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# Examination and Imaging of the Knee and Leg

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## **Examination and Imaging of the Knee and Leg**

Introduction

Meniscus

Ligament

**Imaging** 

Cases

Conclusions

Quit

## A good History and Physical is Key



to a Correct Diagnosis

## **Grab Sign**



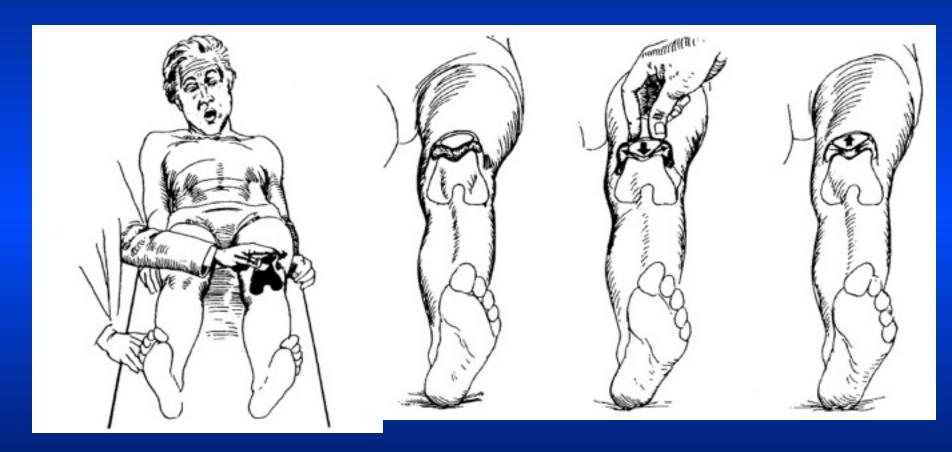
**Patellofemoral Disorders** 

## Fisted Knuckle Sign

= ACL Tear

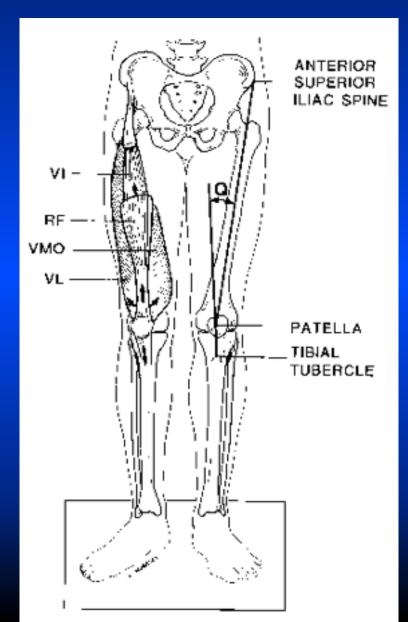


#### Patient apprehends another lateral patellar dislocation



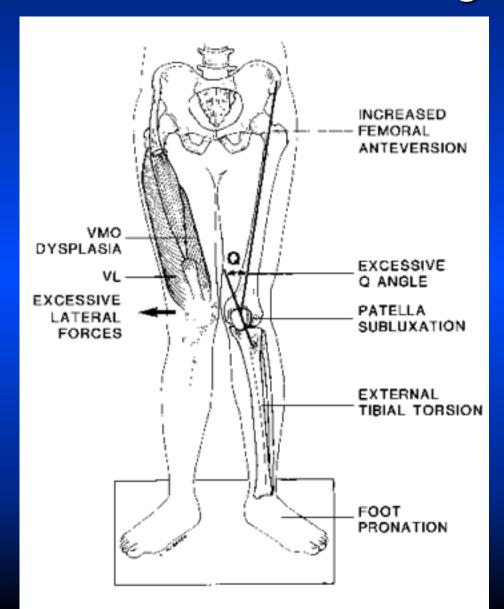
Positive apprehension test Do the anticipated painful test last

## Normal Alignment



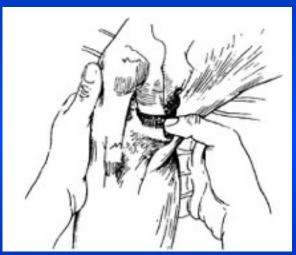


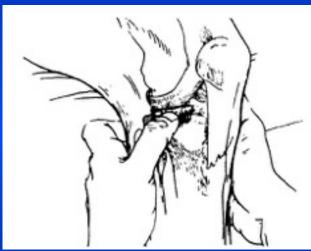
## Miserable Malalignment Syndrome





## Joint line palpation with knee flexed should produce pain if meniscus is torn

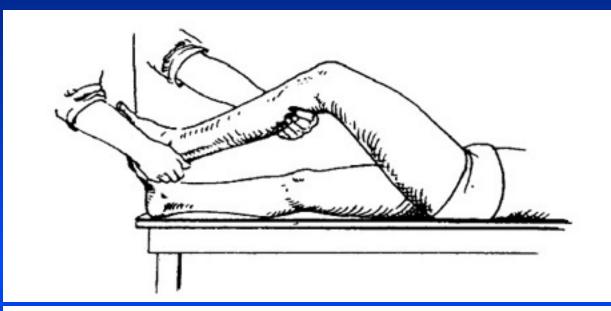


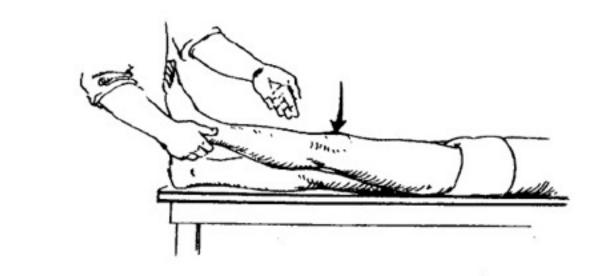




Externally rotate tibia for medial meniscus tears, Internally rotate for lateral meniscus tears

## **Bounce Home Test**

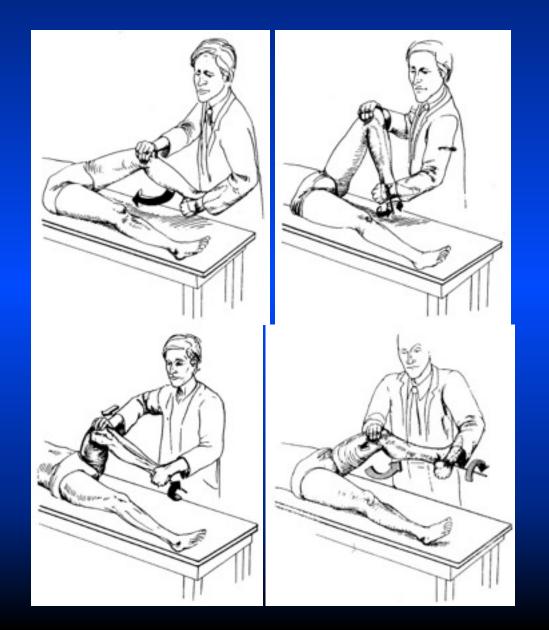




#### **Normal Knee Exam: Bounce Home**



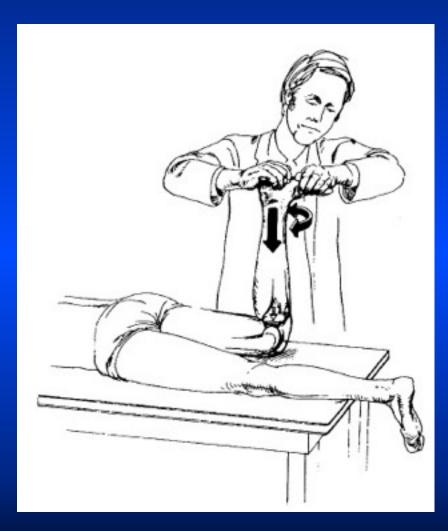
#### **McMurray's Test: Medial Meniscus**

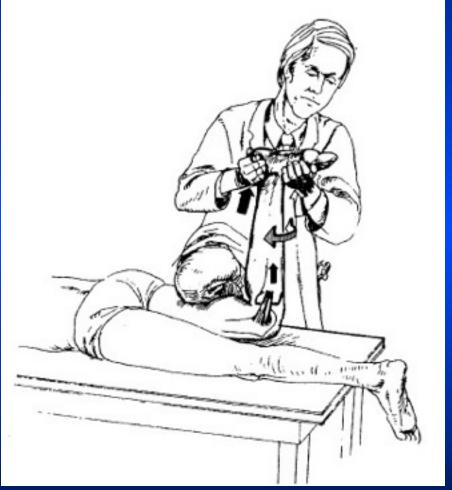


#### **Normal Knee Exam: McMurray's Test**



## **Apley's Compression Test**

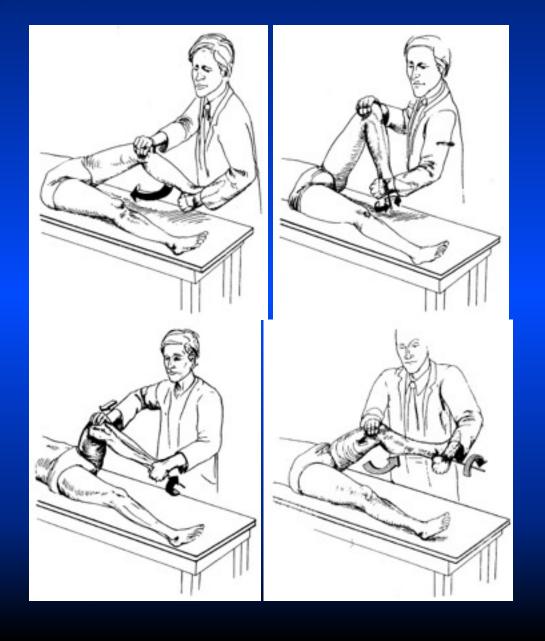




#### Normal Knee Exam: Apley's



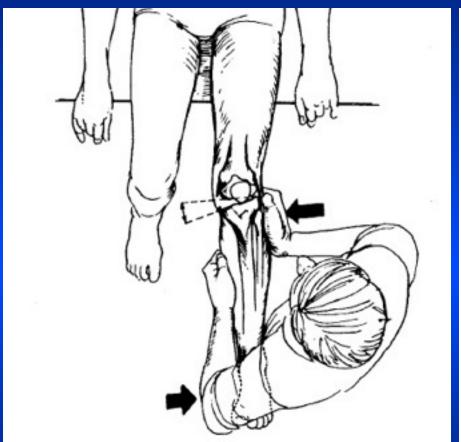
#### **McMurray's Test: Medial Meniscus**

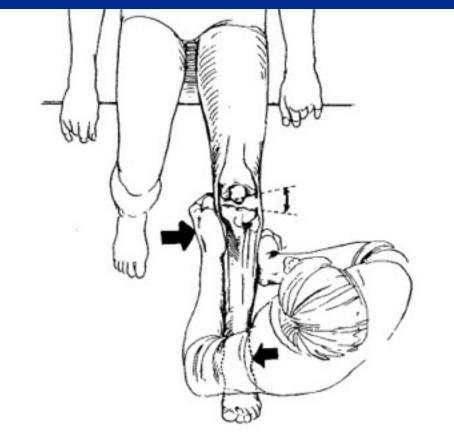


#### Normal Knee Exam: Lateral Aspect



### Straight instability vs. Rotatory instability





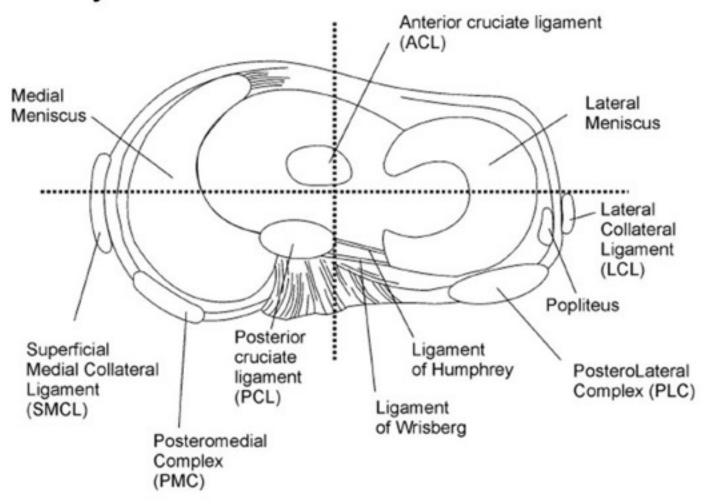
Valgus Stress / Varus Stress

#### **Normal Knee Exam: Ligaments**



## **Knee Instabilities**

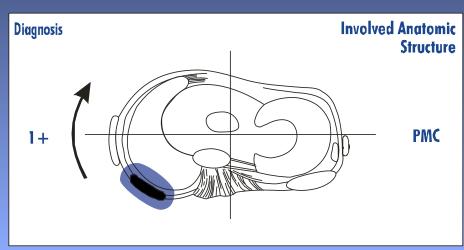
Bird's-Eye view of Tibia

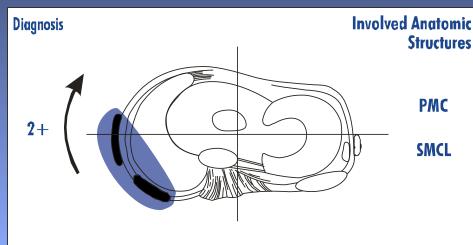


## Classification of Knee Instabilities Rotatory, Straight and Combined

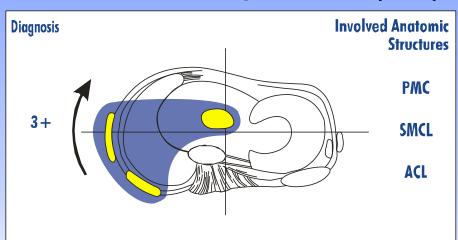
- Diagnosis: +1 to +4 by exam Grade I to IV
- Diagram
  - Bird's eye view of tibia
- Involved Anatomic Structure
- Physical findings
- Mechanism and forces
  - Contact vs. Noncontact
  - Varus / Valgus, Flexion / Extension
  - Tibial rotation

## **Anterior Instabilities**

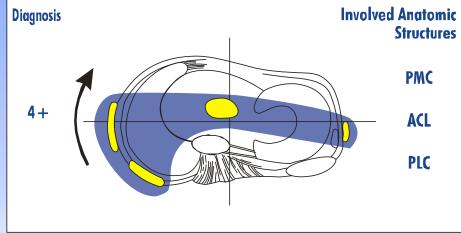




#### **Antero-Medial Rotatory Instabilities (AMRI)**



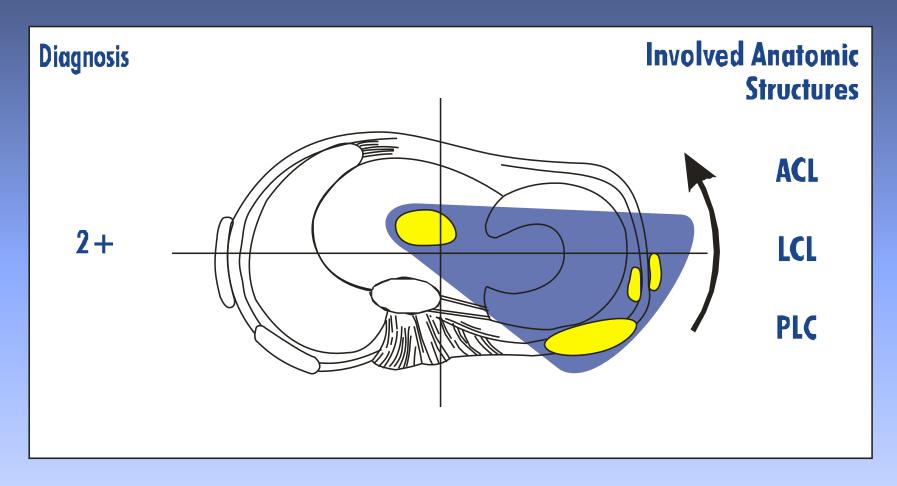
**Antero-Medial Rotatory Instabilities (AMRI)** 



**Combined AMRI and ALRI** 

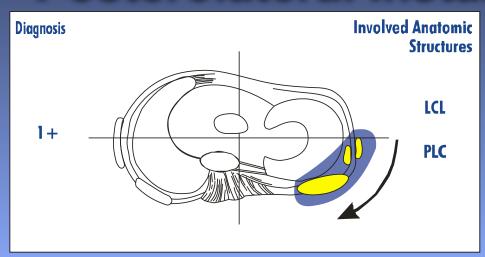
**Combined AMRI and ALRI** 

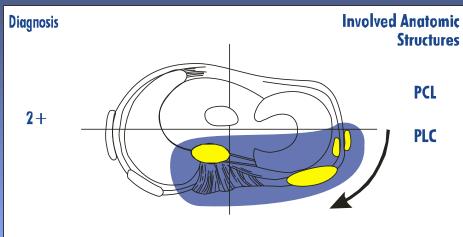
#### **Knee Instability**



**Antero-Lateral Rotatory Instabilities (ALRI)** 

#### Posterolateral Instabilities

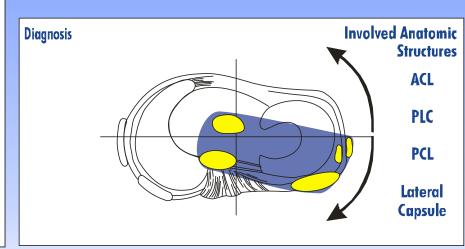




#### Postero-Lateral Rotatory Instabilities (PLRI)

# Diagnosis Involved Anatomic Structures LCL PLC PCL PMC

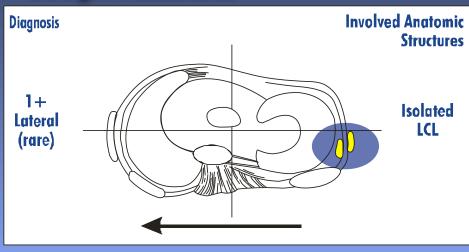
#### Postero-Lateral Rotatory Instabilities (PLRI)

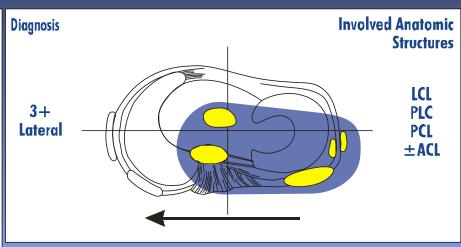


Postero-Lateral Rotatory Instabilities (PLRI)

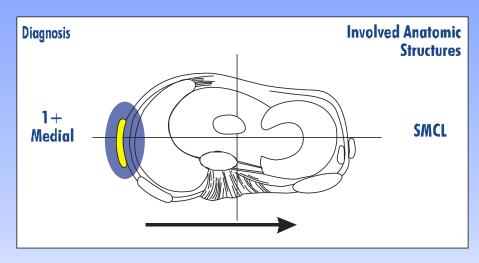
**Combined ALRI and PLRI** 

#### **Straight Instabilities**



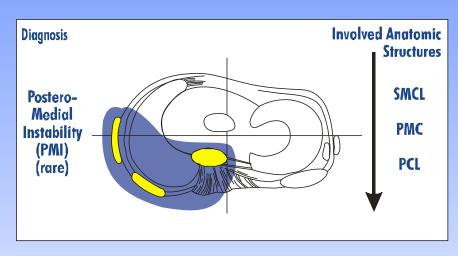


**Straight Instabilities** 



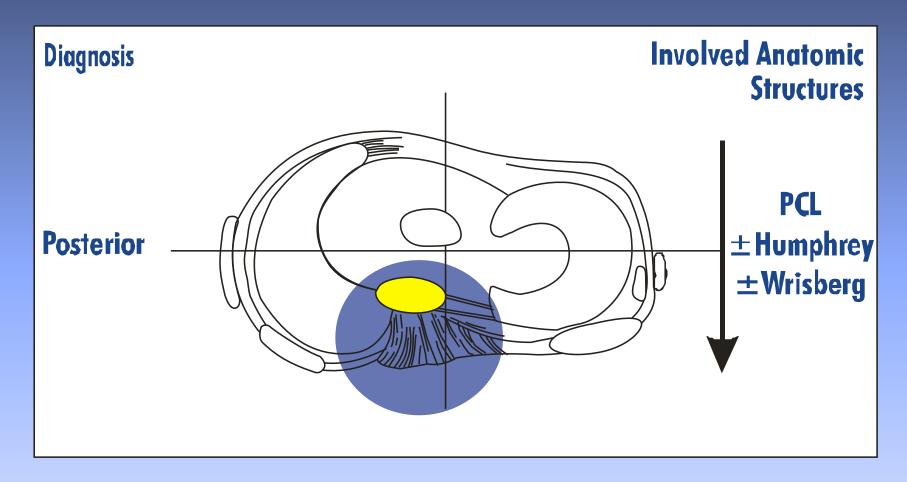
**Straight Instabilities** 

#### **Straight Instabilities**



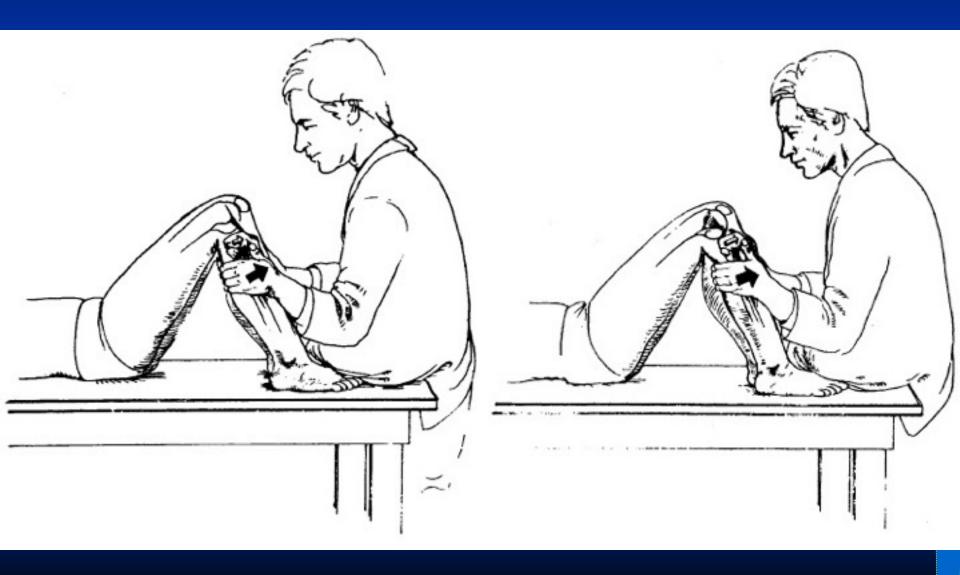
**Straight Instabilities** 

#### **Knee Instability**



**Straight Posterior** 

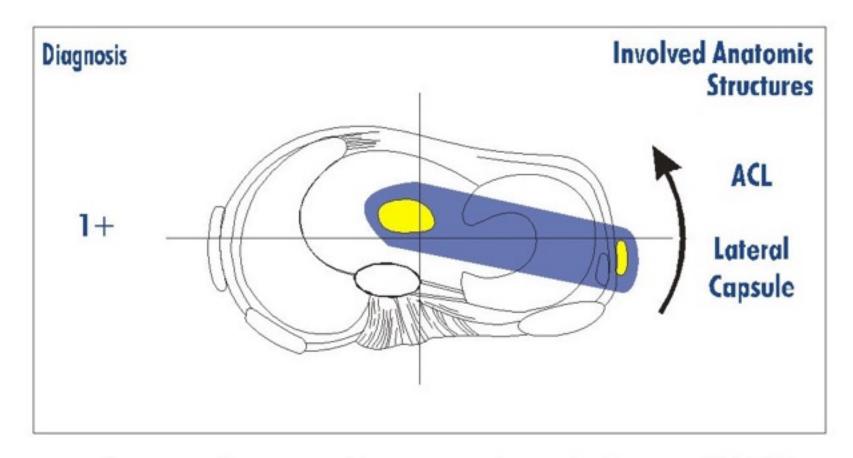
## **Anterior Drawer**



#### **Normal Knee Exam: Ligaments**



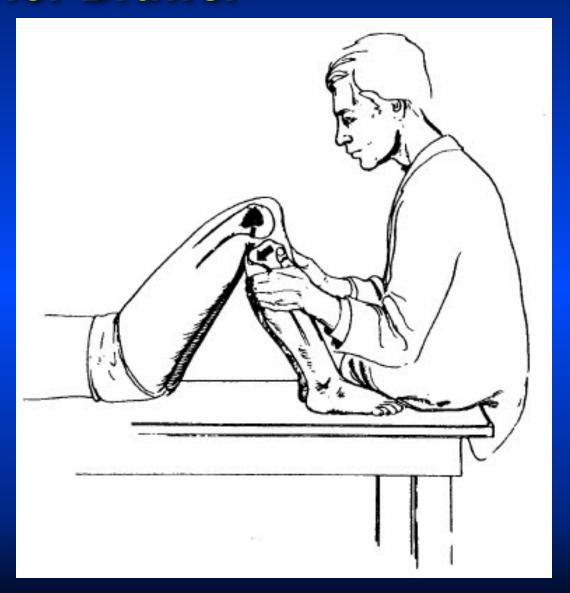
#### **Knee Instability**



Antero-Lateral Rotatory Instabilities (ALRI)



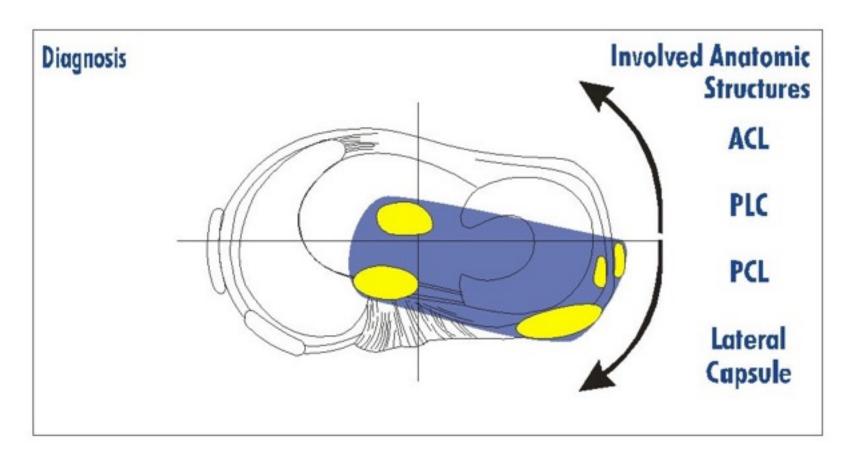
## **Posterior Drawer**



#### **Normal Knee Exam: PCL Exam**



#### **Knee Instability**



**Combined ALRI and PLRI** 



#### Normal Knee Exam: Reverse Pivot Shift, ER Recurvatum



## Radiographs

- Standing 45° PA, bilateral
- Patellar Views: Merchant or Sunrise Bilateral
- Lateral 45° Flexion
- Notch for Osteophytes
- Standardize Your Views for All Physicians
- Use Goniometer
- Know Your XRay Technicians

#### **Osteoarthritis grading systems:**

- Kellgren and Lawrence
- Fairbanks
- Joint space narrowing JSM –standing radiographs
- Ahlback classification
- Numerous studies comparing different classifications there is disagreement on the definition and grading of osteoarthritis, as well as poor correlation with patient symptoms and progression of osteoarthritis.

#### References

Mazzuca SA, Brandt KD, Schauwecker DS, Buckwalter KA, Katz BP, Meyer JM, et al. Bone scintigraphy is not a better predictor of progression of knee osteoarthritis than Kellgren and Lawrence grade. J Rheumatol 2004;31:329-332.

Oiestad BE, Holm I, Engebretsen L, Risberg MA. The association between radiographic knee osteoarthritis and knee symptoms, function and quality of life 10-15 years after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction. Br J Sports Med 2011;45:583-588.

Tapper EM, Hoover NW. Late results after meniscectomy. J Bone Joint Surg [Am] 1969;51-A:517-26.

# 45 Degree Flexed Weight-Bearing PA View is most sensitive for detecting joint space loss

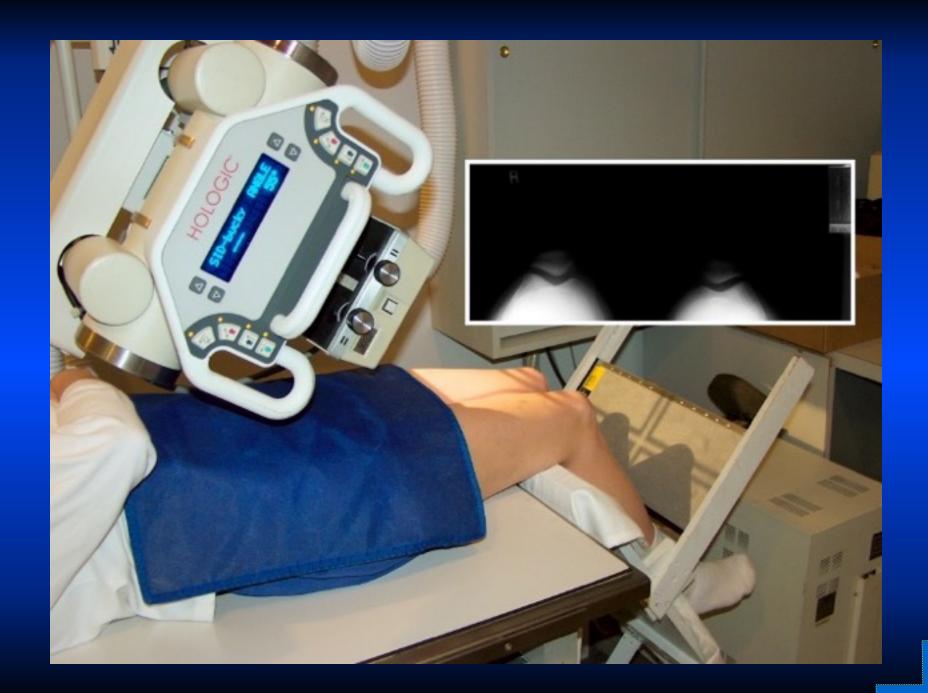
Cole BJ, Harner CD, Degenerative arthritis of the knee in active patients: evaluation and treatment. JAAOS 1999, Nov.-Dec. 7(6):389-402.

Dervin GF, Feibel RJ, Rody K, Grabowski J., 3-Foot standing AP versus 45 degrees PA radiograph for osteoarthritis of the knee. Clin J Sports Med. 2001 Jan;11(1):10-6.













# 14 YO punter was crushed by defensive line





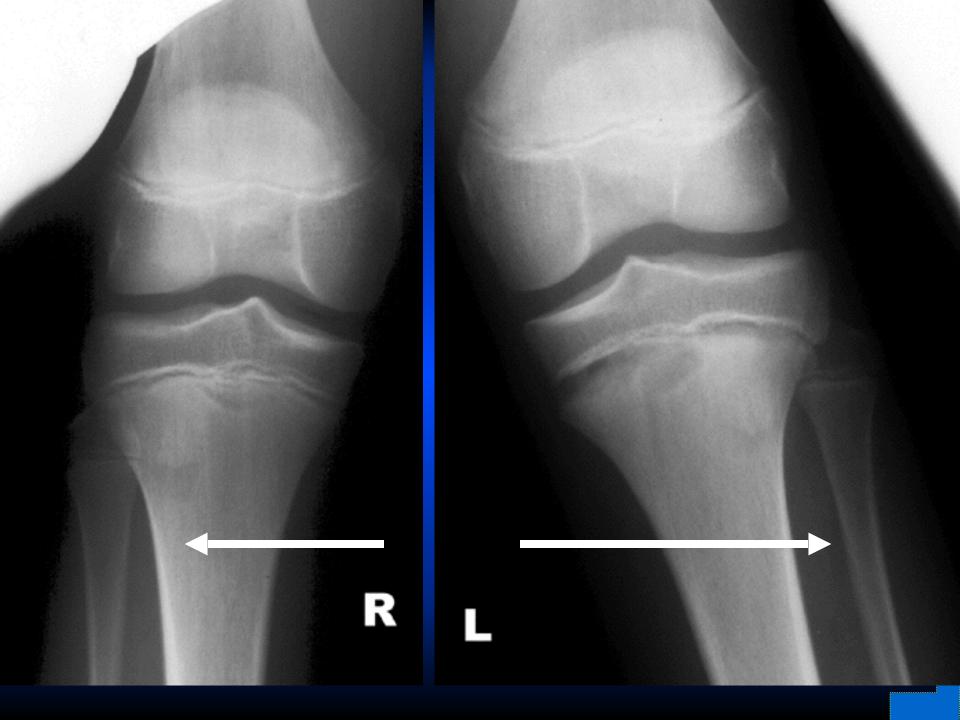






16 YO WM Football Athlete Struck from Lateral Side of Knee

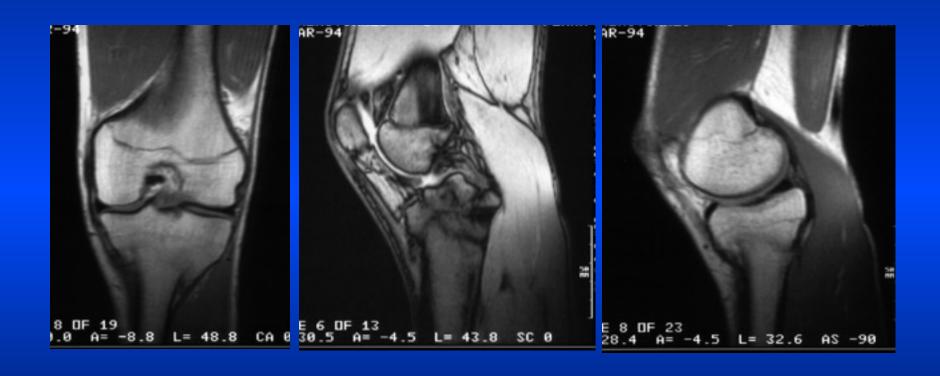




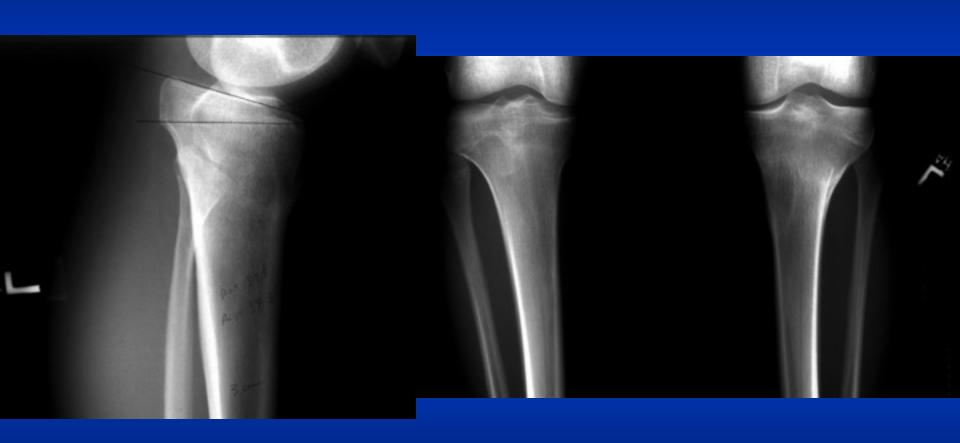
#### **Angular Deformity from 20° Malunion from Proximal tibial growth arrest**



#### MRI scan at time of initial injury



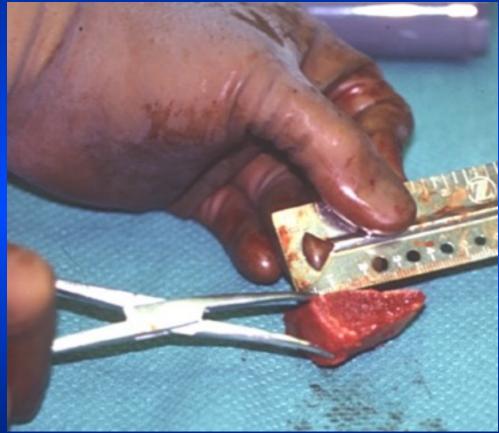






#### **Anterior opening wedge osteotomy**



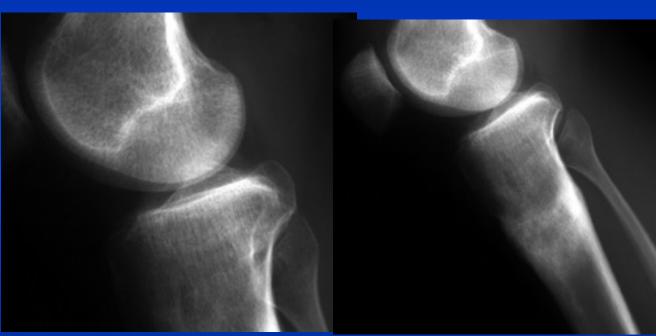


Post op: ~ 1 week

22 weeks

28 weeks



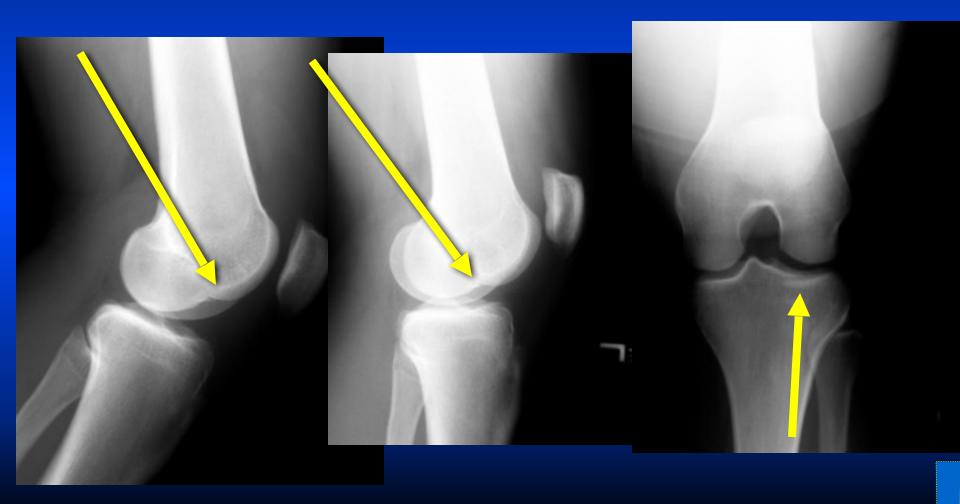


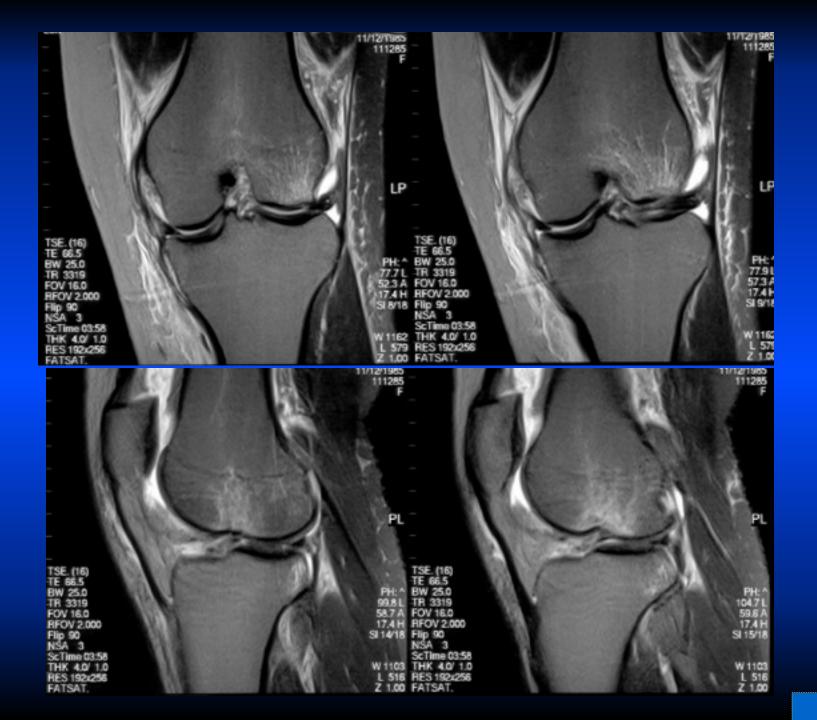
#### 19 YO Female

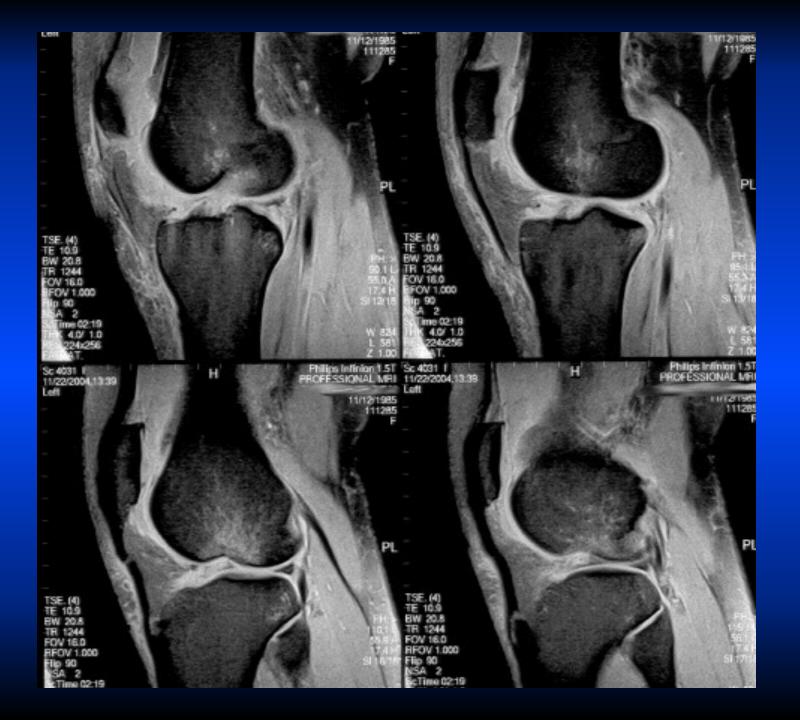
- Collegiate basketball athlete
- Landed awkwardly in a game
- PE: ACL Tear, Left knee



# Suspected osteochondral fracture LFC, possible anterior aspect LTP fracture



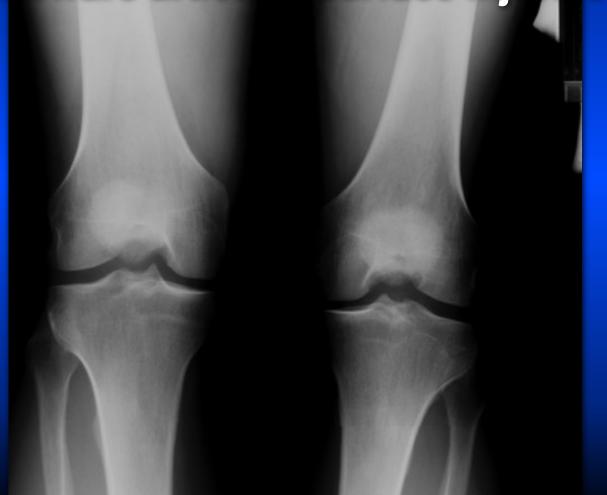


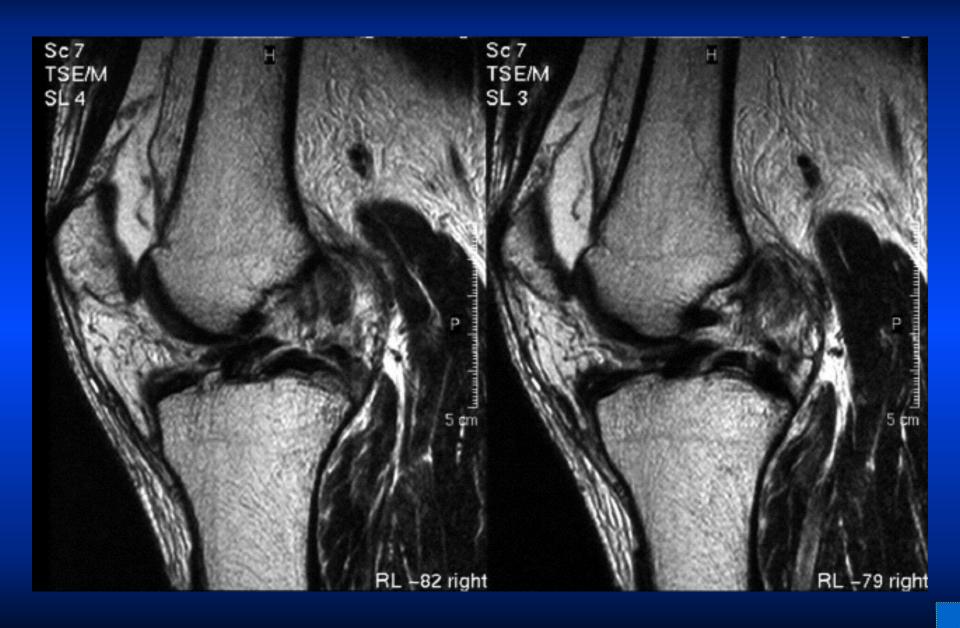


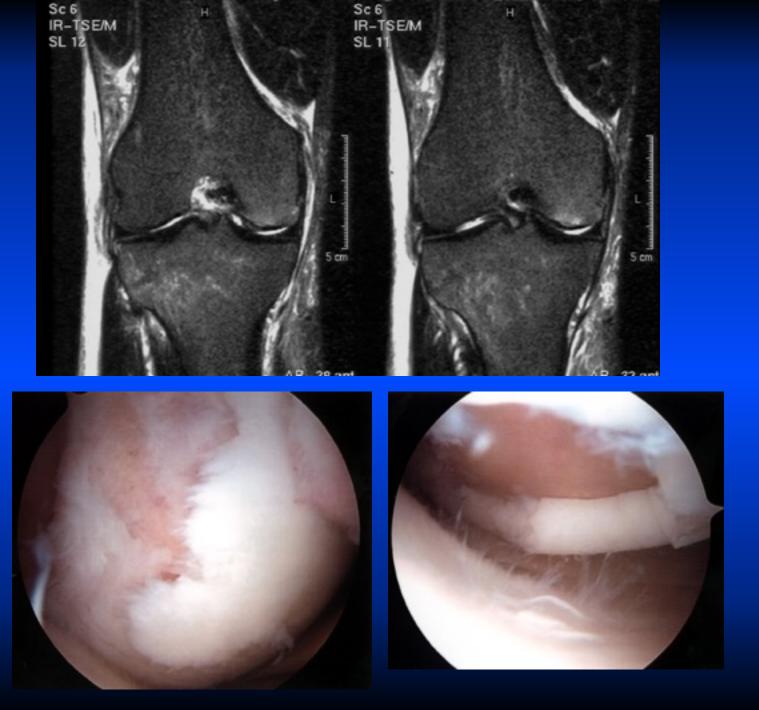


#### 42 YO Male: ACL Tear

- Injured playing soccer
- Beware articular surface injuries



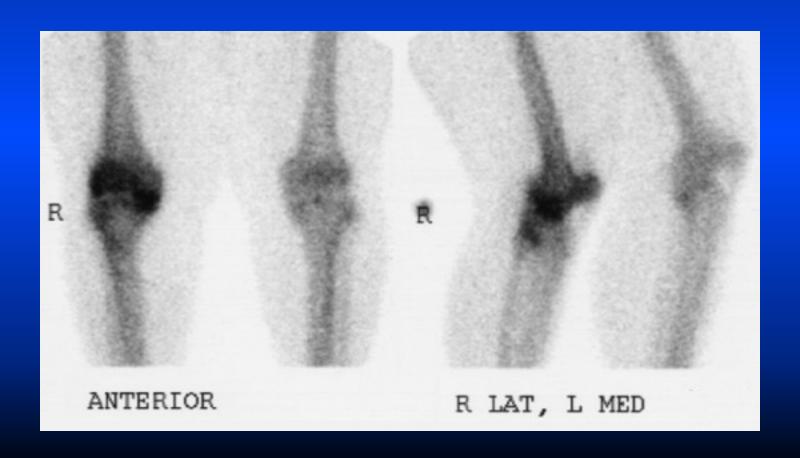






#### **Technetium Bone Scan LE**

Informative for MD + Patient



#### **Bone Bruise**



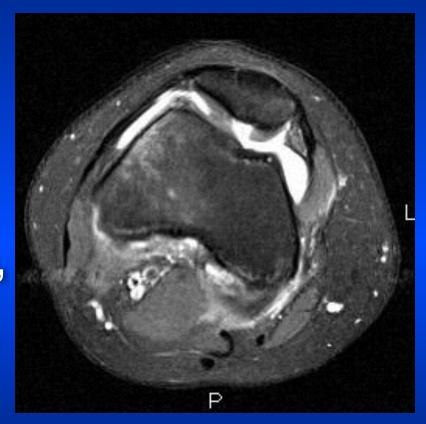




**Does That Predict Development of OA?** 

#### **Bone Bruise Patterns**

- Acute patellar dislocation
- Medial patella anterolateral femoral condyle
- No OA from bone bruise, but from articular cartilage injury and maltracking



#### **Bone Bruise Patterns**

- In soccer, medial tibial plateau bone bruise no long term risk of OA
- In degenerative posterior horn root avulsions, medial tibial bone bruise often seen

? Long-term follow-up for bone bruises needed to determine significance for development of OA

# What is the significance of Bone Bruises? Unknown...

- Long term Bone Bruise ≠ OA
- In ACL injuries noncontact compartments:
  - Lateral / acute
  - Medial / chronic OA
- Classification systems for bone bruises need further development

## Late Results After Meniscectomy

Tapper EM, Hoover NW, "Late Results after Meniscectomy," *J Bone Joint Surg Am*, 1969 Apr 01;51(3):517-603.

## Mayo clinic retrospective review

- 1005 patients undergoing meniscectomy
- 1936-1956
- 113 examined, 100 questionnaires
  - Males did better
  - Best results in bucket-handle resection leaving peripheral rim
  - Do not leave posterior horn if torn

Tapper EM, Hoover NW, "Late Results after Meniscectomy," *J Bone Joint Surg Am*, 1969 Apr 01;51(3):517-603.

- Discussion by Dr. Don H. O'Donoghue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
  - I would therefore not accept the conclusion that:
    - Delay in operation does not affect the ultimate result
    - Patients under twenty years of age have fewer satisfactory results
    - Leaving the peripheral ring will give the best results in bucket-handle fractures
    - Conclusions are not valid based on evidence presented

Tapper EM, Hoover NW, "Late Results after Meniscectomy," *J Bone Joint Surg Am*, 1969 Apr 01;51(3):517-603.

- Discussion by Dr. Don H. O'Donoghue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
  - I think the authors are to be congratulated on their efforts to obtain a valid series. As I have indicated, it is extremely difficult to get an uncontaminated series. Probably a study should be initiated, not after operation but before operation, on patients whose surgery would qualify as relatively uncomplicated meniscectomy.

# **History & PE**

- 55 YO Female
- Difficulty walking due to left knee out of alignment
- Fell 10 years ago and was told she had meniscal tears
- PE: Height 5' 51/2", weight 303: BMI 43
- Bilateral Knees:
  - Diffuse crepitus and pain
  - Mild effusion
  - No calf tenderness



# Left Knee







Right Knee

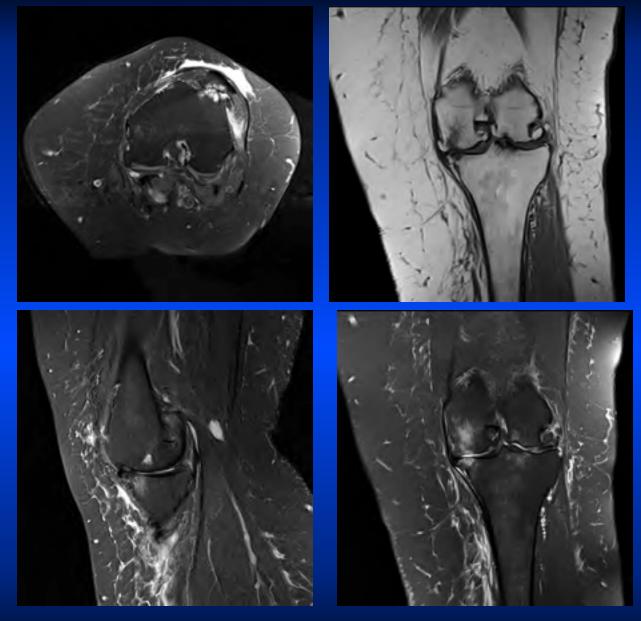






What test would you do next?

# MRI



Are more tests needed?

### MRI Scan in the Arthritic Knee After 50 years

- Not Helpful for Articular Cartilage
- Meniscal Signal Will Usually Be Abnormal and come to the tibial surface.

### MRI Scan in the Arthritic Knee After 50 years

- Is the root of the Medial Meniscus Avulsed?
- What about my Baker's Cyst?
- Think tree MRI Scan
  - In a Big Forest Arthritis
    - —The Plain Xrays show us the reason for stiffness & pain: Arthritis



### **IMAGING THE ARTHRITIC KNEE**

- Use goniometer to assure comparable Xrays year to year and for outcome studies
- Let the Orthopaedist Order the MRI Scan in the Arthritic Knee Patient.
  - May want DESS or special articular cartilage sequences.
  - In most cases MRI scans in patients over age 50 would not change treatment plan.
  - I don't need an MRI scan to know what to do arthroscopically! I was scoping knees prior to MRI scans!

### Conclusions

- Make the connection between:
  - Anatomy
  - Function
  - History and Physical Exam
- In relation to:
  - Functional disability
  - Specific diagnosis

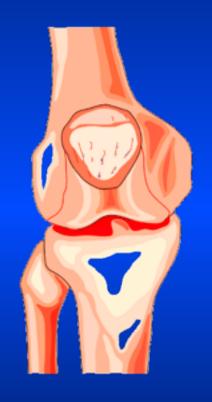
# "The Knee as a Biologic Transmission with an Envelope of Function"

Scott Dye. The Knee as a Biologic Transmission with an Envelope of Function. Clin Orthop Rel Res 1996;325:(April): 10-18.

### **Envelope of Knee Function**

- Factors:
  - Anatomy
  - Kinetics
  - Physiology
  - Treatment

# The Knee as a Biologic Transmission with an Envelope of Function



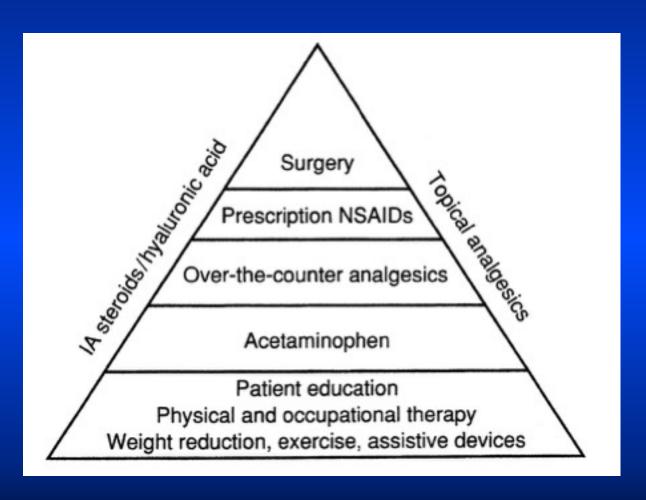


A Knee Injury is like a car wreck

#### **Goal of Treatment of Knee Disorders**

- Broaden envelope of function
- Resume activity safely
- Inform patients of "lowered threshold" of function

# **Pyramid Approach to the Management of Osteoarthritis**



# You May Not Have Seen It, But It Has Seen You

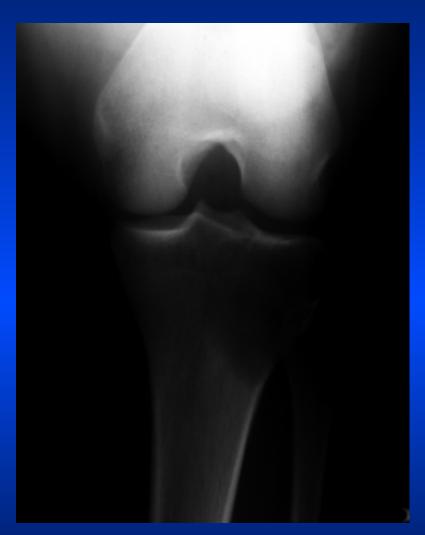




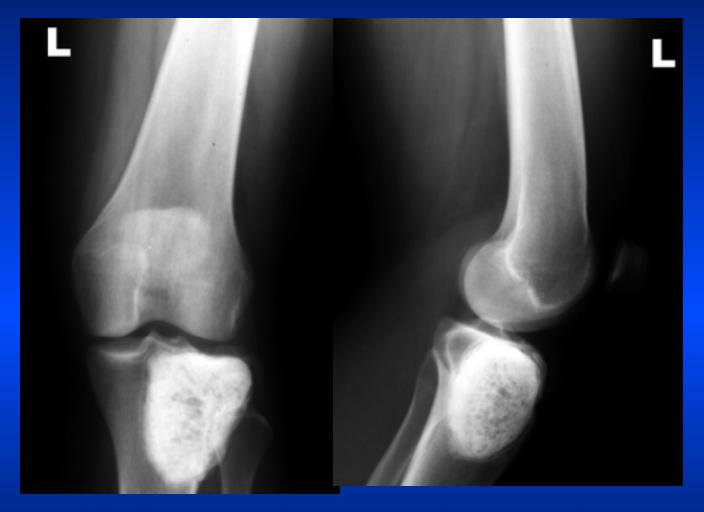
Right distal femur osteosarcoma











**S/P Excision Curettage Cementation** 

# You Look for What You Know and You Find What You Look For



### The End . . . Thank You!

Examination and Imaging of the Knee and Leg



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ACSM TPC Part 2 Miami, Florida February 9, 2013