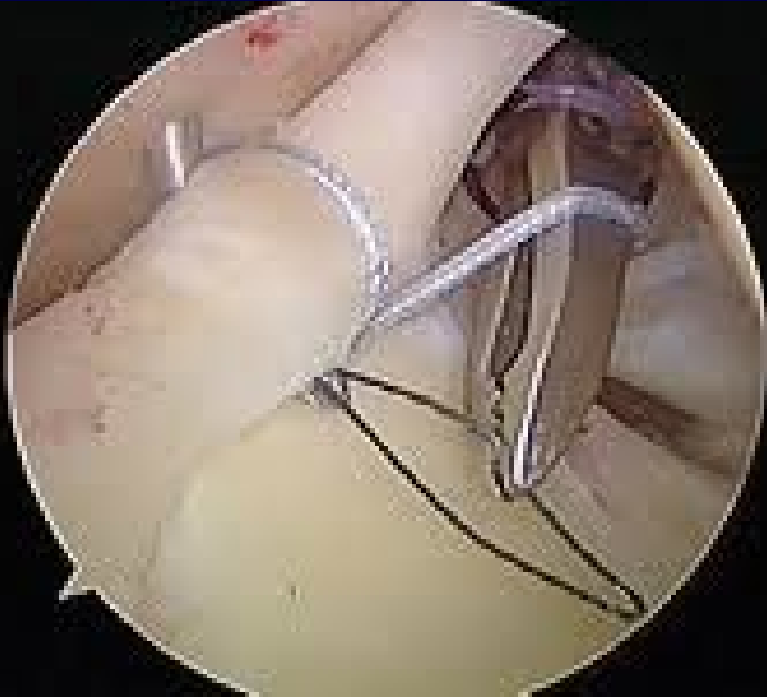
# SLAP Lesions



# SLAP Lesions

- Conservative treatment includes rest, PT with ROM and terminal stretching exercises
- Associated GIRD
- NSAIDs for pain
- Activity modification – difficult for pitchers!
- Most often result in arthroscopic repair in young athletic patients

# SLAP Repair



# Case #2

- 28 yo male skier attempting a “jump” crashes and lands awkwardly
- Notices pain and deformity at top of his right shoulder
- Presents to the ED





# Case #2



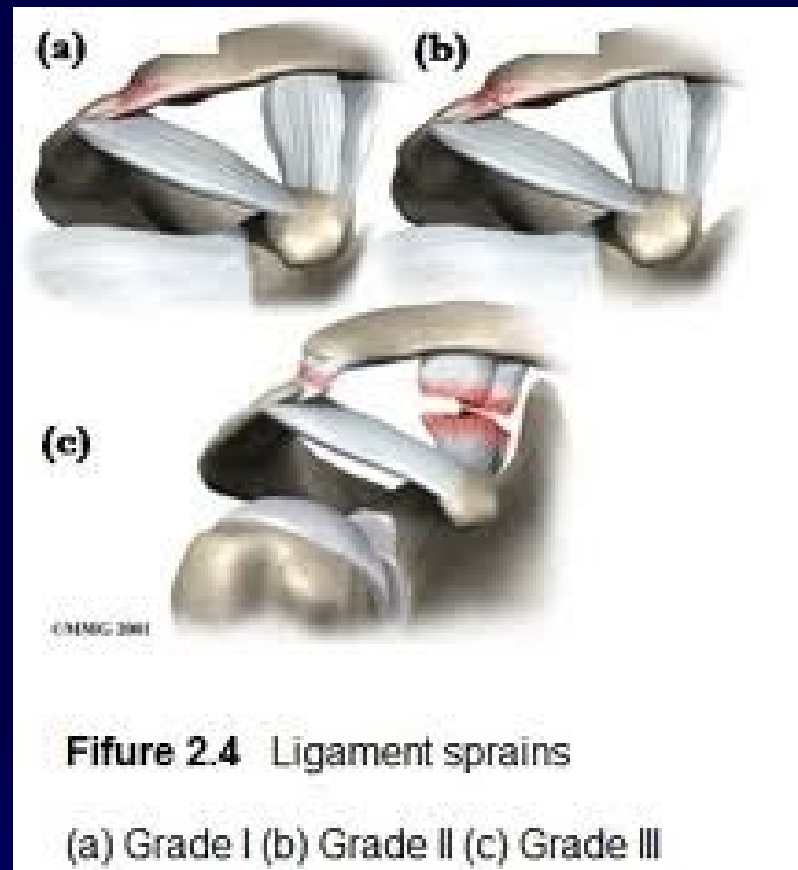
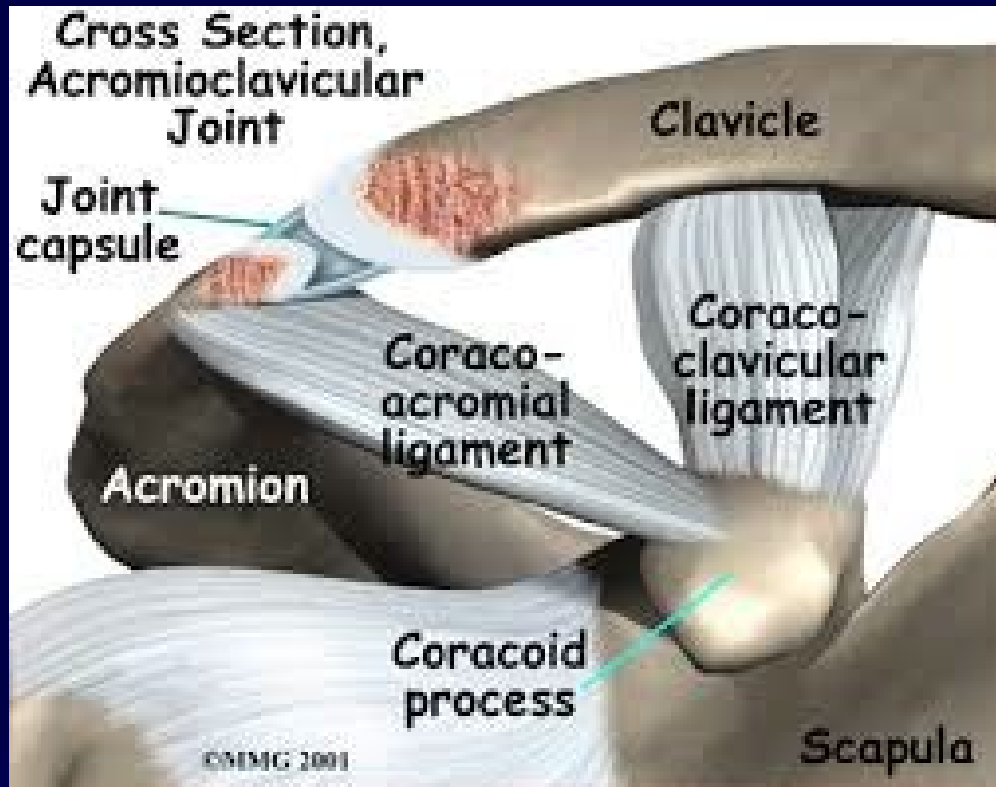
# Case #2



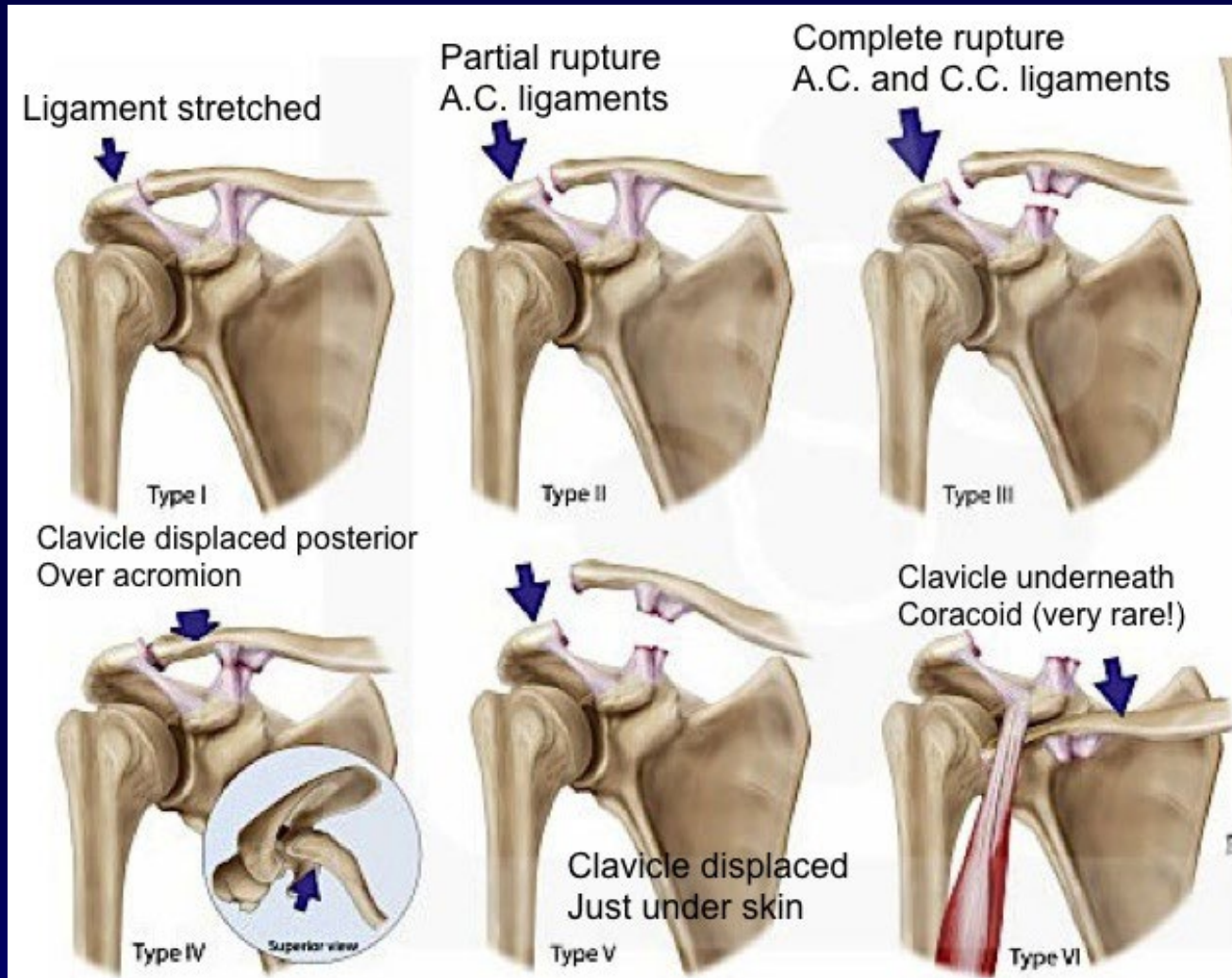
# Acromioclavicular separations

- Relatively common injury resulting from a direct blow to top of shoulder
  - ❖ Bicycling
  - ❖ Snowboarding
  - ❖ Skateboarding
  - ❖ Football

# Acromioclavicular Separations



# Acromioclavicular separations



# Acromioclavicular separations

- Grade of injury directs management
  - ❖ 1-2: Conservative
  - ❖ 3: Controversial
  - ❖ 4+: Operative
- Numerous procedures described
- Acute injuries can be repaired/stabilized
- Anatomic reconstruction of coracoclavicular ligaments is probably best in chronic cases

# Acromioclavicular separations

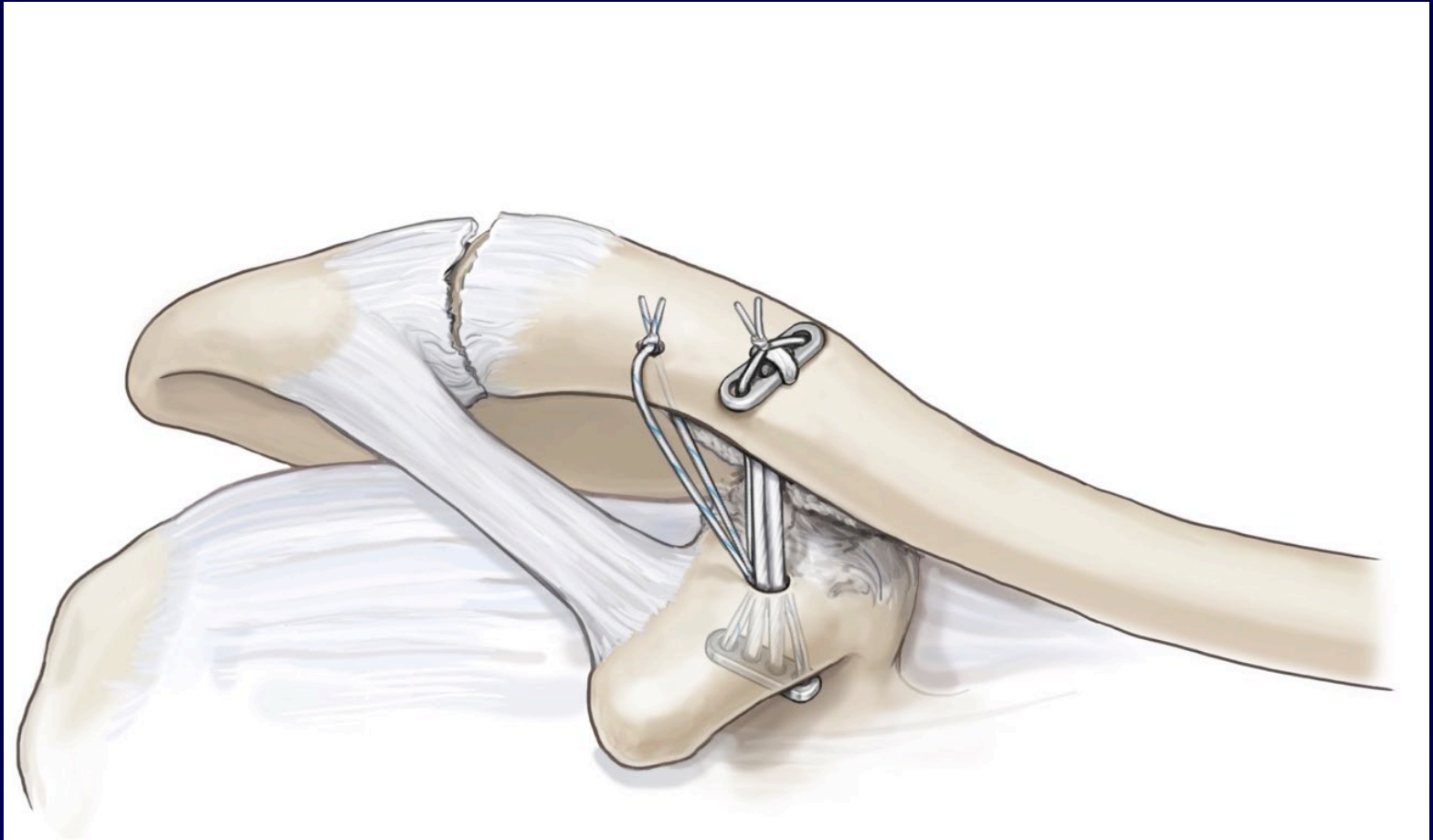




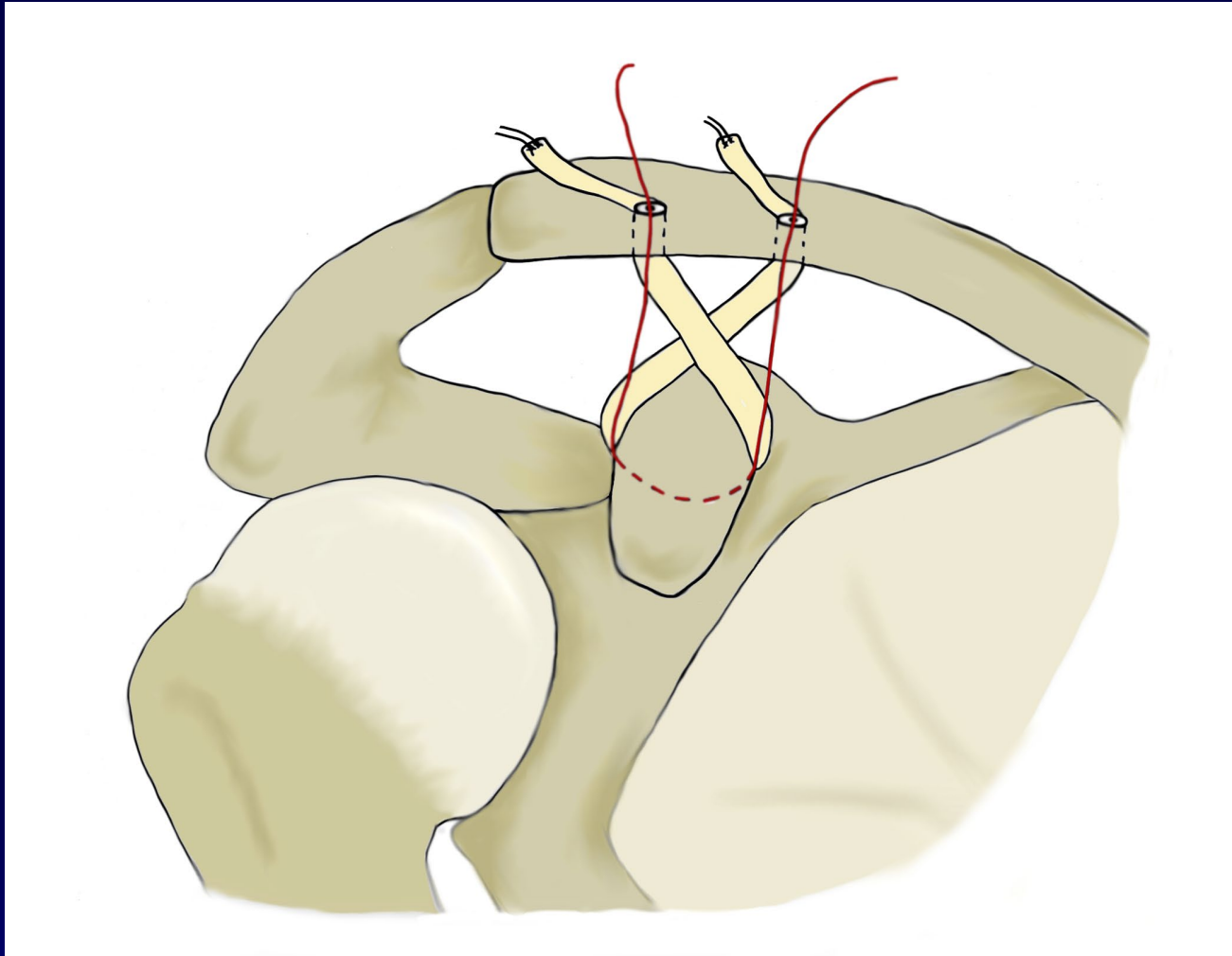
# Acromioclavicular separations

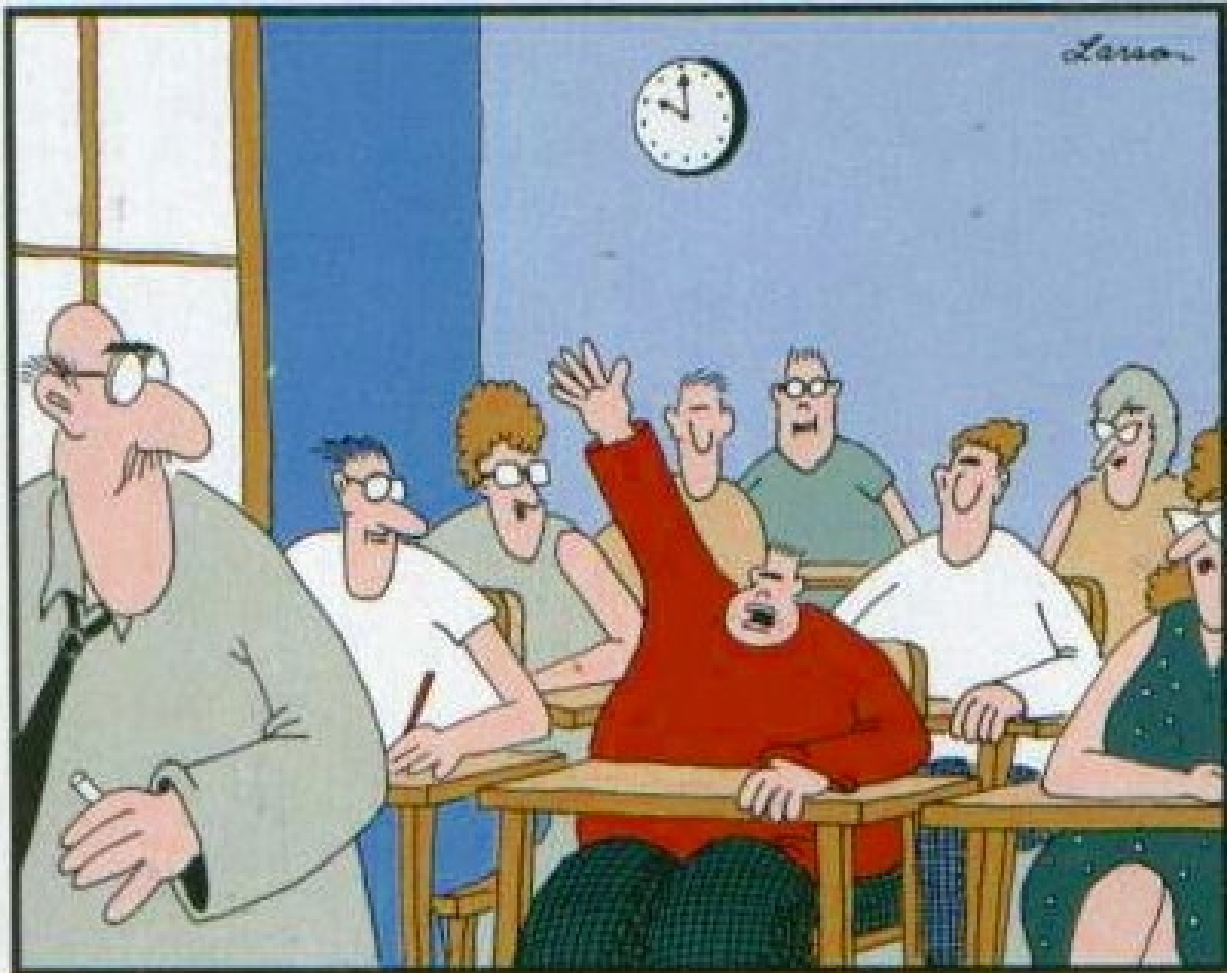


# Acromioclavicular separations



# Acromioclavicular separations





**"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused?  
My brain is full."**

# Case #3

- 18yo high school football player is tackled, landing on his right extended arm
- Immediate deep pain
- Unable to move shoulder
- Taken to training room for evaluation

# Case #3



# Case #3



# Case #3

- Diagnosis?



# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Very common injury in younger age groups
- Males (9:1)
- FOOSH
- ABER position
- Majority of traumatic dislocations are anterior/anteroinferior
- Posterior associated with epileptic seizures and electrocution

# Glenohumeral Instability

- Loosely divided between traumatic and atraumatic etiology.
- Traumatic usually unidirectional
- Atraumatic usually multidirectional
- TUBS
- AMBRI

# Glenohumeral Instability

- TUBS
  - ❖ Traumatic
  - ❖ Unilateral
  - ❖ Bankart lesion
  - ❖ Surgical management

# Glenohumeral Instability

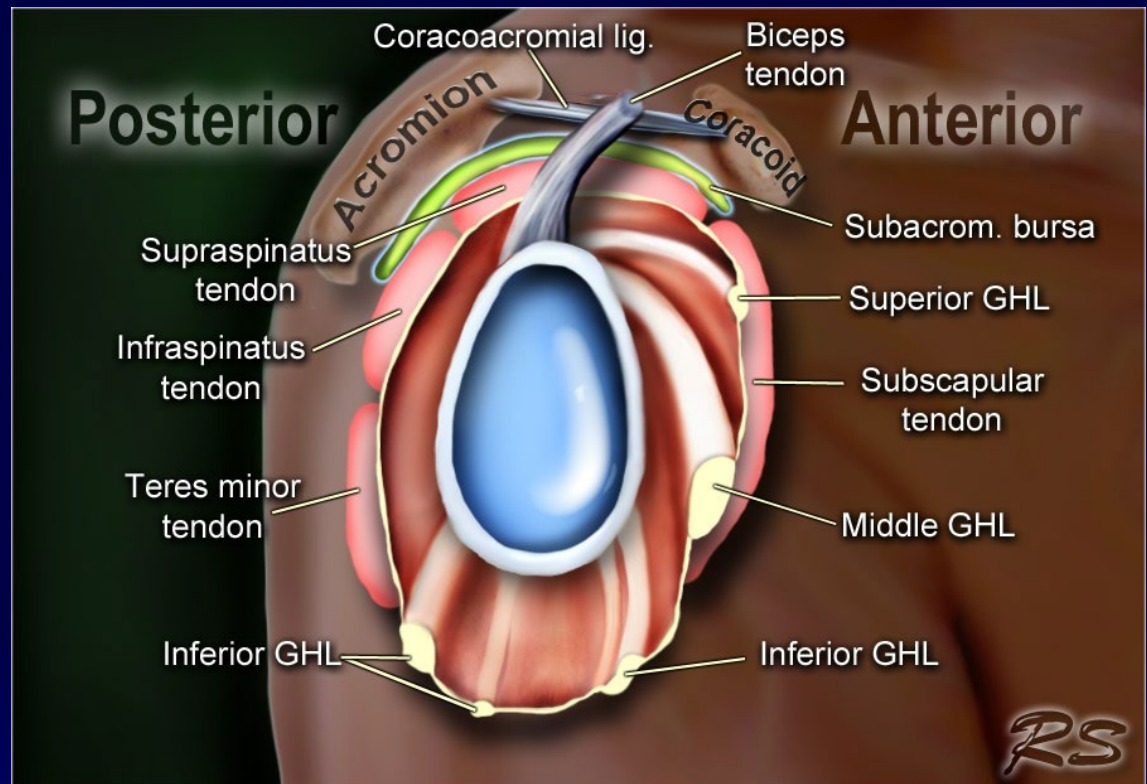
- AMBRI
  - ❖ Atraumatic
  - ❖ Multidirectional
  - ❖ Bilateral
  - ❖ Rehabilitation
  - ❖ Inferior capsular shift

# Multidirectional Instability

- Usually atraumatic
- Multiple subluxation episodes
- Often never required reduction
- “Loose-jointed”
- Positive sulcus/apprehension signs
- Management is PT, then PT, and more PT
- Inferior capsular shift or arthroscopic plication

# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Anatomy review
  - ❖ Glenoid
  - ❖ Labrum
  - ❖ Capsule



# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Bankart lesion is nearly an “essential” injury in traumatic glenohumeral dislocation
  - ❖ Capsulolabral injury
  - ❖ Bony Bankart
- Hill-Sachs lesion is a frequent concomitant injury to posterior humeral head

# Glenohumeral Dislocations



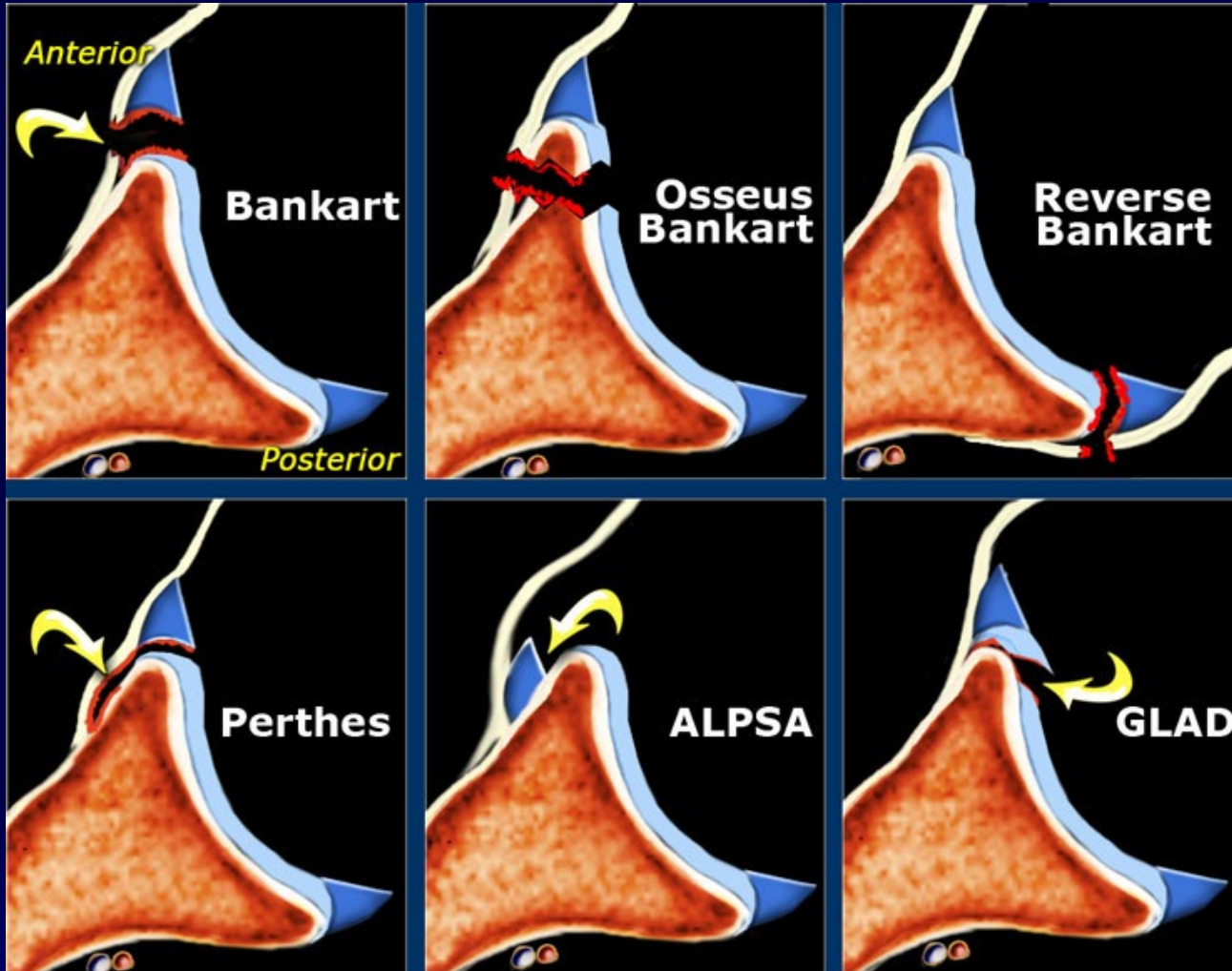
**Normal**



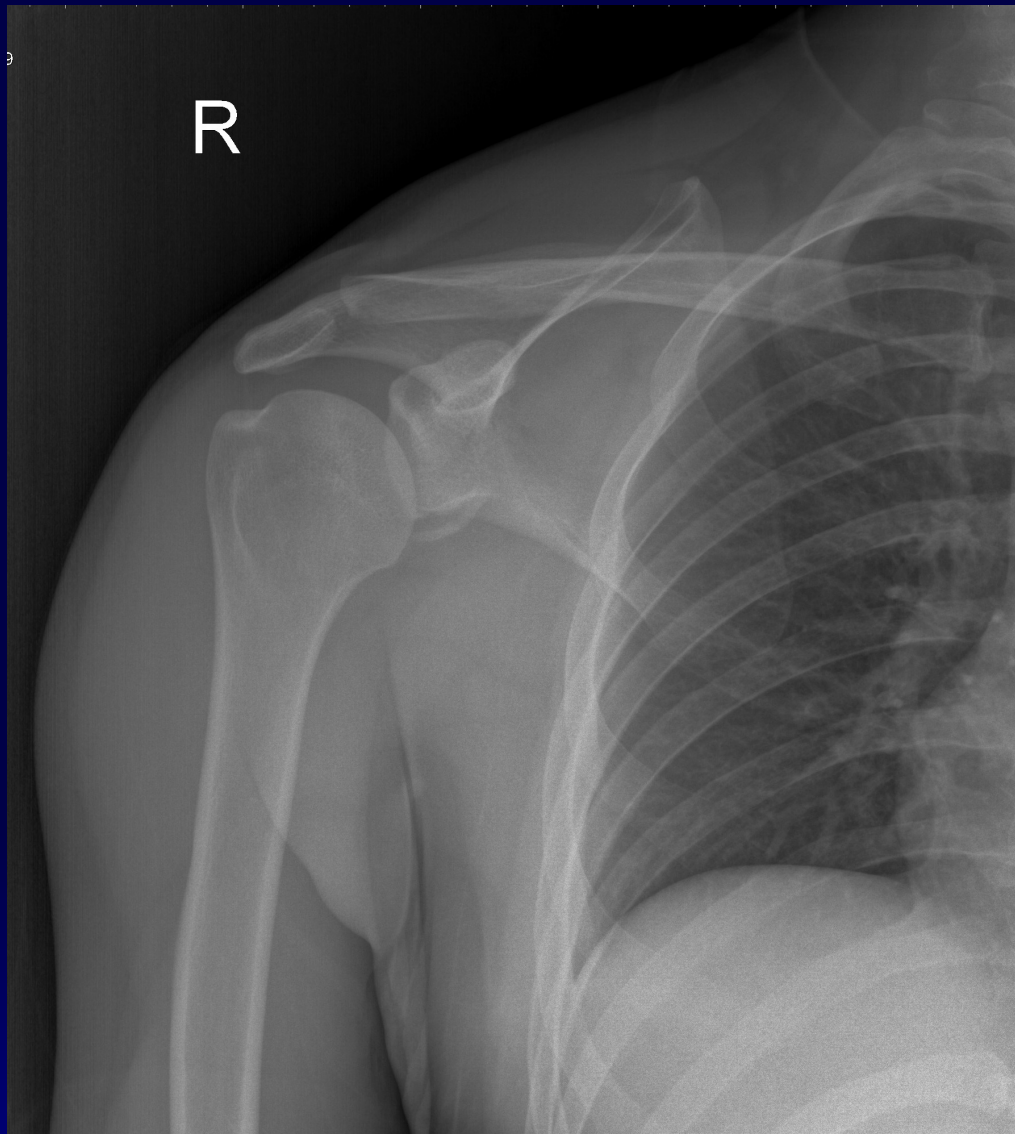
**Bankart Lesion**



# Bankart and Friends



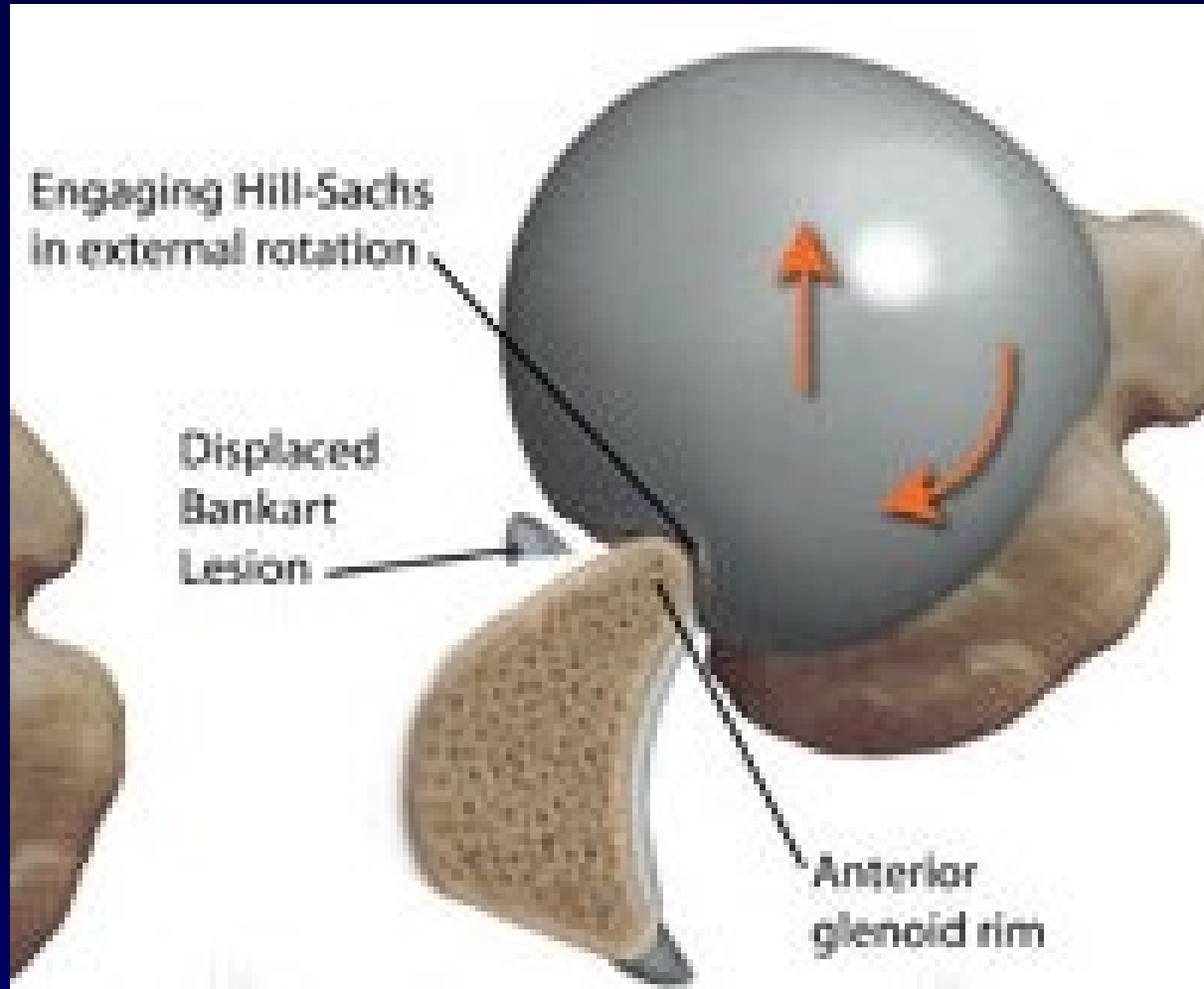
# Bony Bankart – X-Rays



# Bankart - MRI



# Hill-Sachs Lesion



# Hill-Sachs Lesion



# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Examination
  - ❖ Sulcus sign
  - ❖ Prominent acromion
  - ❖ Held in IR with limited AROM/PROM
- Imaging
  - ❖ Plain X-rays diagnostic (axillary view!)
  - ❖ MRI arthrogram shows Bankart
  - ❖ CT best for determining glenoid bone loss
  - ❖ “Critical” loss less than 20%!

# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Management
  - ❖ Closed reduction under anesthesia
  - ❖ Sling immobilization
  - ❖ Pain management
  - ❖ PT/Rehabilitation
  - ❖ Surgery?
  - ❖ Recurrent instability

# Glenohumeral Dislocations

- Recurrent instability
  - ❖ Rates of re-dislocation higher in young Pts
  - ❖ 67% of first time dislocators will have a second
  - ❖ 90% of two-time dislocators will have a third

*Simonet and Cofield. Am J Sports Med, 1984.*
- Some surgeons have recommended operative management of first time dislocators, especially young athletes



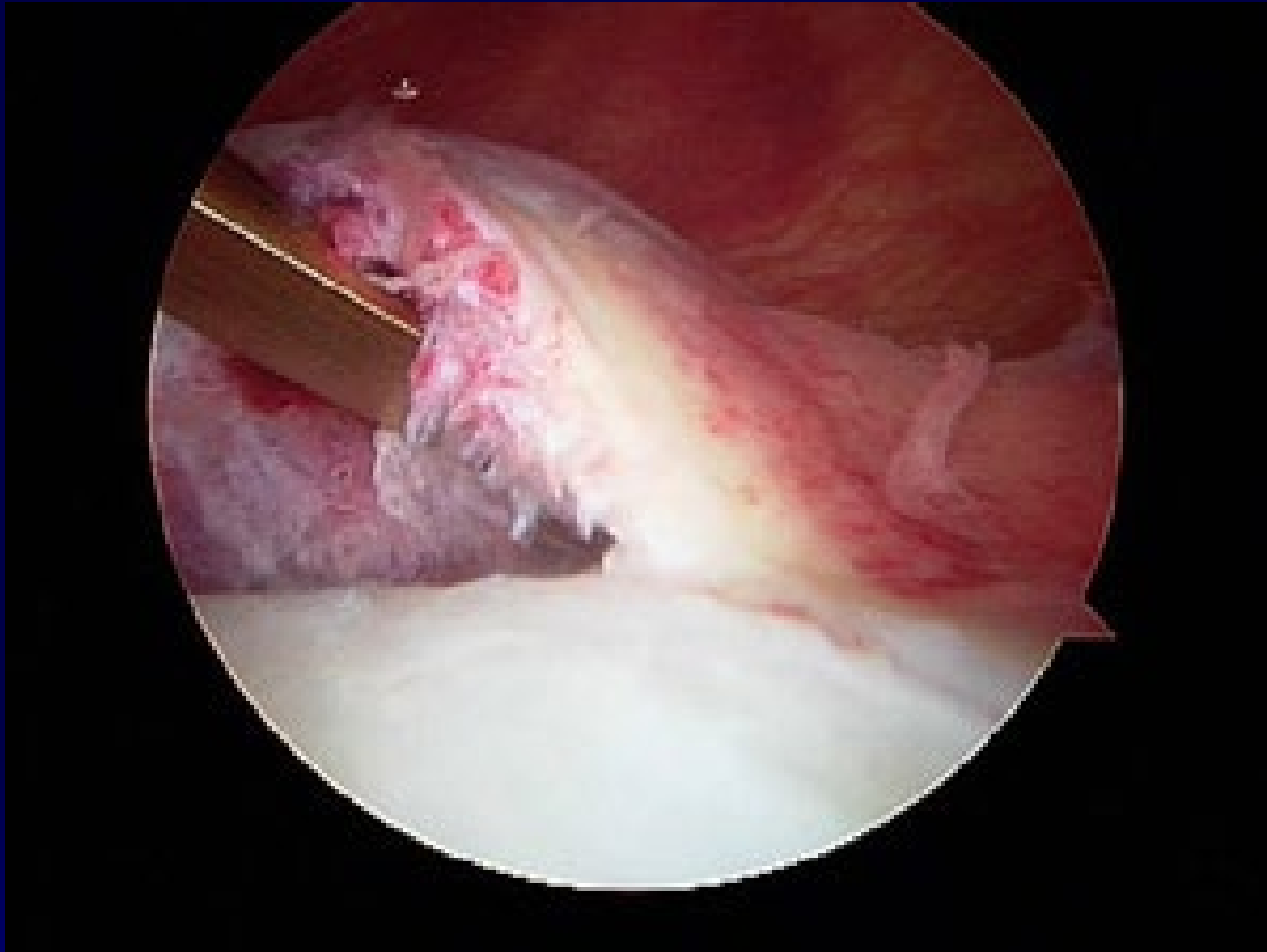
# Recurrent Instability

- Age at first dislocation is most important factor in predicting recurrence
  - ❖ 0-20% in Pts older than 40 years
  - ❖ 40-60% in Pts 20-30 years old
  - ❖ 66-95% in Pts younger than 20 years old
  - ❖ Almost 100% in Pts with open growth plates

*Simonet and Cofield. Am J Sports Med, 1984.*

*Nevaiser et al. J Shoulder Elbow Surg, 1995.*

# Bankart Lesion



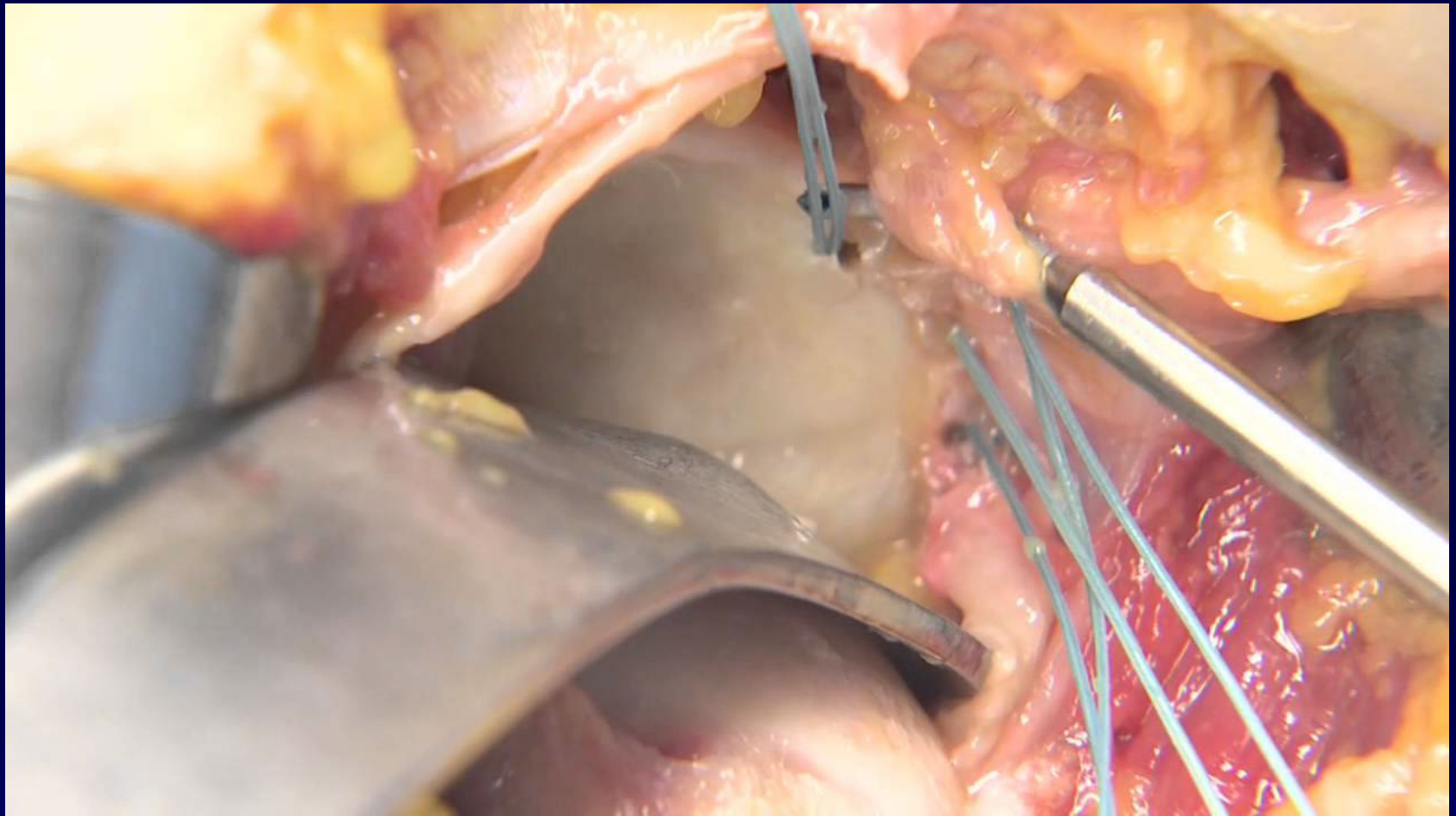
# Treatment Options

- Conservative
- Surgical
  - ❖ Open Bankart repair/capsular shift
  - ❖ Arthroscopic Bankart repair

# Open Bankart Repair

- Limited deltopectoral incision
- Labrum reattached to articular edge
  - ❖ Bone tunnels
  - ❖ Suture anchors
- Knots on outside of capsule
- Independent lateral capsular shift
- Overlapped capsular flaps

# Open Bankart Repair



# Open Bankart Repair

- 161 Pts
- Bone defects
  - ❖ Glenoid 77%
  - ❖ Hill-Sachs 78%
- Only 5 recurrences
- 97% satisfied

*Rowe. J Bone Joint Surg 1978*

# Open Bankart Repair

- 103 Pts
- 85% collision athletes
- Bone defects
  - ❖ Glenoid bone loss 14%
  - ❖ Hill-Sachs 84%
- 2 recurrences!

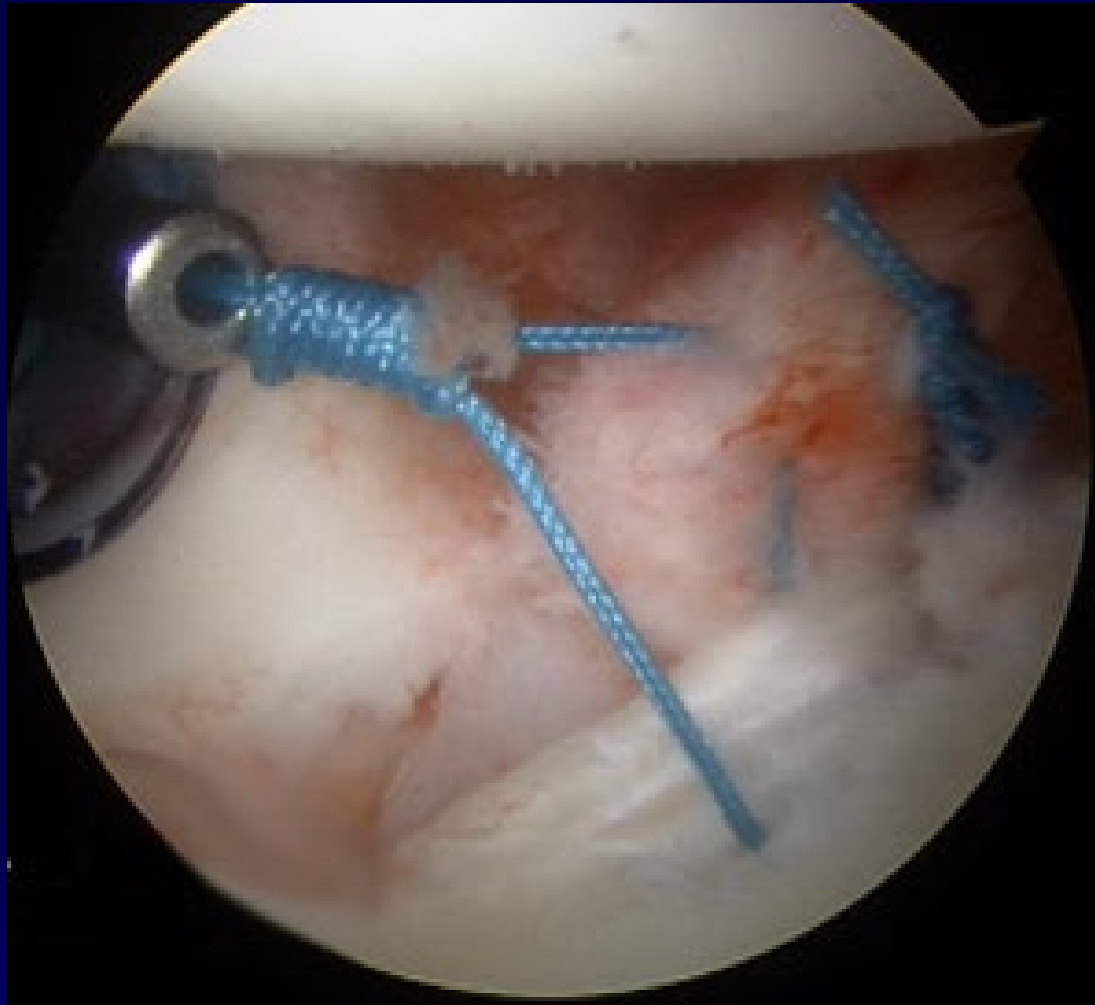
*Pagnani. Am J Sports Med 2008*

# Arthroscopic Bankart Repair

- Less invasive, smaller incisions
- Shorter operative time
- Faster recovery
- Lower incidence of neurovascular injury
- More elegant
- Better in every way?!?



# Arthroscopic Bankart Repair



# Arthroscopic Bankart Repair



“Those who do not remember the past are  
condemned to repeat it”

--George Santayana

# Recurrent Instability

- 79 open repairs, 83 arthroscopic
- WOSI scores: No difference
- Recurrence rates:
  - ❖ Open 11%
  - ❖ Arthroscopic 23%!!!

*Mohtadi et al. J Bone Joint Surg, 2014*

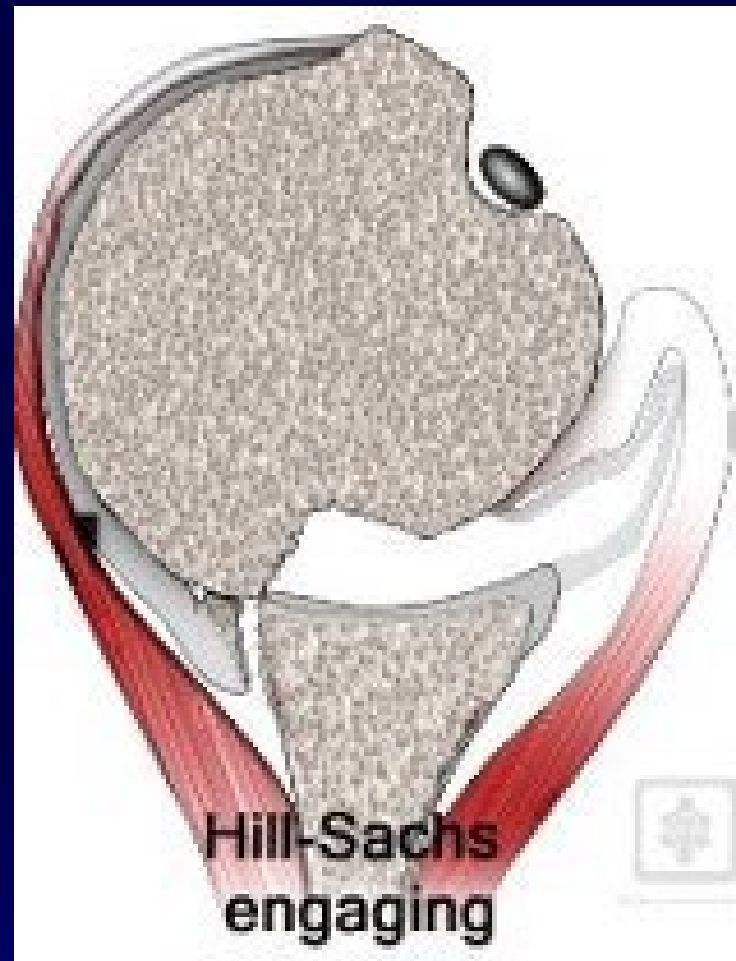
# Recurrent Instability

- Consider mechanism
- Beware of glenoid bone loss, especially in multiple time dislocators
- CT scan with 3D recons
- Most will require surgical management
- Bone augmentation
  - ❖ Latarjet
  - ❖ Bone graft

# Bone Loss

- Humeral side
- Glenoid side
- Both (“Bipolar”)
  
- “On track” vs. “Off track” lesions

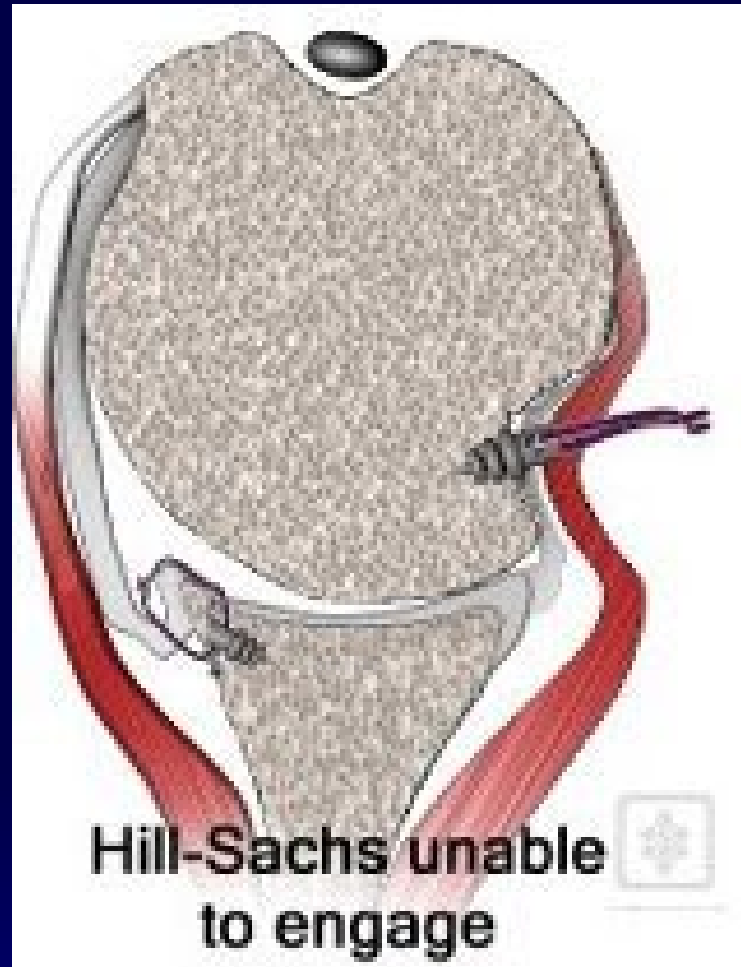
*Itoi 2017*



# Remplissage

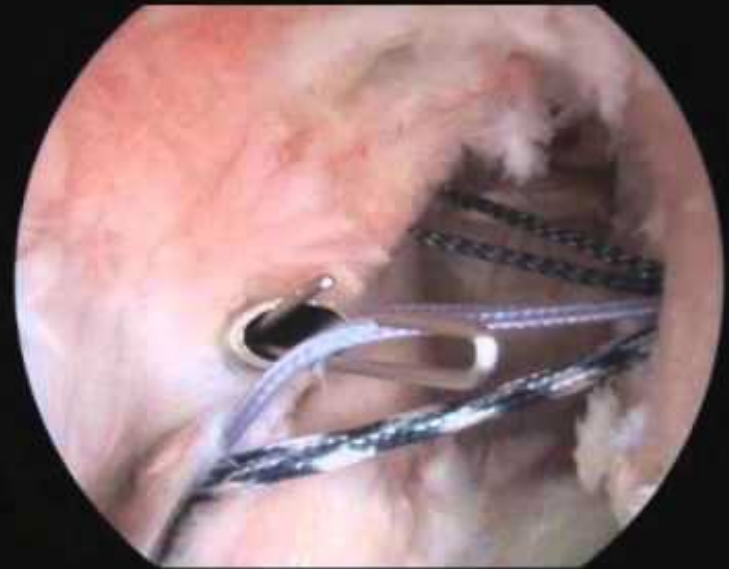
- Insertion of infraspinatus tendon into Hill-Sachs lesion

*Wolf et al. J Shoulder Elbow Surg, 2014.*



# Remplissage

- Can be done arthroscopically!
- Learning curve
- Adds +/- 10 min. to Bankart repair



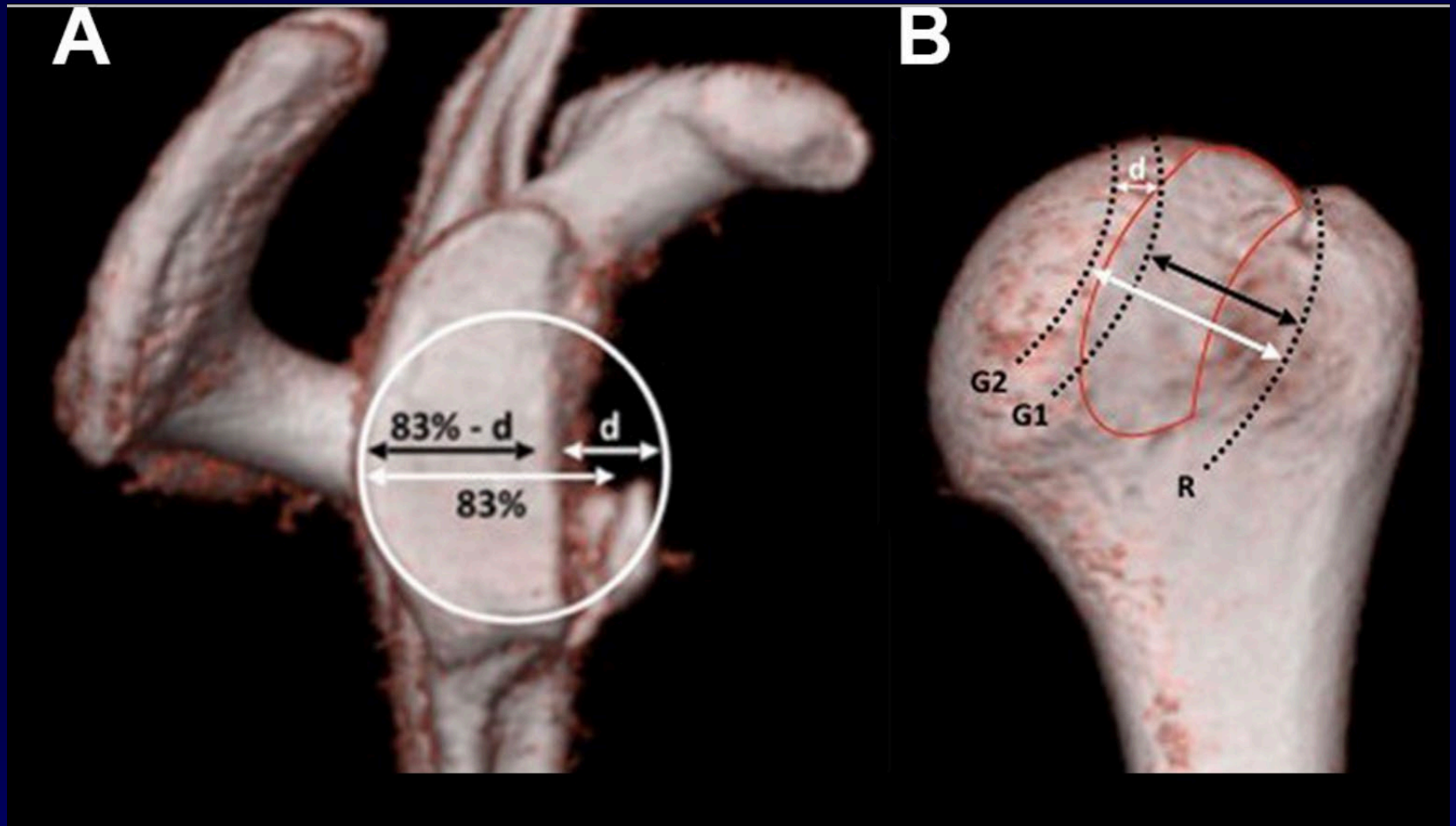


# Remplissage

- 50 patients (Average 29 yo)
- “Off track” Hill-Sachs lesions
- 60 months average follow-up
- Redislocation rate 11%
- 95.5% return to sport
- Loss of ER 5.3 degrees

*Garcia et al. Am J Sports Med, 2016.*

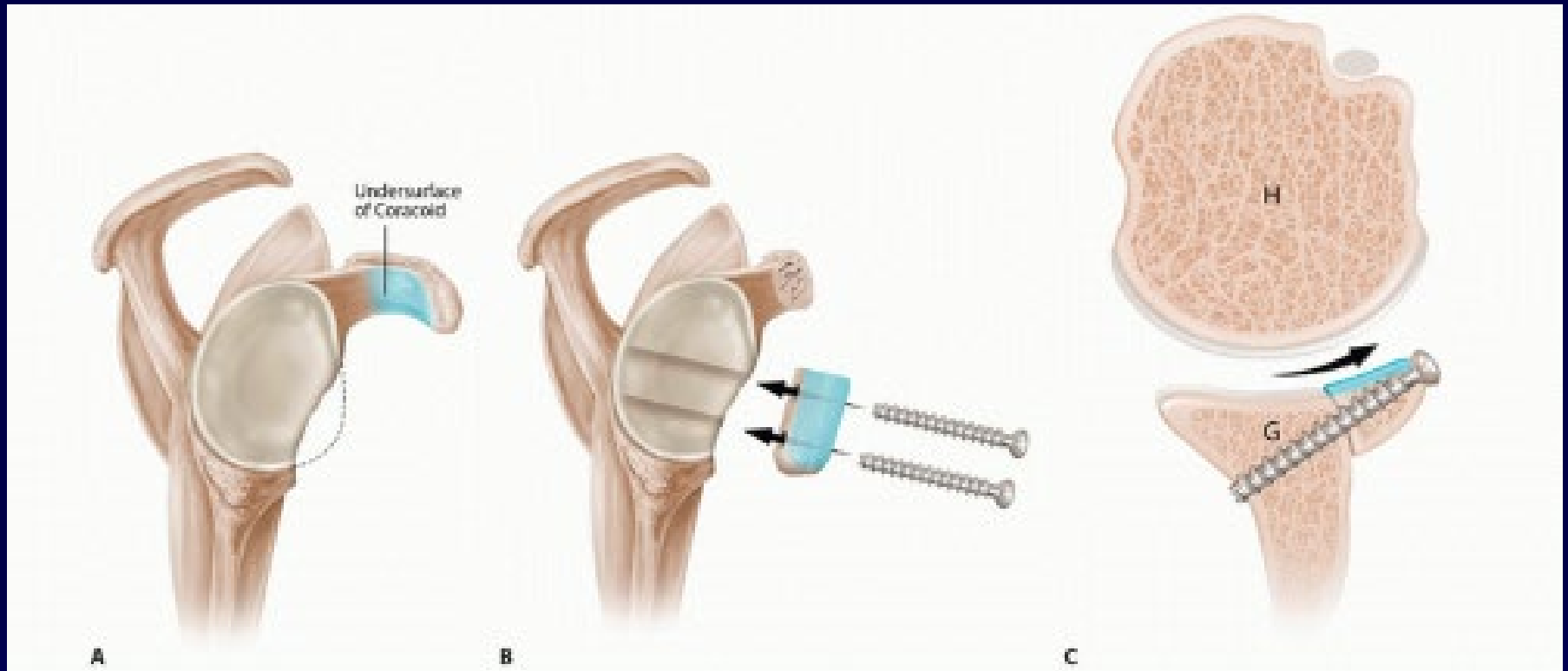
# Glenoid Bone Loss



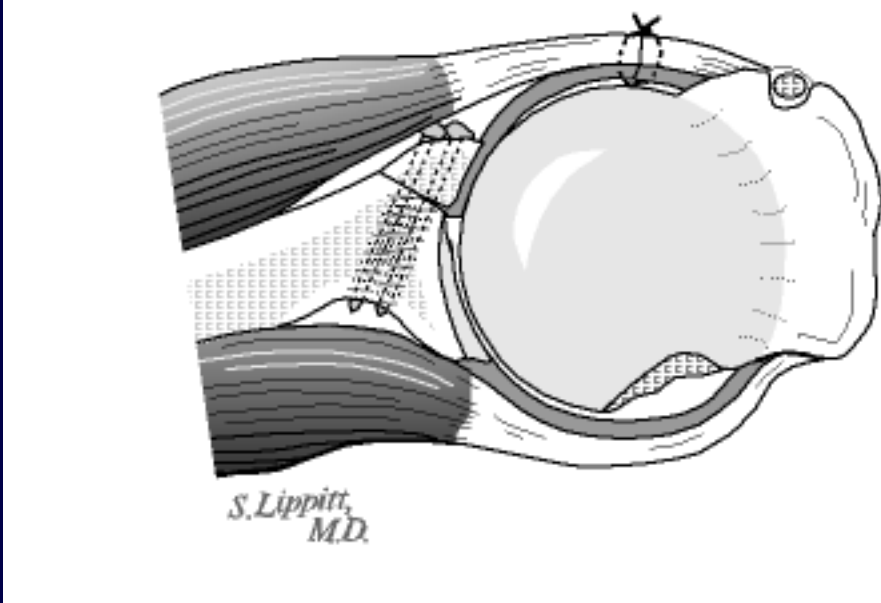
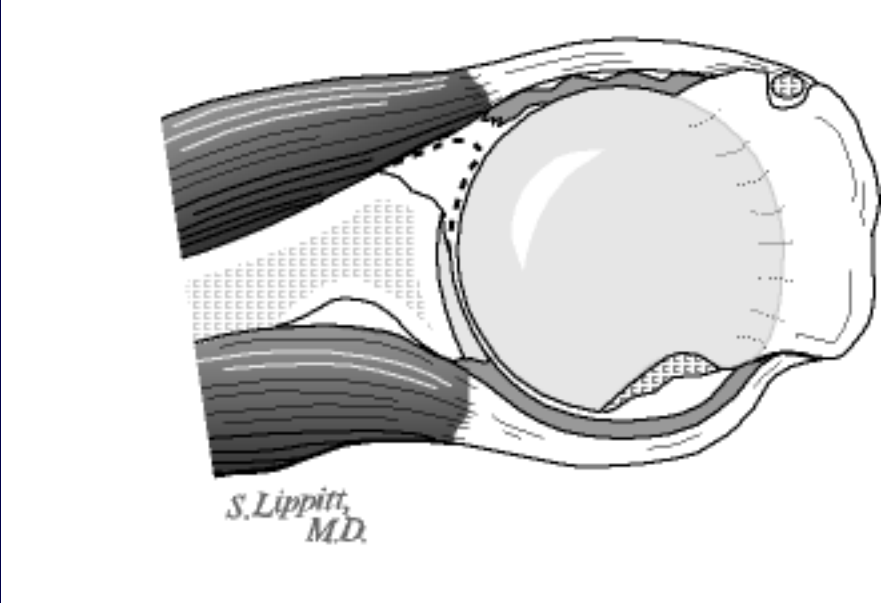
# Latarjet Procedure

- Described in 1954
- Coracoid bone graft
- Modified to be performed through subscapularis split
- “Triple blocking effect”
  - ❖ Increased bony arc
  - ❖ Sling effect of subscapularis
  - ❖ Capsular tightening
- Some surgeons performing arthroscopic

# Latarjet Procedure



# Bone Grafting Anterior Glenoid

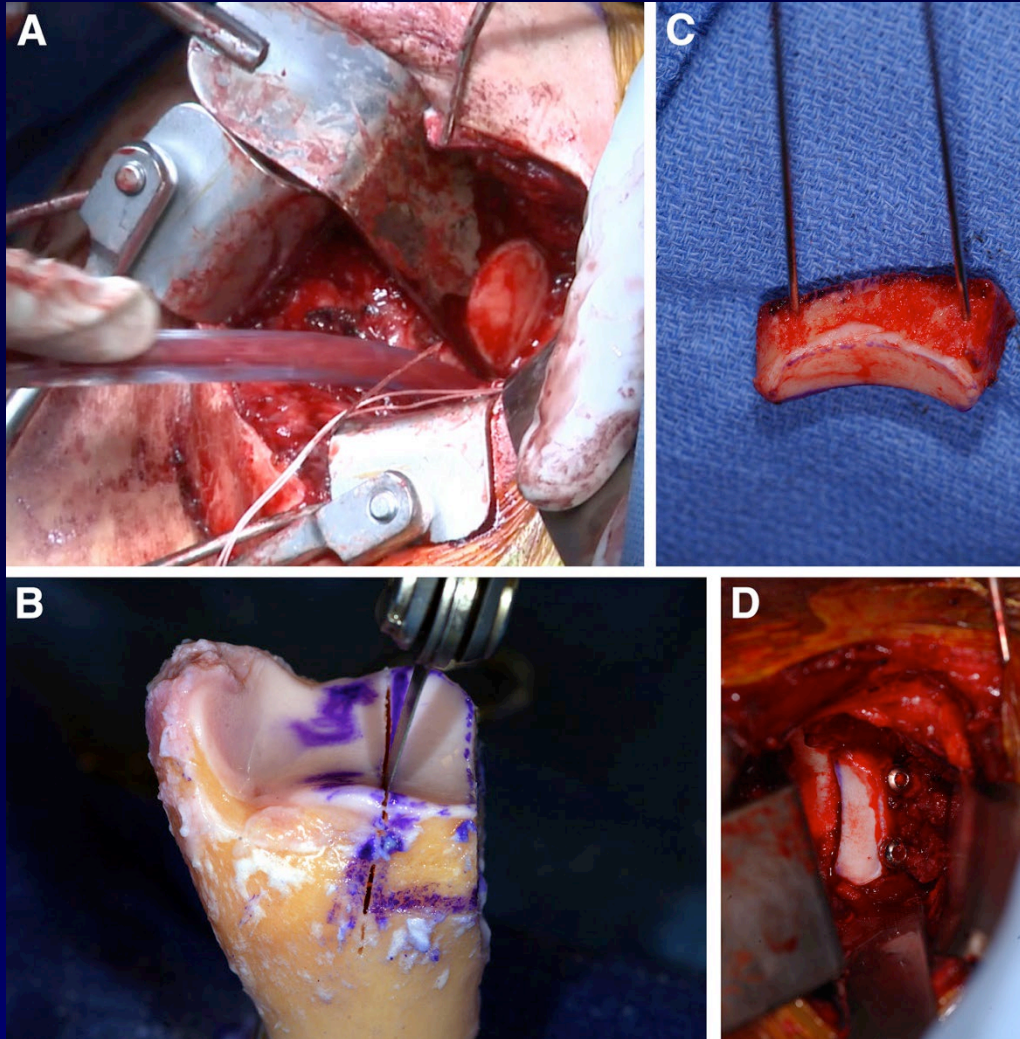


# Distal Tibial Allograft

- Easy to prepare
- No morbidity from coracoid harvest
- Less pain/easier recovery
- Comparable results to Latarjet
- Fewer complications?

*Provencher et al. Arthroscopy 2009*

# Distal Tibia Allograft











# Part 2: Weekend Warrior

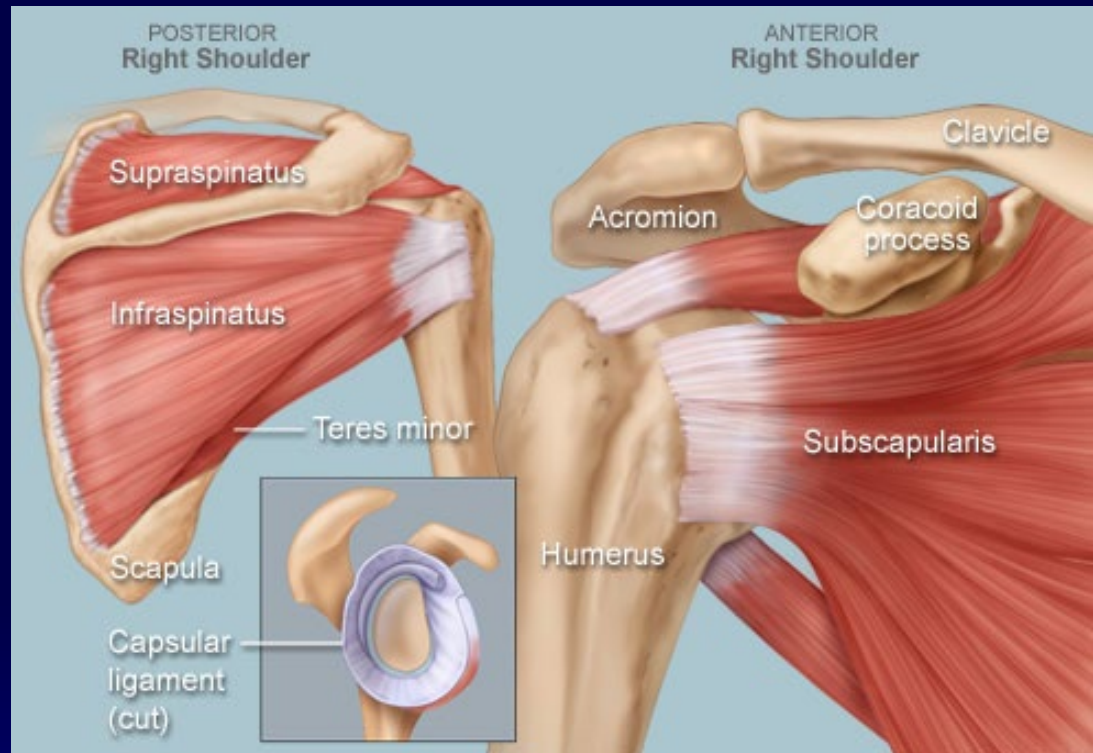
- Shoulder impingement
- Rotator cuff disease
- Rotator cuff arthropathy
- SLAP lesions
- Adhesive capsulitis
- Glenohumeral arthritis

“Life may not begin at 40, but it certainly doesn’t have to end there”



# Rotator Cuff

- Four muscles/tendons covering scapula
  - ❖ Supraspinatus
  - ❖ Infraspinatus
  - ❖ Subscapularis
  - ❖ Teres minor



# Case #4

- 58yo RHD male avid tennis player presents with a 3 month h/o right shoulder pain
- Localized deep and lateral
- Increased with overhead serves
- Partially relieved by rest and NSAIDs

# Case #4

- Exam reveals painful arc of motion in forward elevation and abduction
- No rotator cuff atrophy
- TTP over lateral subacromial bursa
- Positive Neer and Hawkins signs
- Mild weakness in abduction and ER



# Case #4



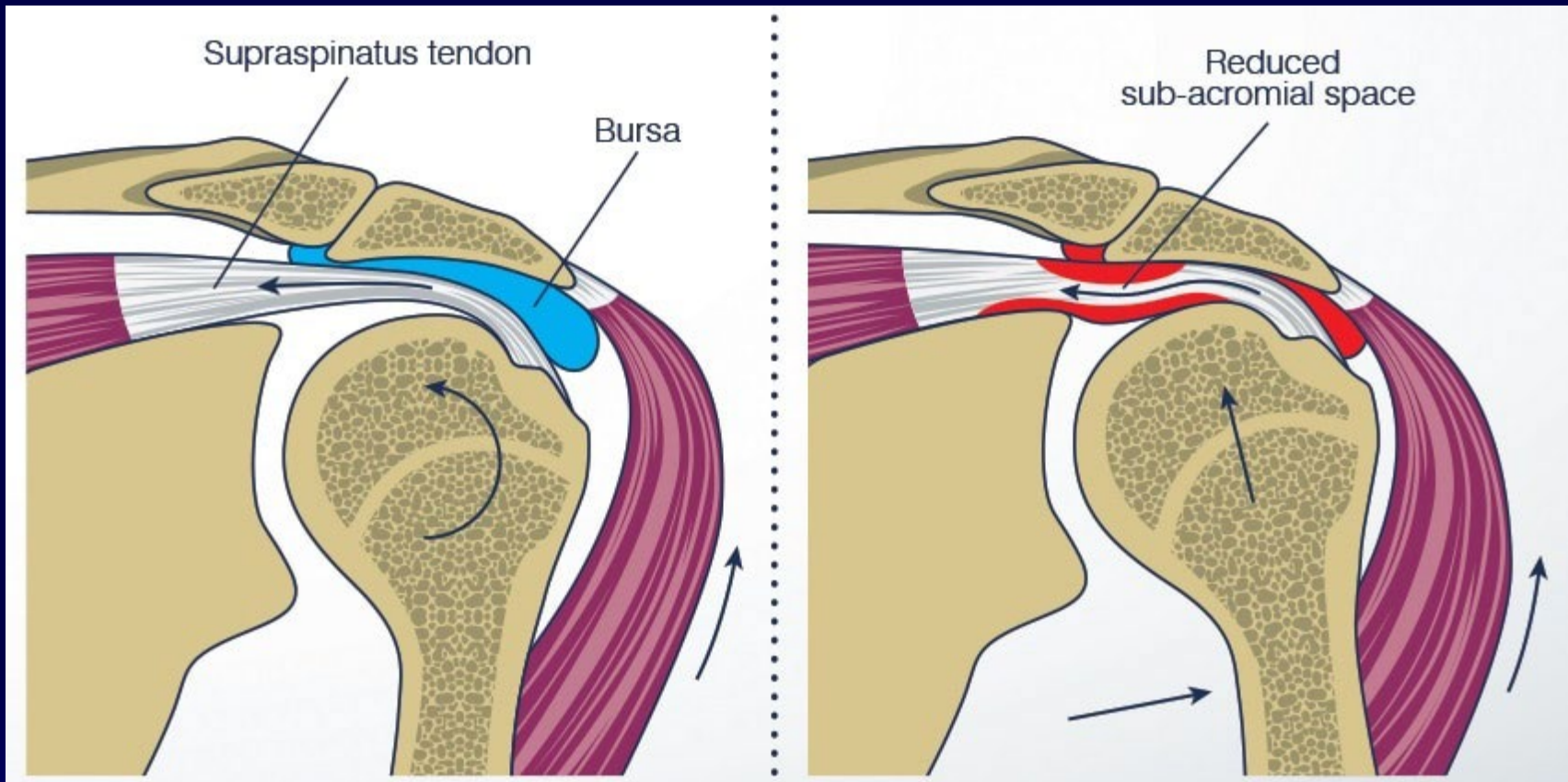
# Case #4

- Diagnosis?

# Impingement Syndrome

- Most common overuse problem in the shoulder in the older overhead athlete
- Compression of subacromial bursa and/or rotator cuff tendons between humeral head and undersurface of the acromion
- Subacromial bursitis
- Rotator cuff tendinitis

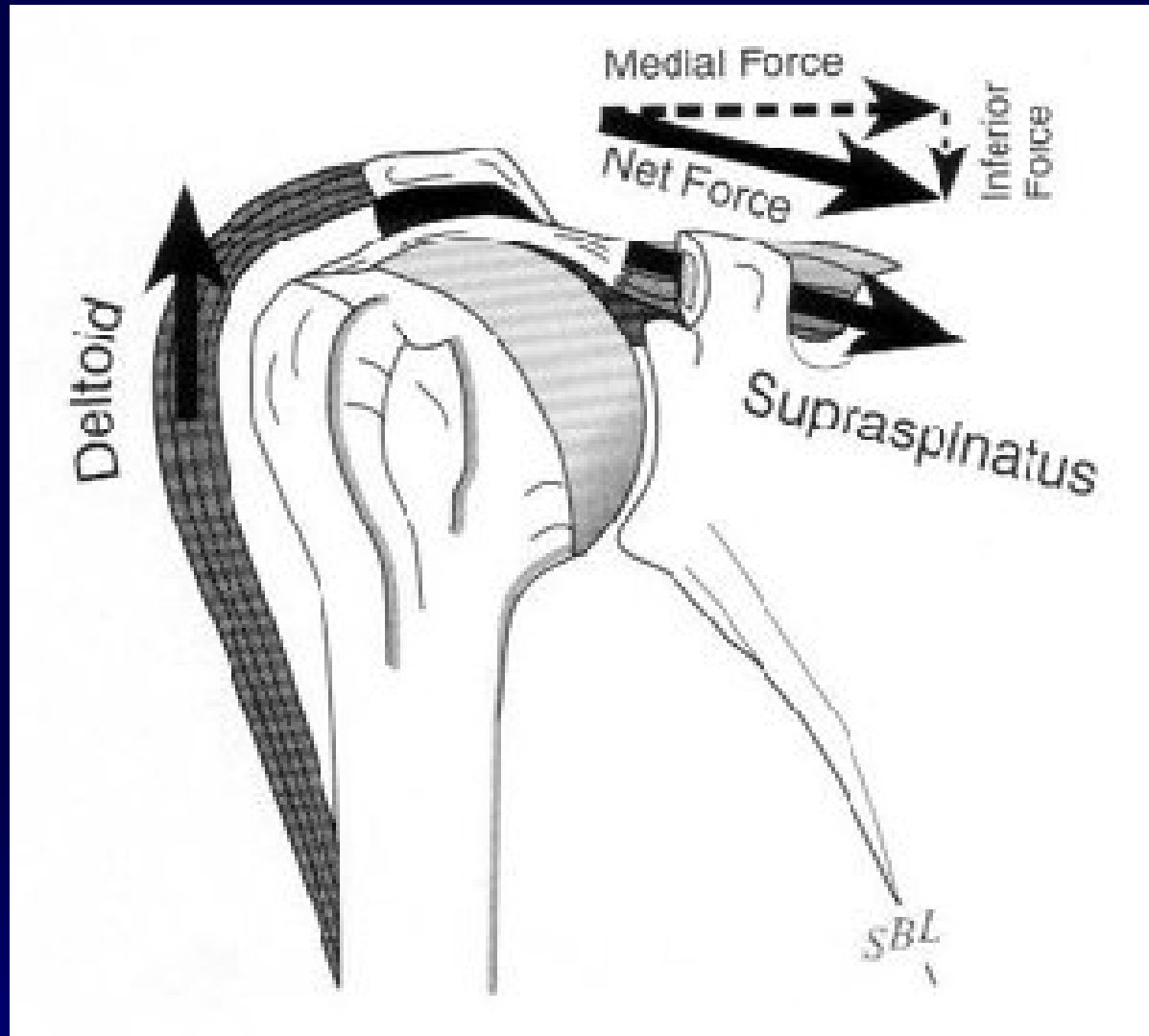
# Impingement Syndrome



# Impingement Syndrome

- Treatment
  - ❖ Rest from aggravating factors
  - ❖ NSAIDs
  - ❖ Consider cortisone Injection
  - ❖ Physical therapy for RC strengthening
- Surgical decompression
  - ❖ Partial bursectomy
  - ❖ Acromioplasty

# Shoulder Force Couple

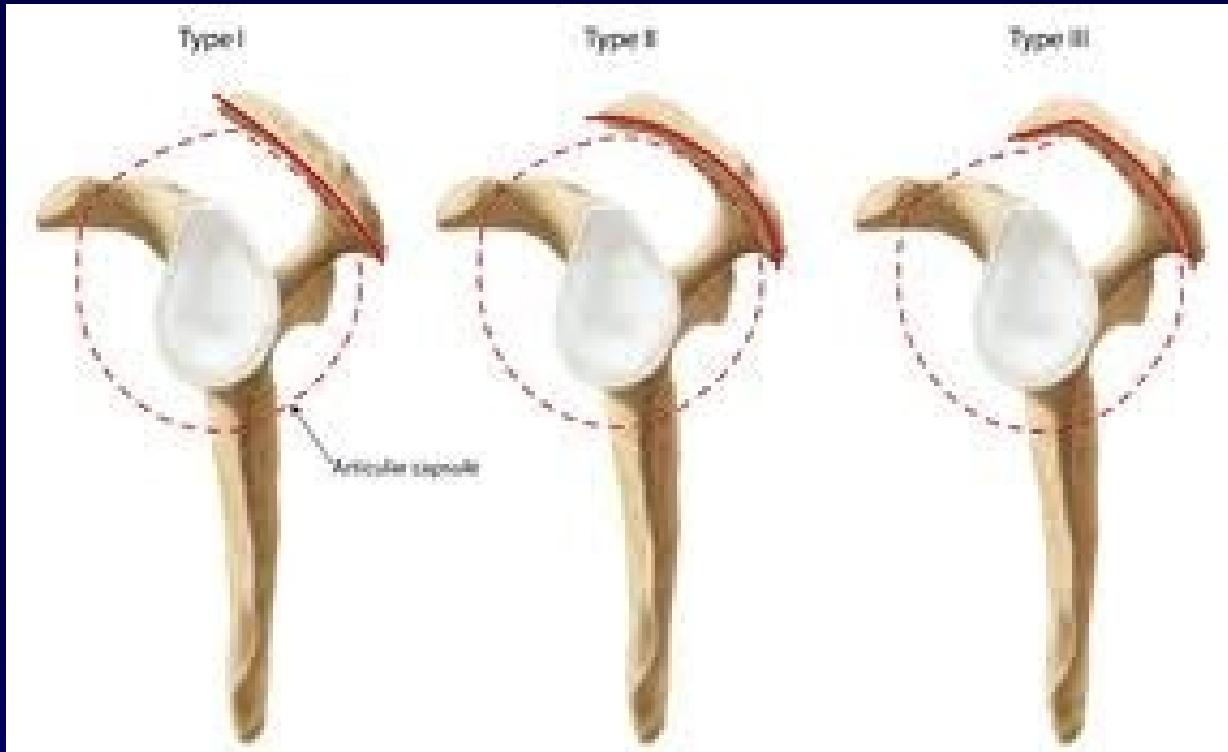


# Subacromial Decompression



# Impingement Syndrome

- Increased risk of rotator cuff disease



Bigliani et al. Orthop Trans 1986



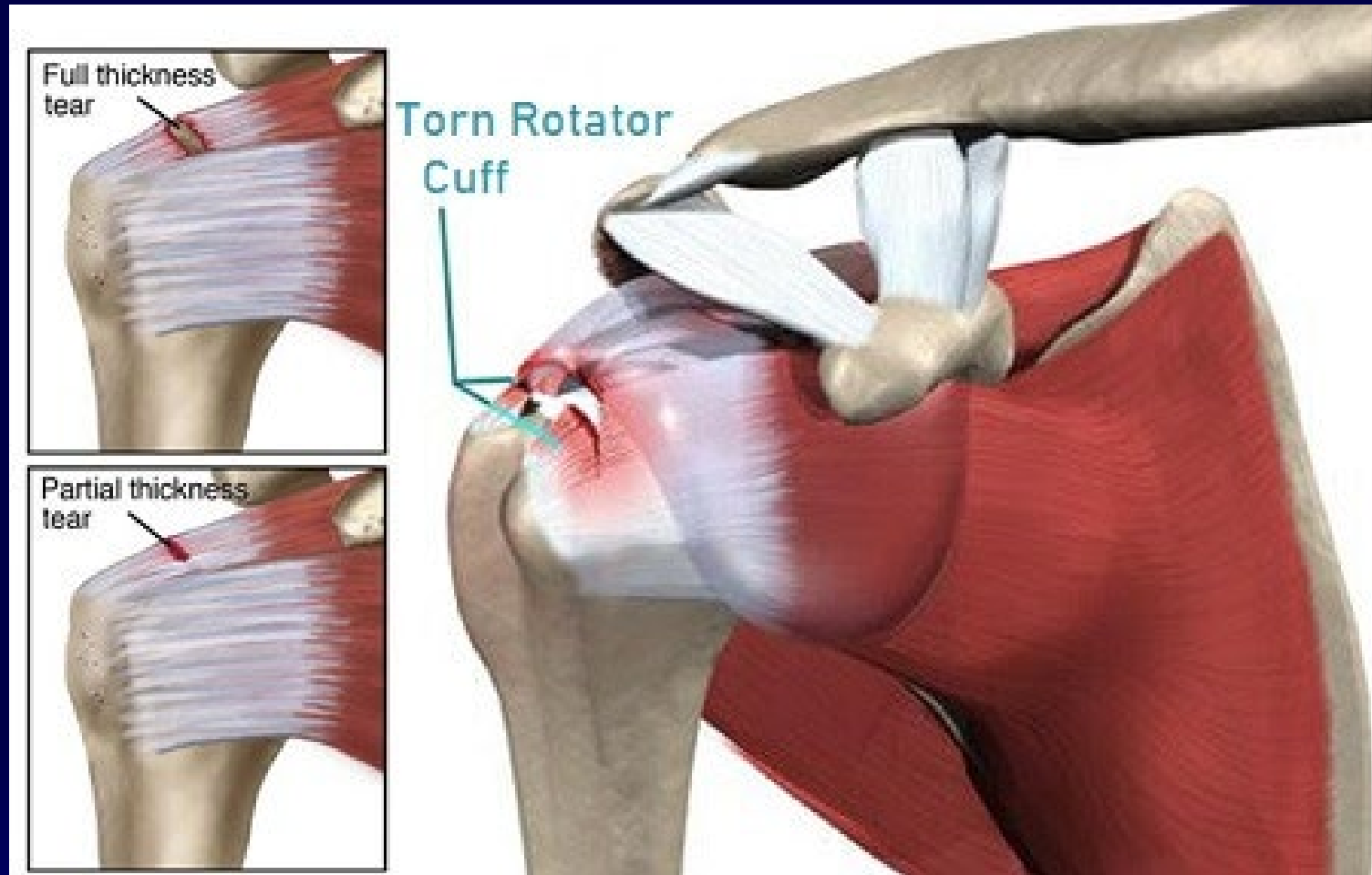
# Rotator Cuff Tears

- Most often chronic, degenerative tears or acute-on-chronic presentations
- Initial symptom may be pain only
- Many have few other symptoms
- Ultimately results in weakness as tear worsens and RC muscle atrophy occurs

# Rotator Cuff Tears



# Rotator Cuff Tears

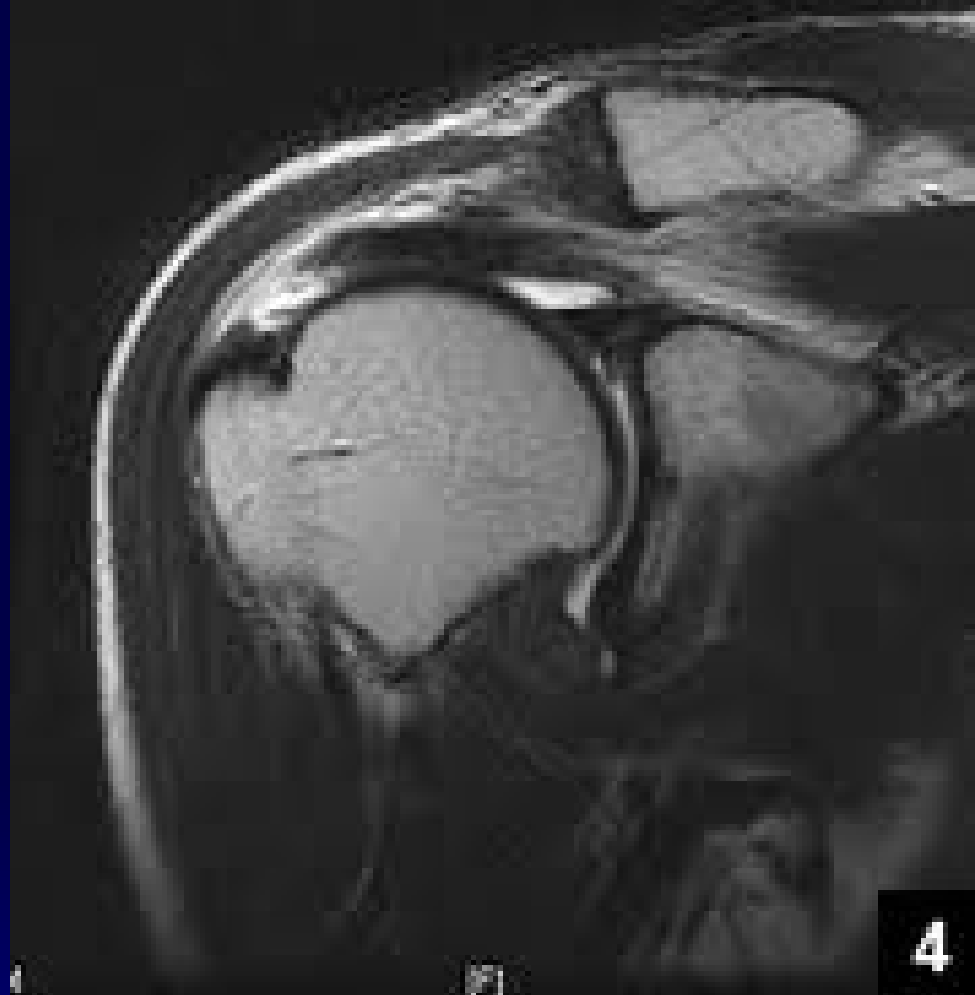


# Rotator Cuff - Exam

- Painful ROM, especially ABER
- Positive Neer and Hawkins signs
- Muscle atrophy
- Weakness in ABER
- Drop arm sign
- ER lag
- Hornblower's sign



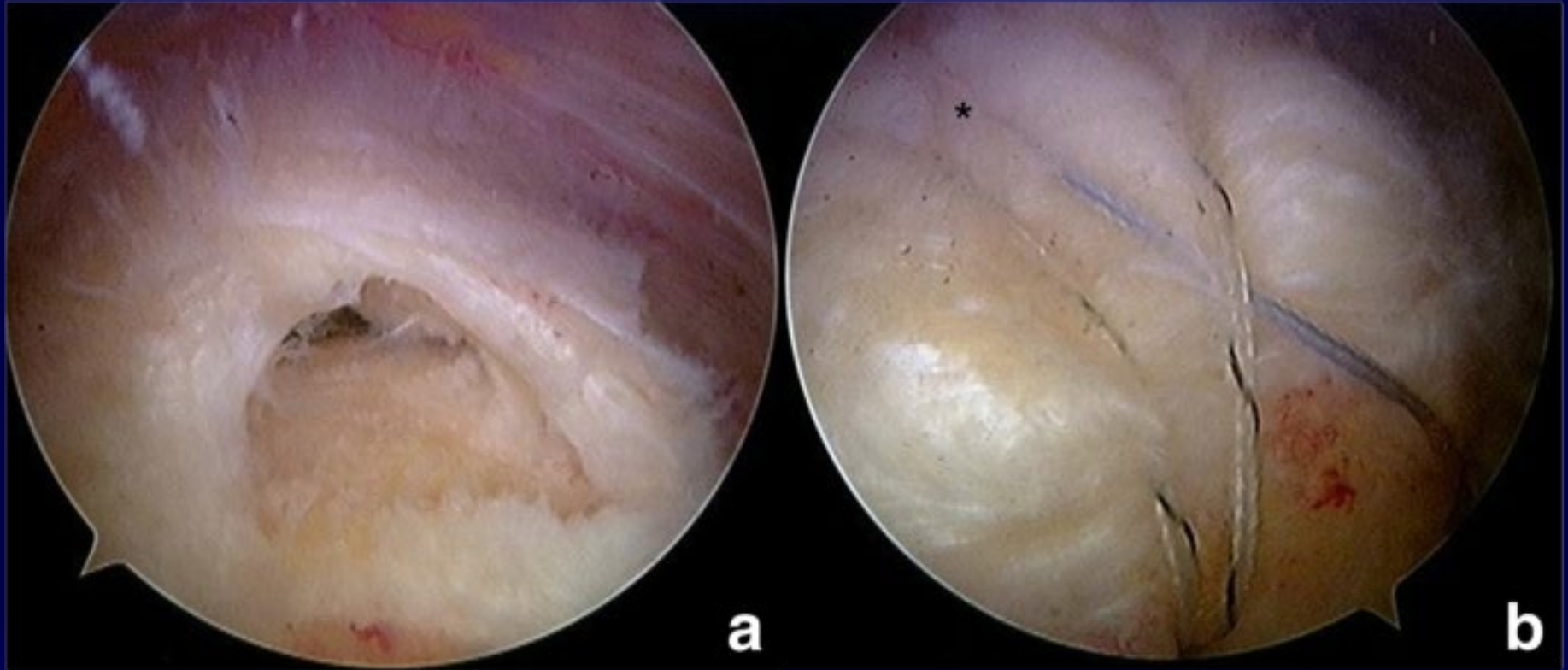
# Rotator Cuff - MRI



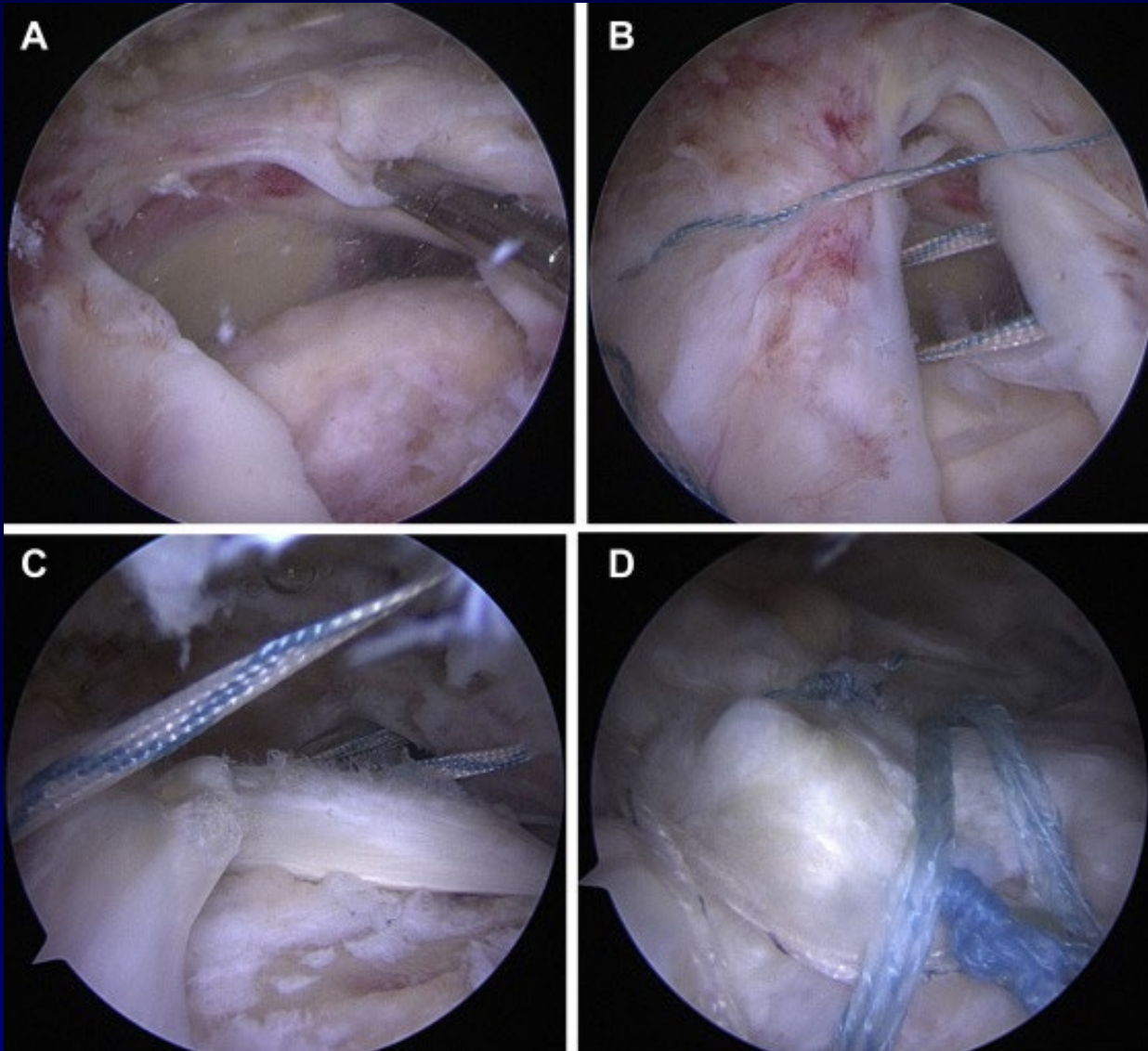
# Rotator Cuff Tears

- Initial treatment may be the same as that for subacromial impingement
- Many tears slowly progress and worsen
- Arthroscopic or mini-open rotator cuff repair is often the treatment of choice
- Advanced RC disease often results in secondary glenohumeral DJD
- Rotator cuff arthropathy

# Rotator Cuff Repair



# Rotator Cuff Repair





# Rotator Cuff Tears

“Hey Doc, if I don’t get my rotator cuff tear fixed, will it get bigger or cause me more pain in the future?”

# RCT Progression

- Does every patient with a full thickness RCT need a repair?
- Do rotator cuff tears get bigger over time?
- What factors suggest tears will worsen?
  - ❖ 47% total over 2 years ( $\geq 2$ mm)
  - ❖ Full thickness
  - ❖ Medium tears
  - ❖ Smokers, Males, Hand dominance, Trauma

*Yamamoto et al. Am J Sports Med, 2017.*

# Biologics

- Growth factors (Platelet-rich plasma)
- Interpositional grafts
- Scaffolds
- Patches

# Platelet-Rich Plasma

- Peripheral blood drawn from patient, centrifuged, plasma buffy coat collected
- Re-injected at site of injury
- Growth factors present in supraphysiologic concentrations
- Some studies have shown improved healing rates
- Others show no SSD vs. saline injections

# Platelet-Rich Plasma

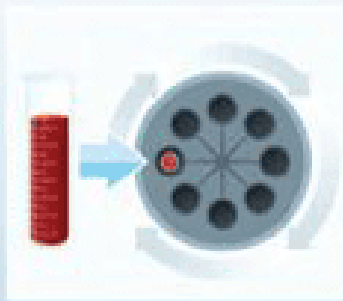
## STEP 1



### **Collecting Blood**

A small amount of blood (30-60ml) is drawn from the patient's arm.

## STEP 2



### **Separating the Platelets**

The blood goes for a "spin" in a centrifuge separating the platelets from the rest of the blood.

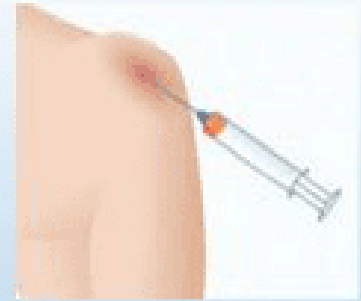
## STEP 3



### **Platelet-Rich Plasma**

The patient's own platelet-rich plasma is now extracted from the test tube.

## STEP 4



### **Return of PRP to the Patient**

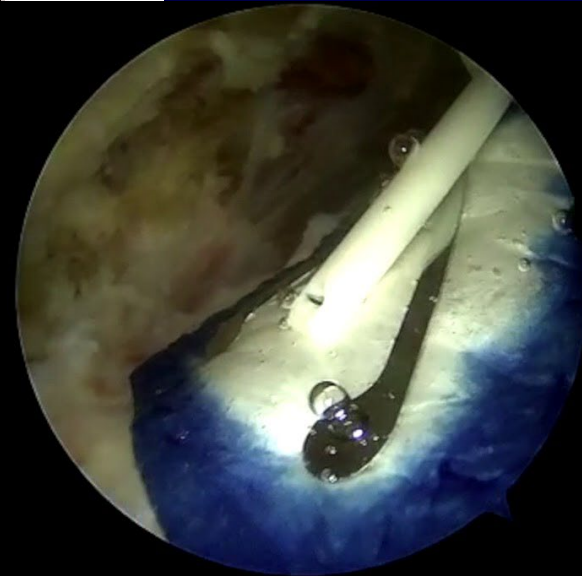
The plasma is injected into the injured area or inflamed tissue.

# Bovine Collagen Grafts

- 33 Pts with chronic, degenerative PTRCTs
- ASAD with no traditional RCR
- Implant placed on bursal surface of SS
- Clinical outcomes at 3 months, 1 and 2 yrs
- ASES/CMS scores improved at 2 years
- MRI evidence of tissue fill-in in 100% of intermediate and 95% of high grade tears

*Schlegel et al. JSES 30:8, 2021*

# Biologics



# Case #5

- 78yo RHD retired male presents with a 6 month h/o right shoulder pain
- Associated weakness
- Interfering with ADLs
- Not sleeping well

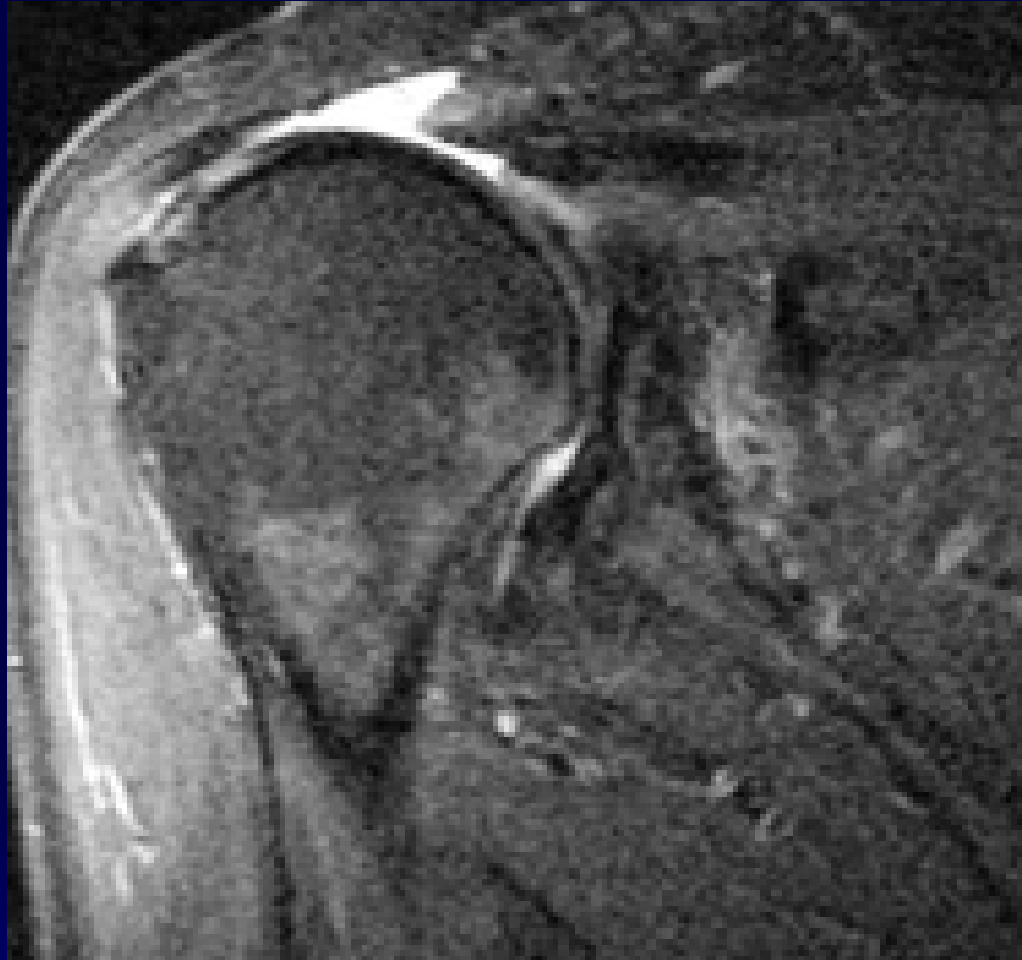




# Diagnosis?



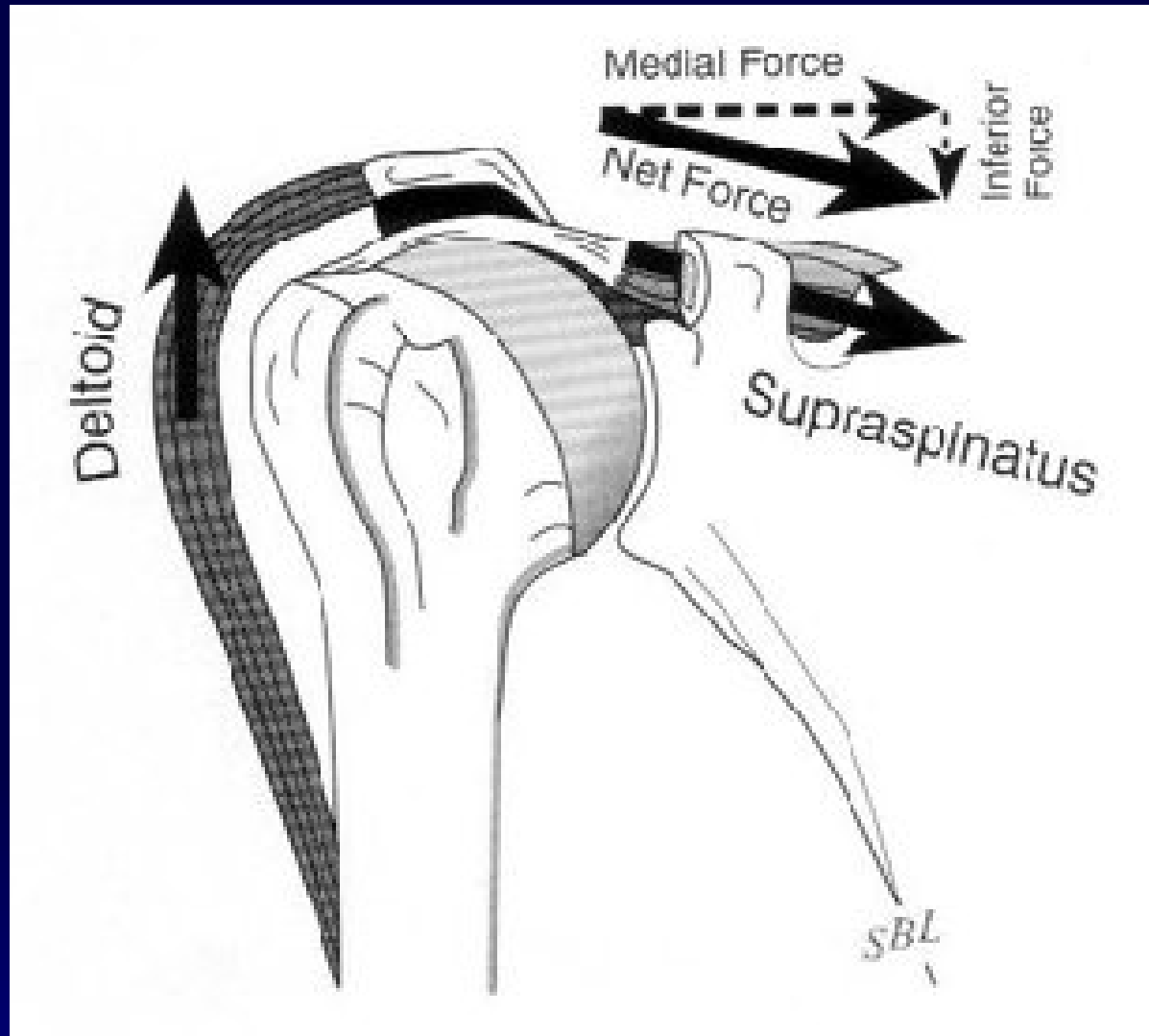
# Rotator Cuff Arthropathy



# Rotator Cuff Arthropathy

- Growing problem
- Failed RC repair
- Neglected RC tear
- Loss of depressing force of cuff
- Superior migration of humeral head
- Deltoid shortens, becomes weak
- Pseudoparalysis

# Shoulder Force Couple



# Rotator Cuff Arthropathy

- Conservative treatment
  - ❖ PT
  - ❖ Pain management
  - ❖ Cortisone injections
  - ❖ Activity modification
- Surgical Management
  - ❖ Reverse TSA
  - ❖ SCR
  - ❖ Biceps tenotomy!

*Boileau et al. J Bone Joint Surg, 2007.*

# Superior Capsular Reconstruction

- Described by Mihata with fascia lata
- Recent use of acellular dermal allograft
- Arthroscopic procedure
- Restores tether/fulcrum to prevent superior migration of humeral head
- Limited experience
- May reverse pseudoparalysis over time!

*Burkhart et al. Arthroscopy, 2019.*

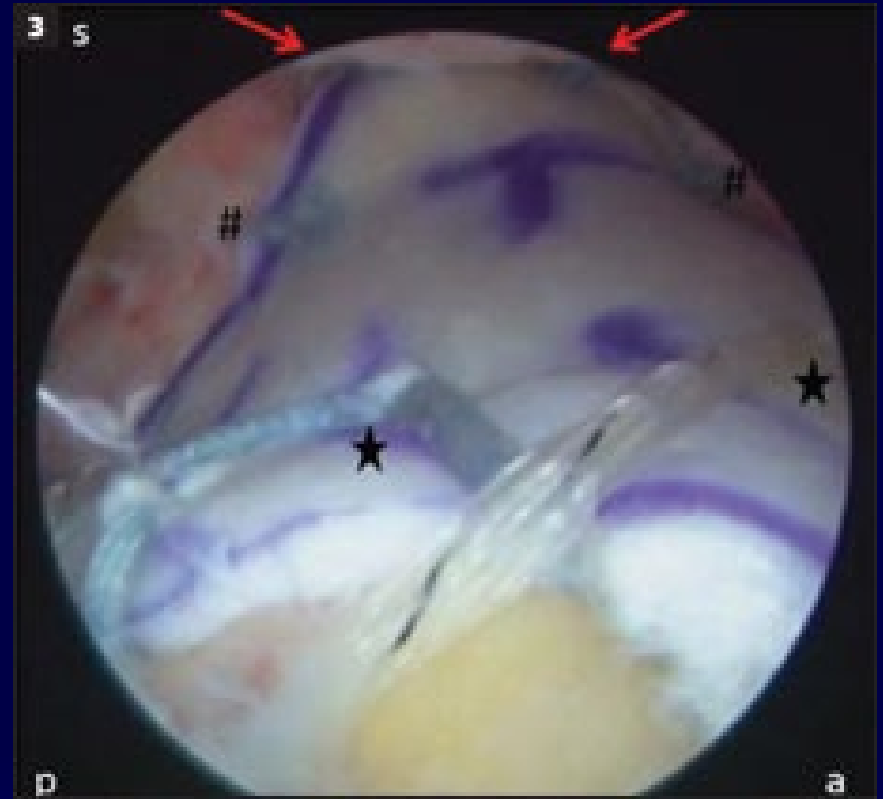
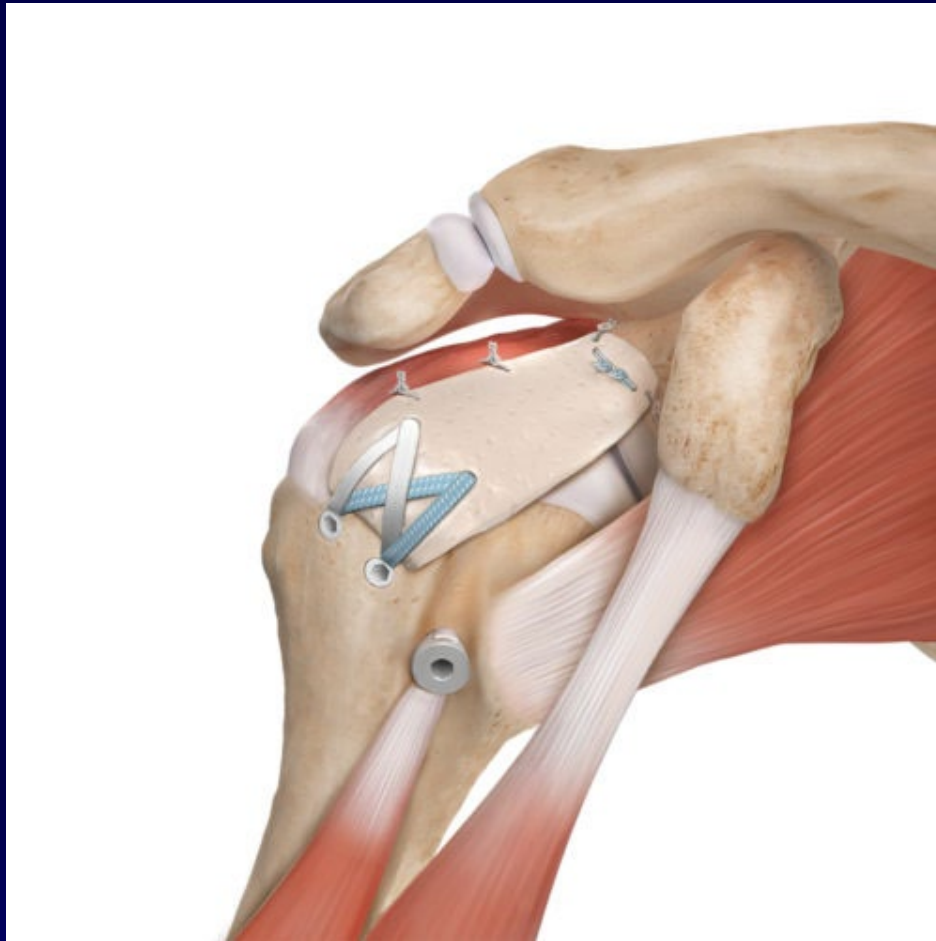
# Superior Capsular Reconstruction

- 10 Pts with complete SS/IS tears
- Tears > 5cm
- AFE <45 degrees
- Full PFE
- F/U at 1 year
- Avg AFE 159 degrees!
- Improved pain, AER, ASES scores

*Burkhart et al. Arthroscopy 2019*



# Superior Capsular Reconstruction



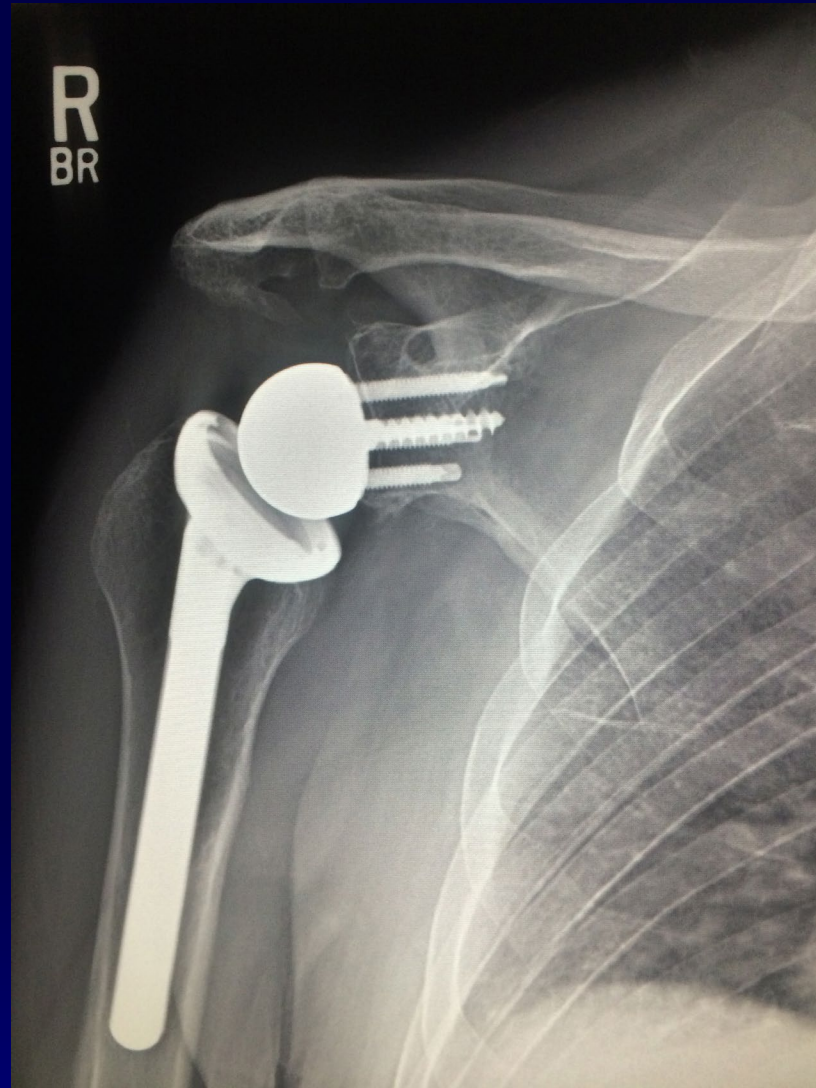
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# LIMITATIONS

UNTIL YOU SPREAD YOUR WINGS,  
YOU'LL HAVE NO IDEA HOW FAR YOU CAN WALK.

# Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty





**LOWER KEYS  
MEDICAL CENTER**

KEY WEST - FLORIDA

# Case #6

- 62yo LHD female golfer presents with 1 year h/o left shoulder pain
- Localized deep and radiates down the front of her upper arm
- Aggravated by driving golf balls
- Pain with lifting objects in front

# Case #6

- Exam reveals a positive O'Brien's test and positive biceps load test
- No significant weakness
- Plain x-rays normal
- Any other studies?

# Case #6



# Case #6





# Case #6

- Diagnosis?

# SLAP Lesion/Biceps Tendinitis

- Commonly associated in Pts>40
- Treatment options
  - ❖ SLAP repair
  - ❖ Biceps tenodesis
  - ❖ Biceps tenotomy

# SLAP Lesion/Biceps Tendinitis

- SLAP Repair
  - ❖ Can achieve good results
  - ❖ Higher complications-Stiffness!!!
  - ❖ Lower healing rates
  - ❖ Pain from associated biceps pathology
  - ❖ Cumulative evidence supports labral debridement and/or biceps tenotomy

*Abbot et al. Am J Sports Med 2009*

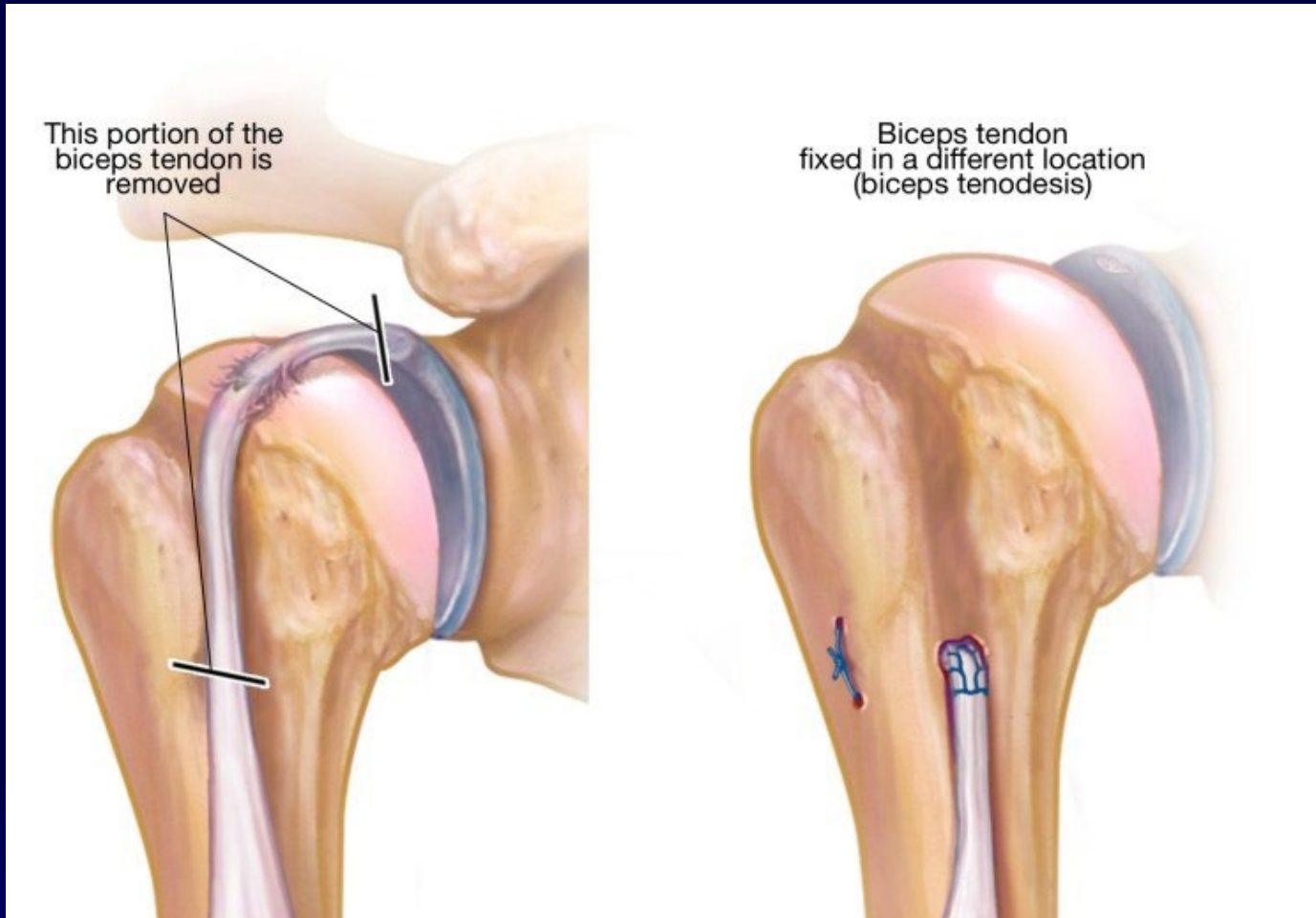
*Erickson et al. Am J Sports Med 2015*

# SLAP Lesion/Biceps Tendinitis

- Biceps Tenodesis
  - ❖ Detach long head of biceps from glenoid
  - ❖ Debride SLAP lesion
  - ❖ Reattach LHB to humerus
    - In bicipital groove
    - Subpectoral humerus

*Gottschalk et al. Am J Sports Med 2014*

# Biceps Tenodesis



# Biceps Tenodesis

- Time consuming
- Additional incision
- Additional implant
- Complications
- Is it really necessary?



# Biceps Tenotomy

- Faster
- No extra costs
- Minimal weakness
  - ❖ 20% supination loss
  - ❖ 8-20% flexion loss
- Popeye deformity
- “Biceps Killers”



*Boileau et al. J Bone Joint Surg 2007*

# Case #7

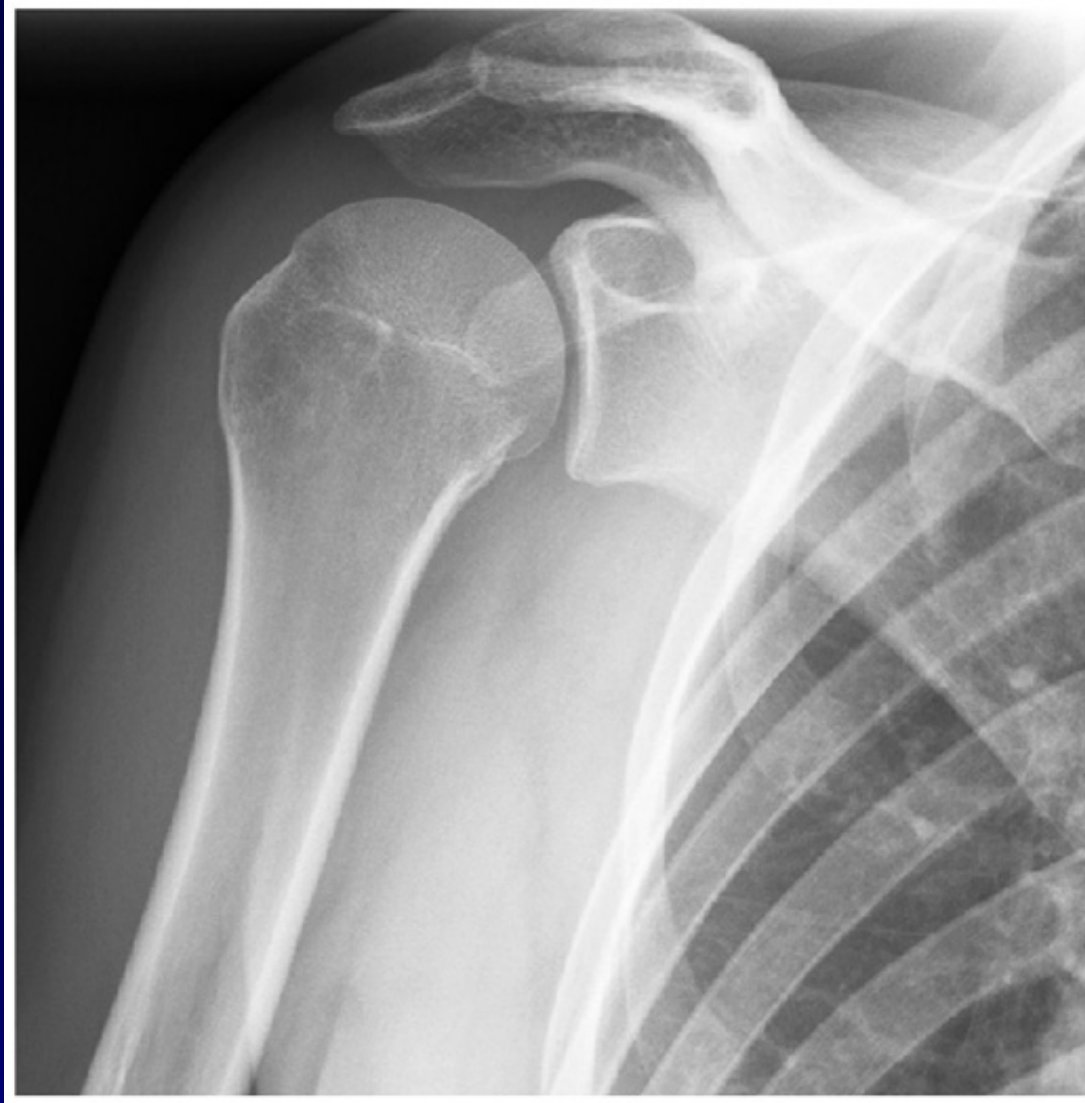
- 65yo RHD retired female presents with 6 month h/o right shoulder pain
- Gradual worsening after a fall on right side
- Associated stiffness
- Pain at end of day not as bad as prior
- Difficulty dressing herself



# Case #7

- Physical Exam
  - ❖ AROM: FE 100, ER 30, AER 45, AIR 30
  - ❖ PROM nearly the same
  - ❖ Positive O'Briens
  - ❖ No instability
  - ❖ Motor exam normal

# Case #7



# Case #7

- Any other studies?
- Diagnosis?

# Adhesive Capsulitis

- Common cause of pain and stiffness
- Posttraumatic
- Diabetic
- Stroke Pts
- Idiopathic
- Pain, stiffness, resolution phases
- Self limiting

# Adhesive Capsulitis

- Conservative Management
  - ❖ Physical Therapy
  - ❖ NSAIDs vs. steroids
  - ❖ Cortisone injection
- Operative Management
  - ❖ Manipulation under anesthesia
  - ❖ Arthroscopic capsular release

# Case #8

- 65yo RHD retired male presents with 6 month h/o right shoulder pain
- Localized deep and has associated stiffness as well as grinding sensation
- Pain at end of day
- Difficulty sleeping

# Case #8

- Physical Exam
  - ❖ AROM: FE 140, ER 30, AER 60, AIR 45
  - ❖ Moderate crepitance
  - ❖ Slight cogwheeling
  - ❖ No instability
  - ❖ Motor exam normal

# Case #8





# Conservative Management

- NSAIDs
- Physical therapy
- Cortisone injections
- Activity modification

# Case #8



A chance to cut is a chance to cure.  
The only way to heal is...

A chance to cut is a chance to cure.  
The only way to heal is...  
Surgical steel!

# Surgical Options

- Arthroscopic debridement
- Meniscal Allograft
- Hemiarthroplasty
- “Ream and Run”
- Total Shoulder Arthroplasty

# Arthroscopy

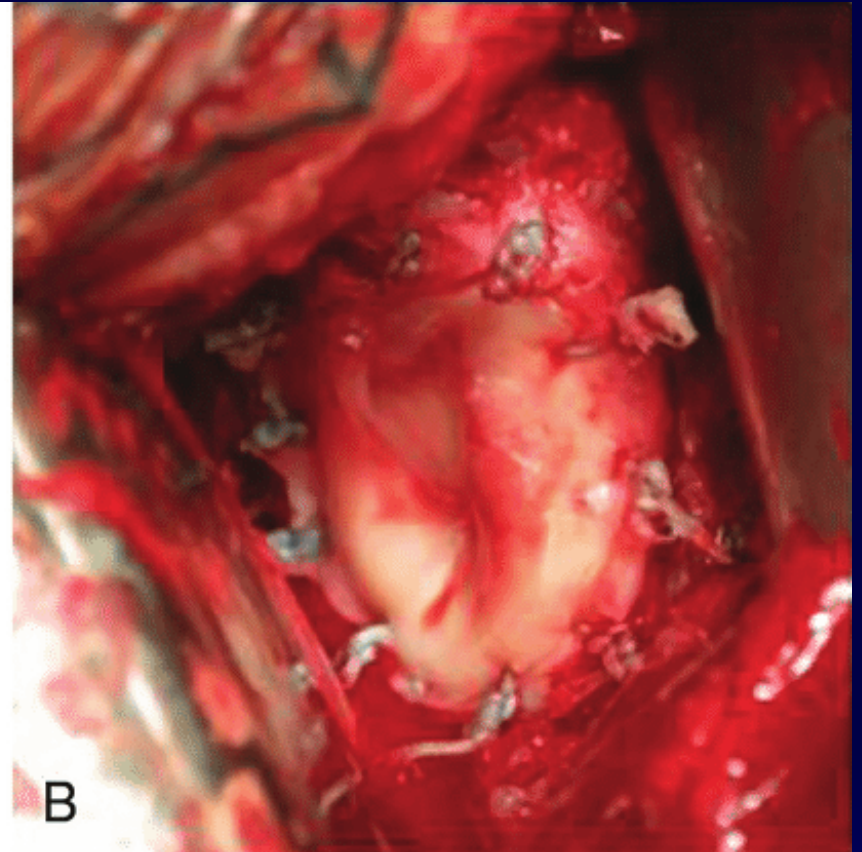
- Limited role in advanced DJD
- Loose body removal
- Debridement of osteophytes
- Short term relief
- Recurrent pain

# Meniscal Allograft

- Technically challenging
- Less invasive than arthroplasty
- Partial pain relief
- Does not address humeral side unless combined with hemiarthroplasty

*Ball et al. Tech Shoulder Elbow Surg, 2001.*

# Meniscal Allograft



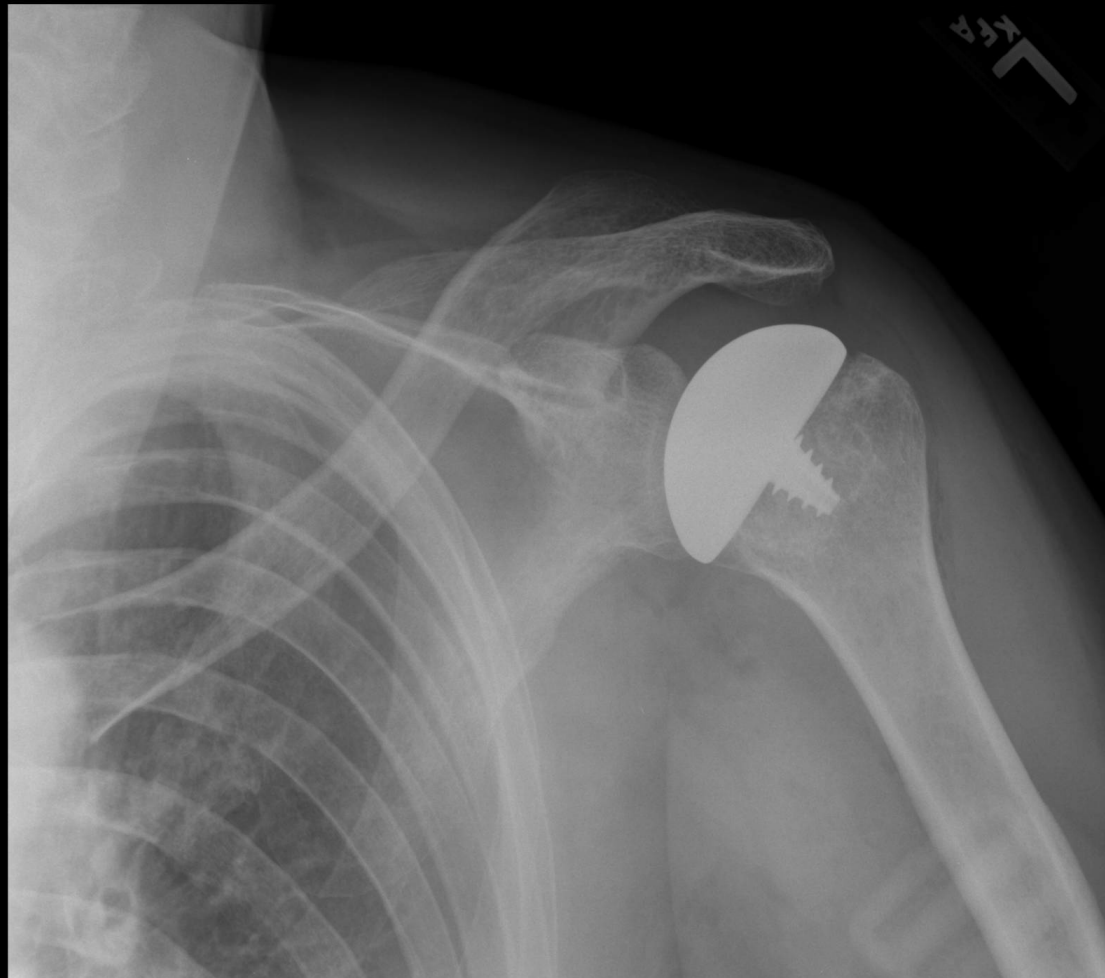


# Hemiarthroplasty

- Resurface humeral side
- Easier, less invasive than TSA
- Lower complication rate
- Doesn't address glenoid side
- Higher reoperation rate vs. TSA

*Aldinger et al. Int Orthop, 2010.*

# Hemiarthroplasty

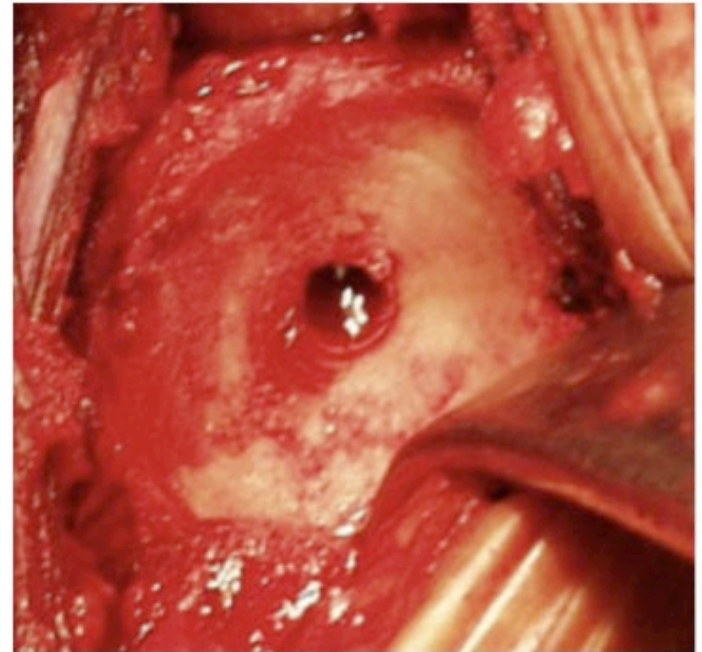
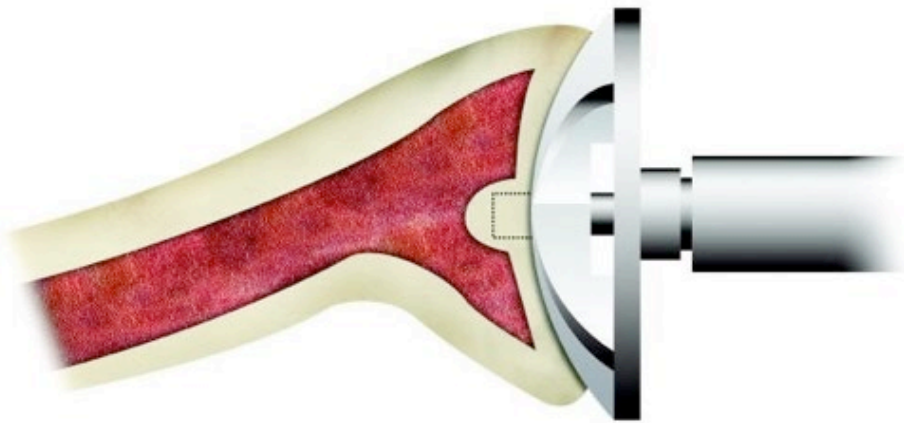


# Ream and Run

- Hemiarthroplasty
- Ream glenoid to remove cartilage, spurs
- Creates smooth concavity
- Option for higher demand Pts

*Matsen et al. Int Orthop, 2019*

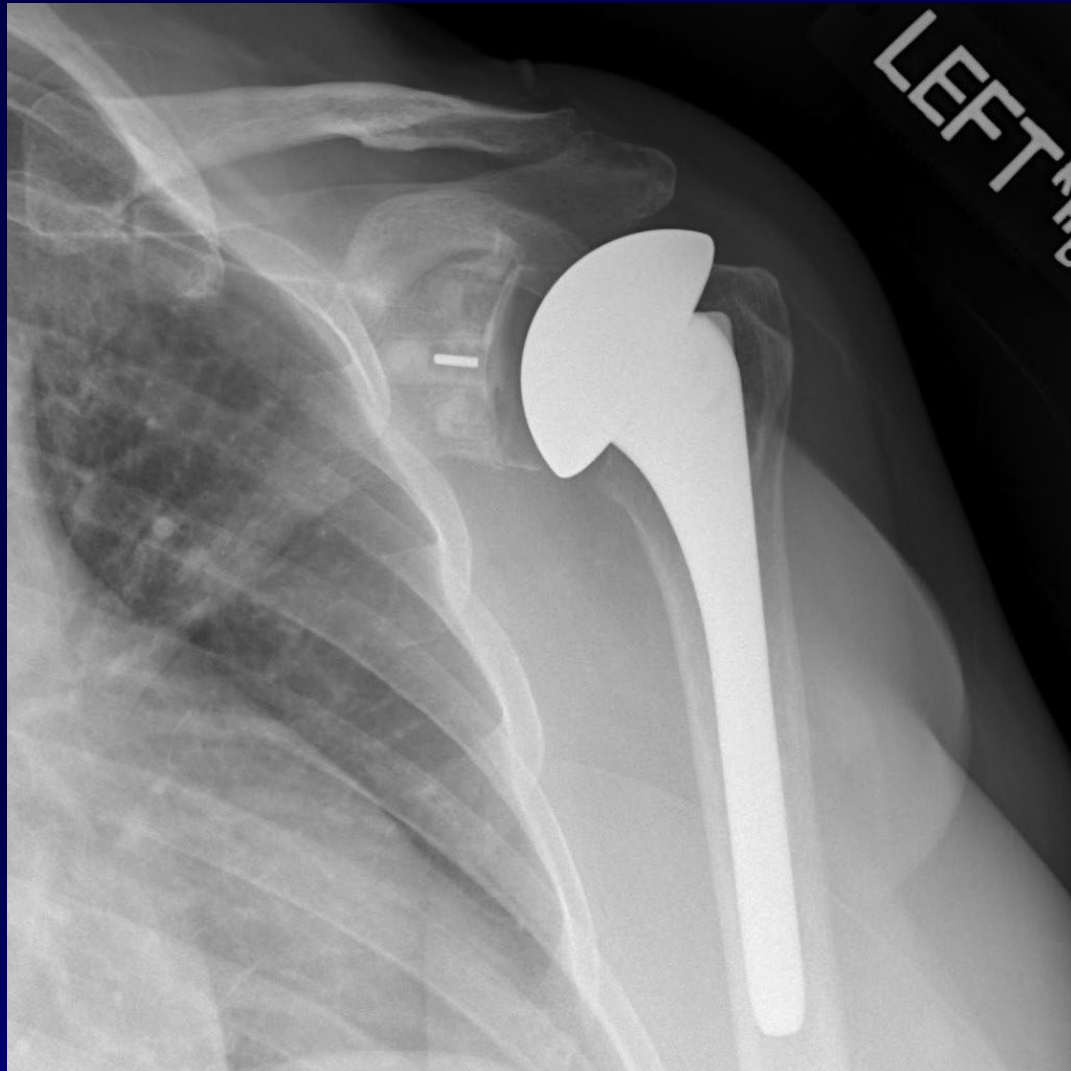
# Ream and Run



# Total Shoulder Arthroplasty

- Remains gold standard for advanced DJD
- Best pain relief
- Glenoid loosening concerns

# Total Shoulder Arthroplasty



# Take Home Points

- Recognize common shoulder injuries
- Formulate differential diagnoses
- Recommend initial treatment plans:
  - ❖ Immobilization
  - ❖ Pain Management
  - ❖ Imaging
  - ❖ Definitive treatment
  - ❖ Rehabilitation

Questions?





**Thank You!**  
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