

Plantar plate repair & MTP joint instability: comparing surgical techniques to optimize outcomes

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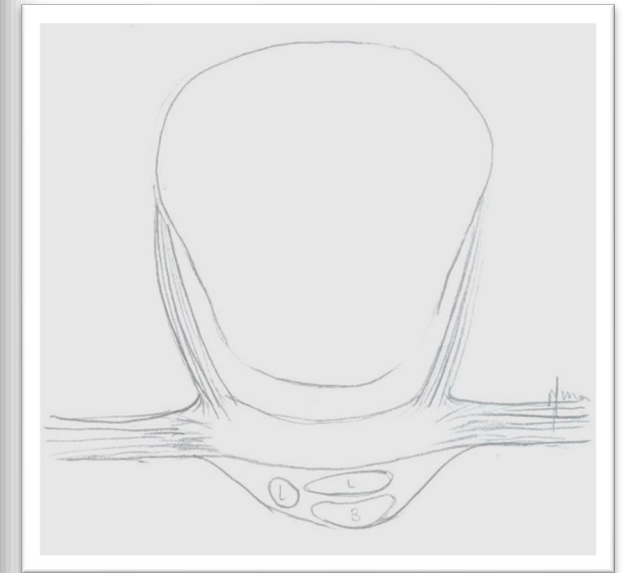
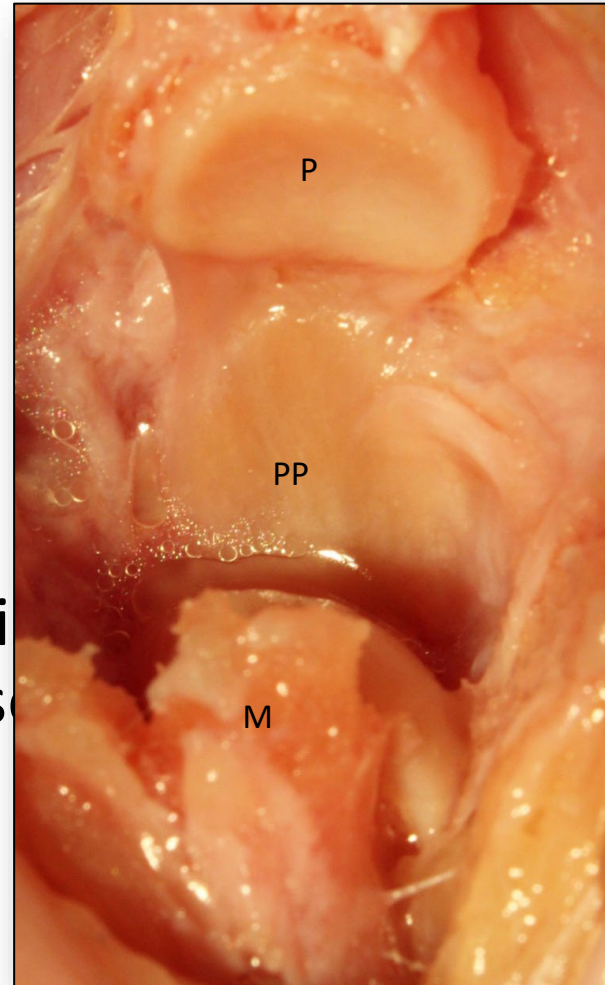
Clinical Instructor, Dr William M Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at

Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science

North Chicago, Illinois, USA

The plantar plate

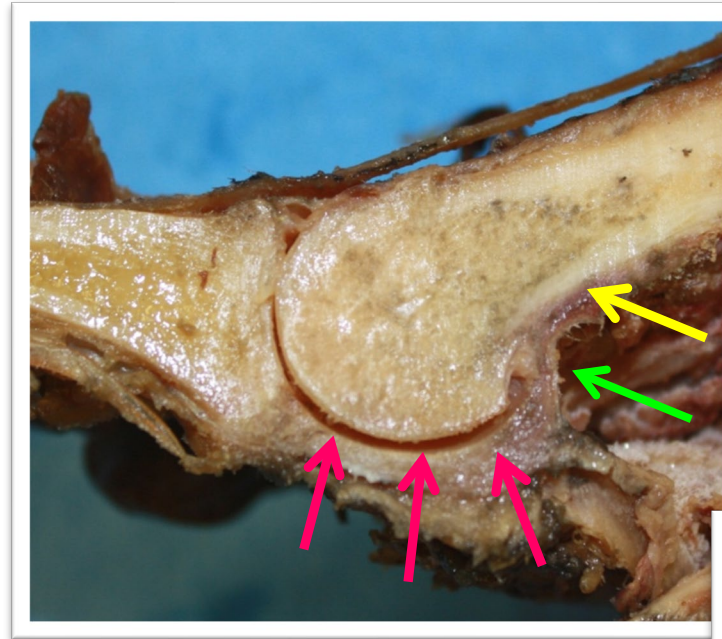
- Primary stabilizer of the MTP joint
- Fibrocartilage
 - Type 1 collagen
 - Dorsal 2/3^{rds}: longitudinal organization with interwoven appearance
 - Plantar 1/3rd: transverse organization continuous with deep transverse intermetatarsal ligament
 - No elastin fibers



Deland, FAI, 1995.

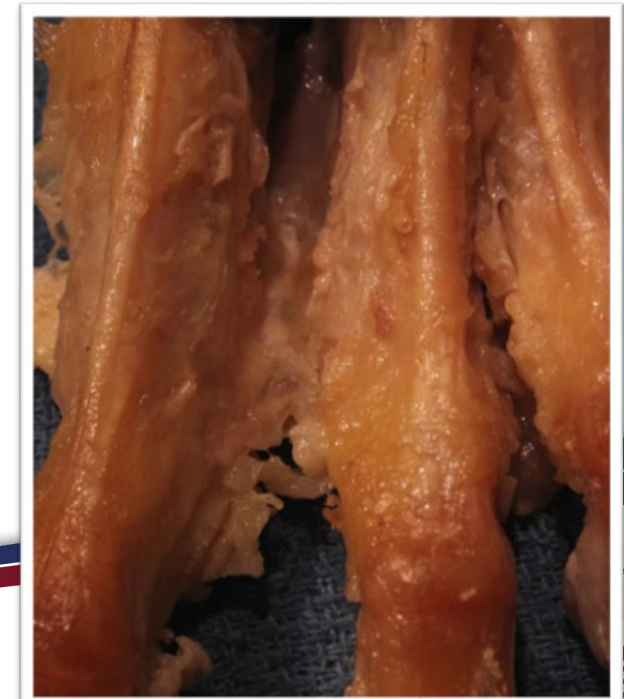
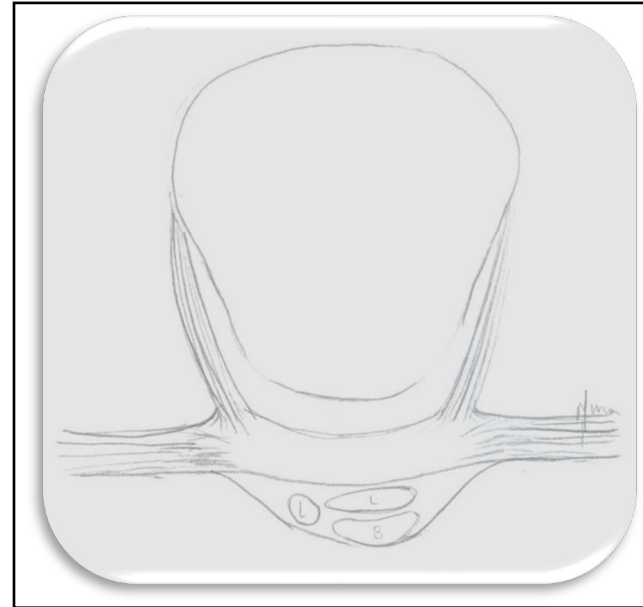
Plantar plate attachments

- Distal attachment
 - One or two bundles
 - Firm
- Proximal attachment
 - Continuous with **synovium** of the MTPJ
 - Blends with **perioosteum**
 - Proximal to flare of metatarsal head
- Loose, mobile attachment



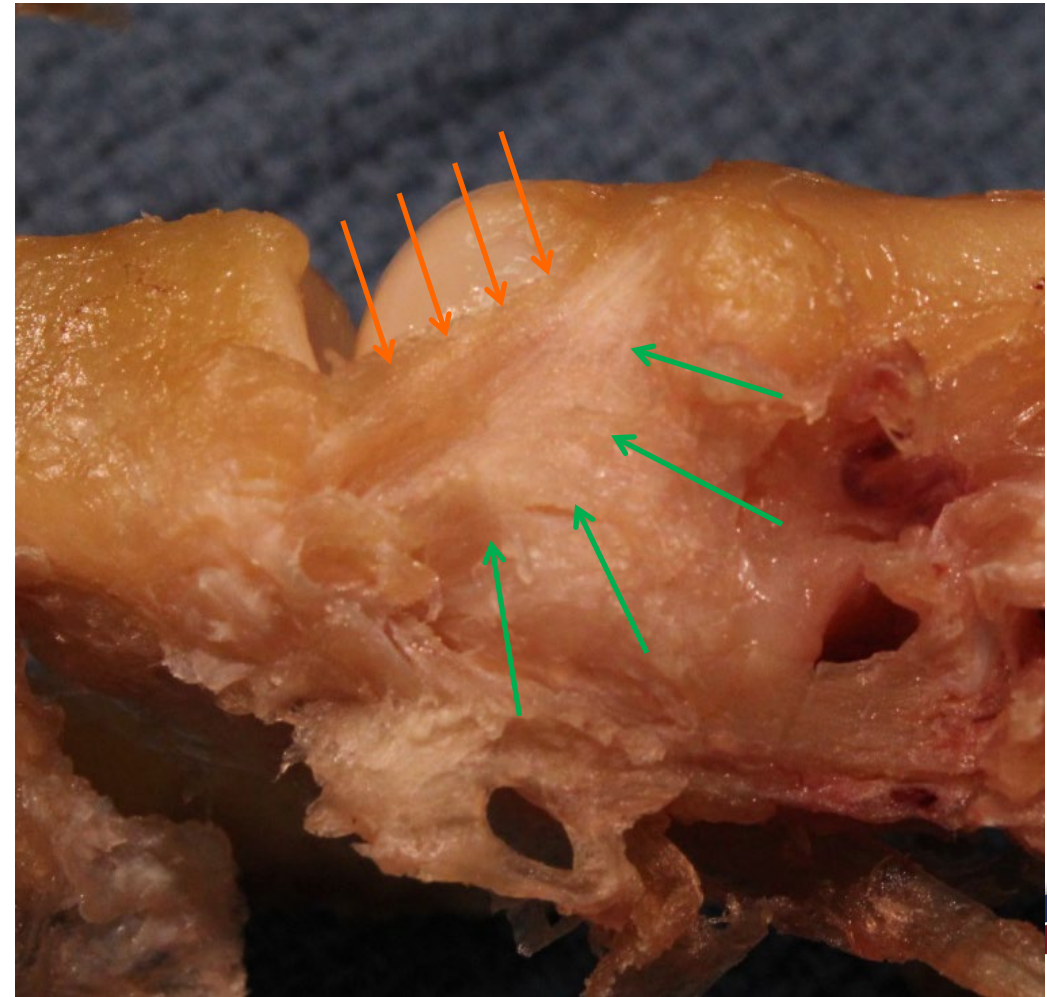
Transverse Intermetatarsal Ligament

- No attachments to the metatarsal heads
- Plantar 1/3rd of the plantar plate
- Medial and lateral
- Transverse 'tie-bar' to control splaying of the forefoot



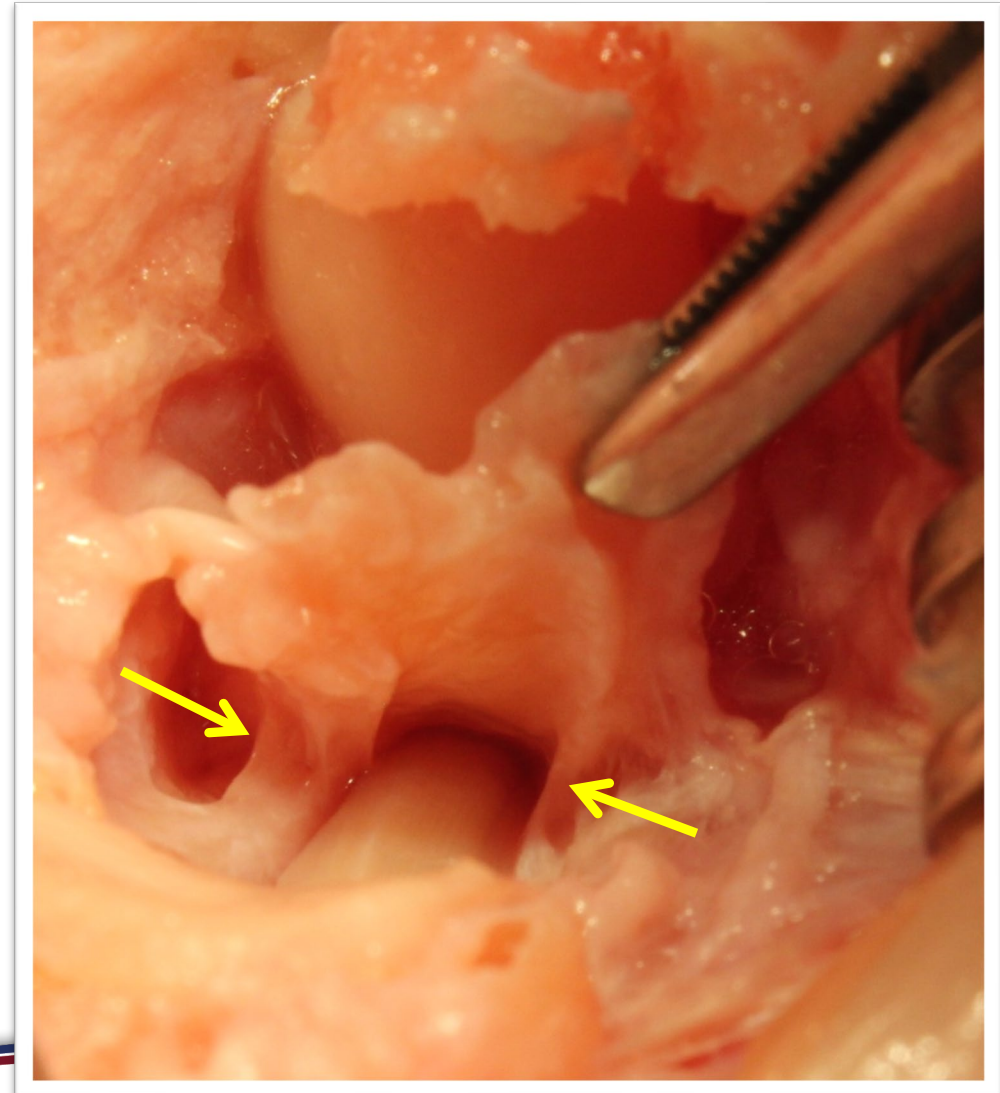
The Collateral Ligament Complex

- Proper collateral ligament
 - Metatarsophalangeal collateral ligament
 - Anterior/superior portion of the tubercle of the metatarsal head
 - Insertion on the proximal phalanx is over a 2-3mm area.
- Accessory collateral ligament
 - Proximal, inferior portion of the tubercle on the metatarsal head
 - Plantar, slightly distal course
 - Insertion on the lateral portion of the plantar plate
 - The average length of the insertion onto the plantar plate is 10 mm.



Plantar Fascia

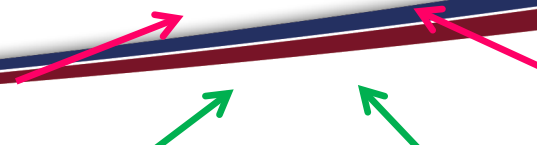
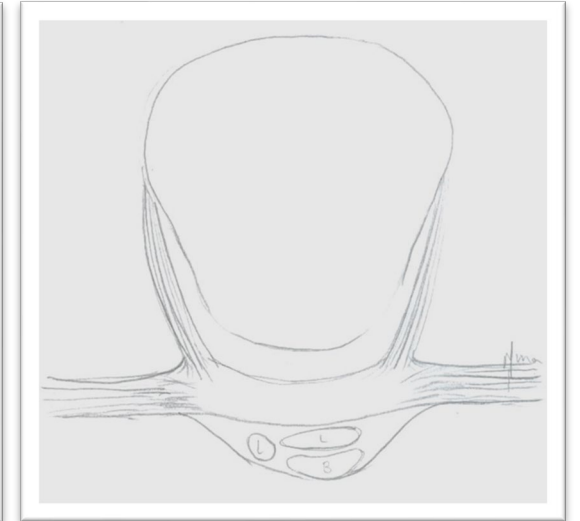
- Plantar fascia
 - Distally at the level of the metatarsal heads
 - Superficial and deep slips for each toe
 - Deep slips on medial and lateral sides of the flexor tendons
 - Insert on medial and lateral aspects of the plantar plate
- Flexor tendons
 - Groove on plantar surface
 - Fibrous sheath medially and laterally



Deland, 1995, Johnston, 1994, Sarrafian, 1992, Stainsby 1997

Instability at the MTP Joint

- Extensor substitution
 - Extensors have a mechanical advantage at the MTP joint
- Flexor stabilization
- Flexor substitution
 - Flexors are inherently weaker
- Plantar plate tear



Progressive Deformity

- Early signs are subtle
 - Pain
 - Edema
 - Positive drawer
 - Splaying of the 2nd and 3rd toes
 - Elevation of the 2nd toe?



Progressive Deformity



- Late deformity
 - Less pain
 - Minimal edema
 - Fixed deformities
 - Multiple joint involvement

In which patients should you suspect
plantar plate pathology?

Patient History Parameters

Parameter	Incidence (%)	Sensitivity	Specificity	Positive Predictive Value	Negative Predictive Value	Odds Ratio
Sudden onset	7%	7	100	100	8.9	NA
Gradual onset	93%	93	0	91.2	0	0
Pain >6 months	69%	73.4	28.6	93.2	7.4	1.104
Previous 1 st ray surgery	18%	100	0	94.7	0	NA
Previous cortisone injection	21%	22.1	62.5	87.5	6.3	0.473
Neuroma?	90%	91.7	93.4	27.8	67	1.543

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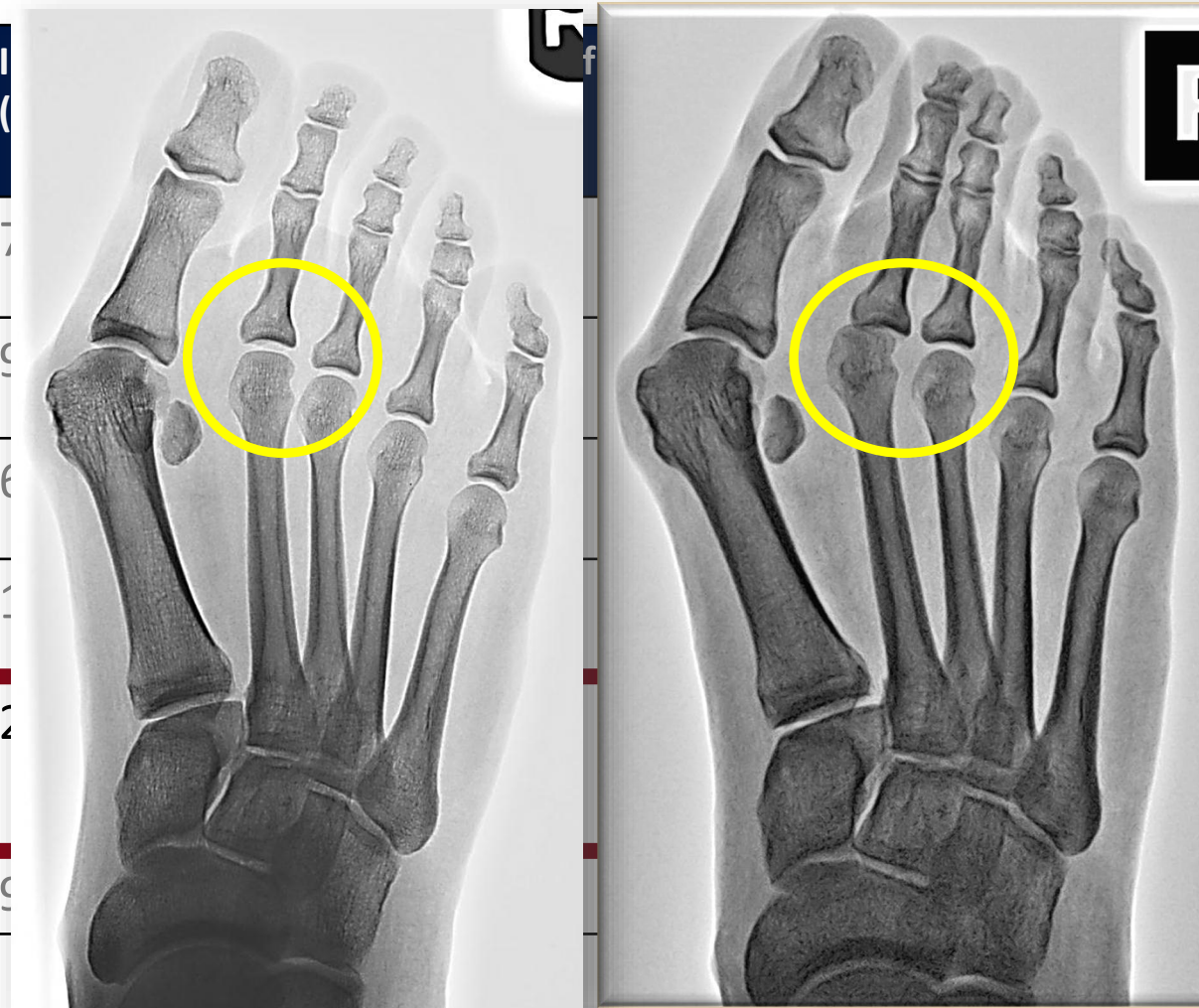
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Patient History Parameters

Parameter	
Sudden onset	7
Gradual onset	9
Pain >6 months	6
Previous 1 st ray surgery	1
Previous cortisone injection	2
Neuroma?	9



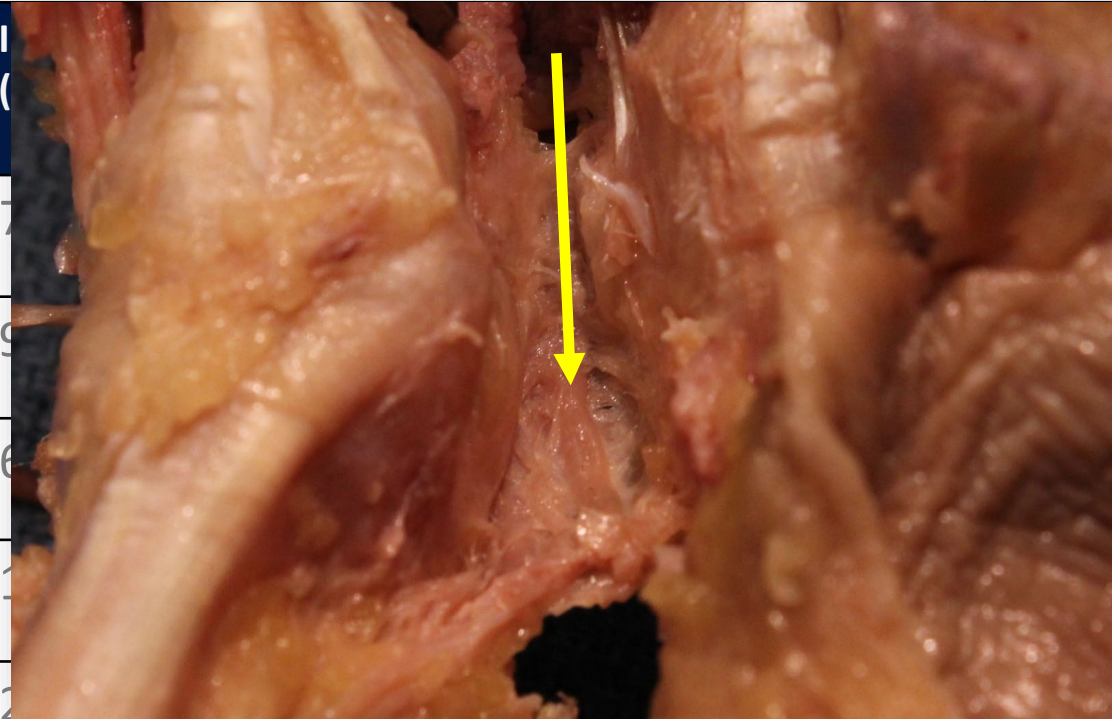
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Patient History Parameters

Parameter	Positive	Odds Ratio
Sudden onset		NA
Gradual onset		0
Pain >6 months		1.104
Previous 1 st ray surgery		NA
Previous cortisone		0.473



If a patient has been diagnosed with a second interspace neuroma that has not responded to treatment, it may not be a neuroma.

Patient Clinical Parameters

Parameter	Incidence	Sensitivity	Specificity	Positive Predictive Value	Negative Predictive Value	Odds Ratio
Pain - 2nd metatarsal head	98%	98	11.1	92.5	33.3	6.125
Edema - 2nd metatarsal head	92%	95.8	11.1	92.0	20.0	2.875
Positive drawer sign	75%	80.6	99.8	92.6	10.0	1.389
Pain with 2 nd MTP joint ROM	28%	31.5	77.8	93.3	10.3	1.607
Crossover toes	8%	8.0	88.9	88.9	8.0	0.696

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When pain, edema and a positive drawer sign are combined, this will identify 95% of plantar plate tears.

Drawer Sign





NEGATIVE

POSITIVE

Patient Clinical Parameters

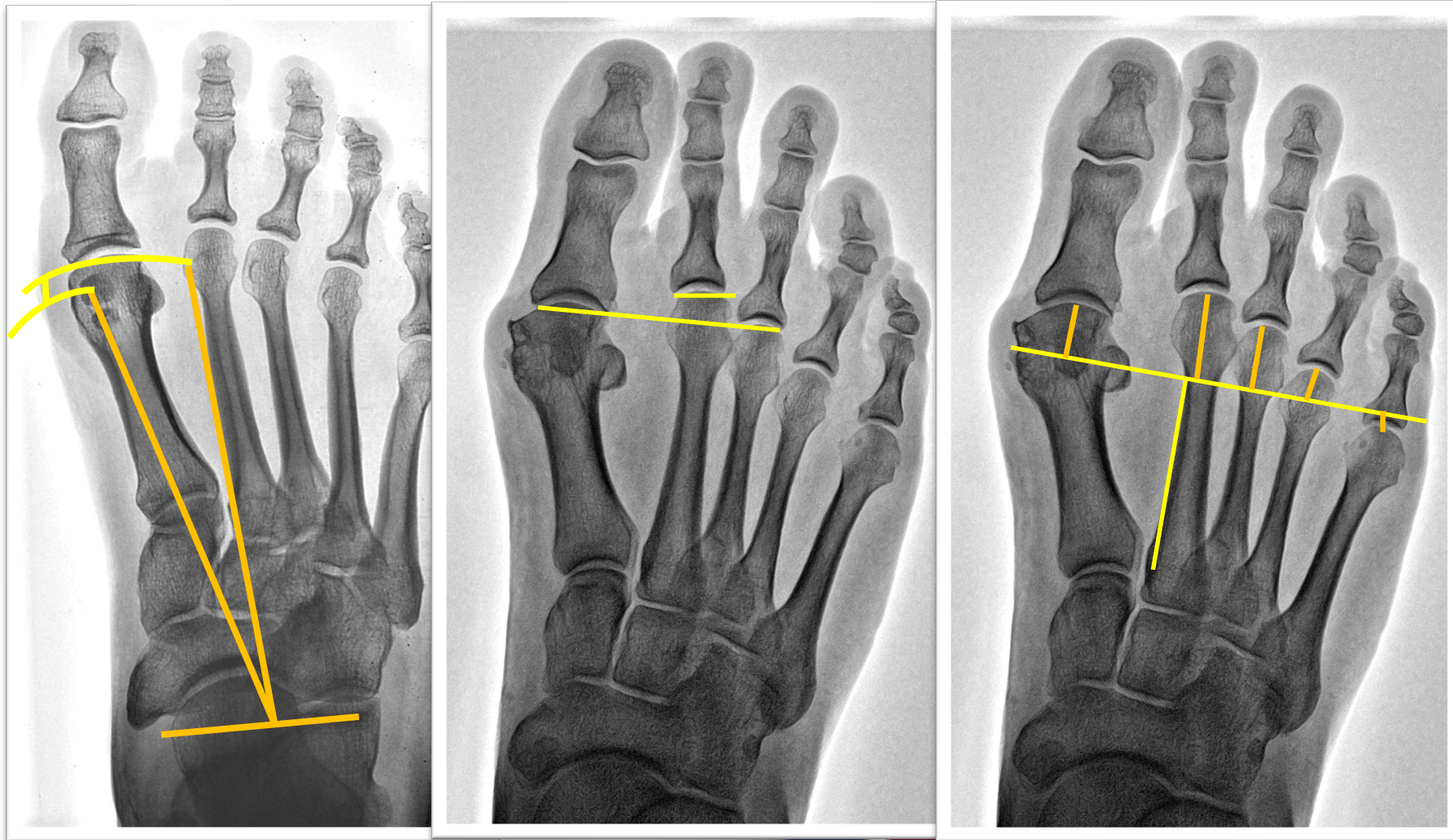
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			95.0	11.1	92.0	
<p>92% of plantar plate tears were found in feet <u>without</u> crossover toes.</p>						
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What will be seen on
radiographs?

Welcome to the Metatarsal Parabola



The Originating Factors

Parameters	Incidence	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Odds Ratio
First intermetatarsal angle >12°	47.1%	51.5%	66.7%	94.3%	11.3%	2.127
Metatarsus adductus angle >15°	70.7%	77.3%	22.2%	91.5%	8.3%	0.974
Hardy & Clapham +/- 2 mm	50.0%	54.4%	50.0%	92.5%	8.9%	1.195
2 nd metatarsal protrusion distance >2mm	90.2%	97.9%	0%	92.0%	0%	0
Maestro – 1 st Metatarsal <10 mm	36.2%	39.4%	62.5%	92.5%	8.1%	1.081
Maestro – 2 nd Metatarsal >13 mm	65.3%	71.0%	50.0%	94.3%	12.9%	2.444
Maestro – 3 rd Metatarsal <9 mm	48.0%	52.1%	50.0%	92.5%	8.2%	1.089
First metatarsal declination >20°	82.5%	90.4%	11.1%	91.4%	10%	1.181
MPE >8mm	17.8%	19.5%	75.0%	88.9%	8.3%	0.727
Second metatarsal declination >20°	87.3%	95.7%	0%	90.8%	0%	0

- > An odds ratio >1 = more likely to be diagnosed with plantar plate tear.
- > An odds ratio <1 = less likely to be diagnosed with plantar plate tear.

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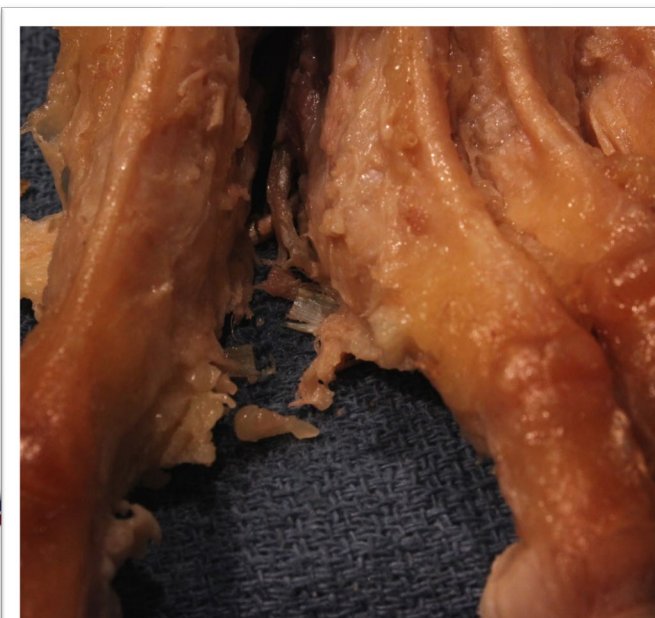
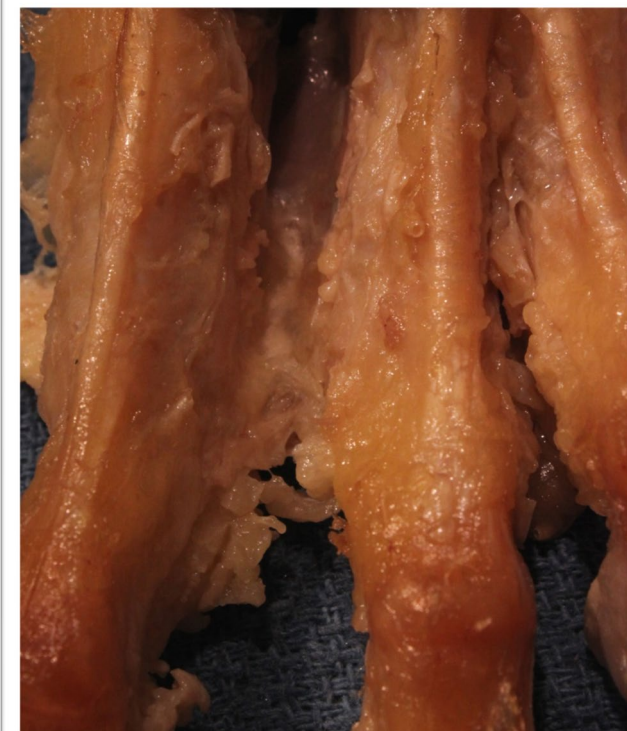
The Resultant Factors

Parameters	Incidence	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV	Odds Ratio
Lateral deviation of the 2 nd toe	45.2%	49.5%	33.3%	88.9%	5.8%	0.489
Medial deviation of the 2 nd toe	46.2%	50.5%	66.7%	94.2%	11.1%	2.041
Presence of splaying (2 nd and 3 rd digits)	59.4%	64.9%	77.8%	96.9%	17.1%	6.485
Transverse plane splay >5 ^o	55.7%	60.8%	77.8%	96.7%	15.6%	5.434
Second metatarsal-phalangeal angle >12 ^o	17.0%	18.6%	100%	100%	10.5%	n/a

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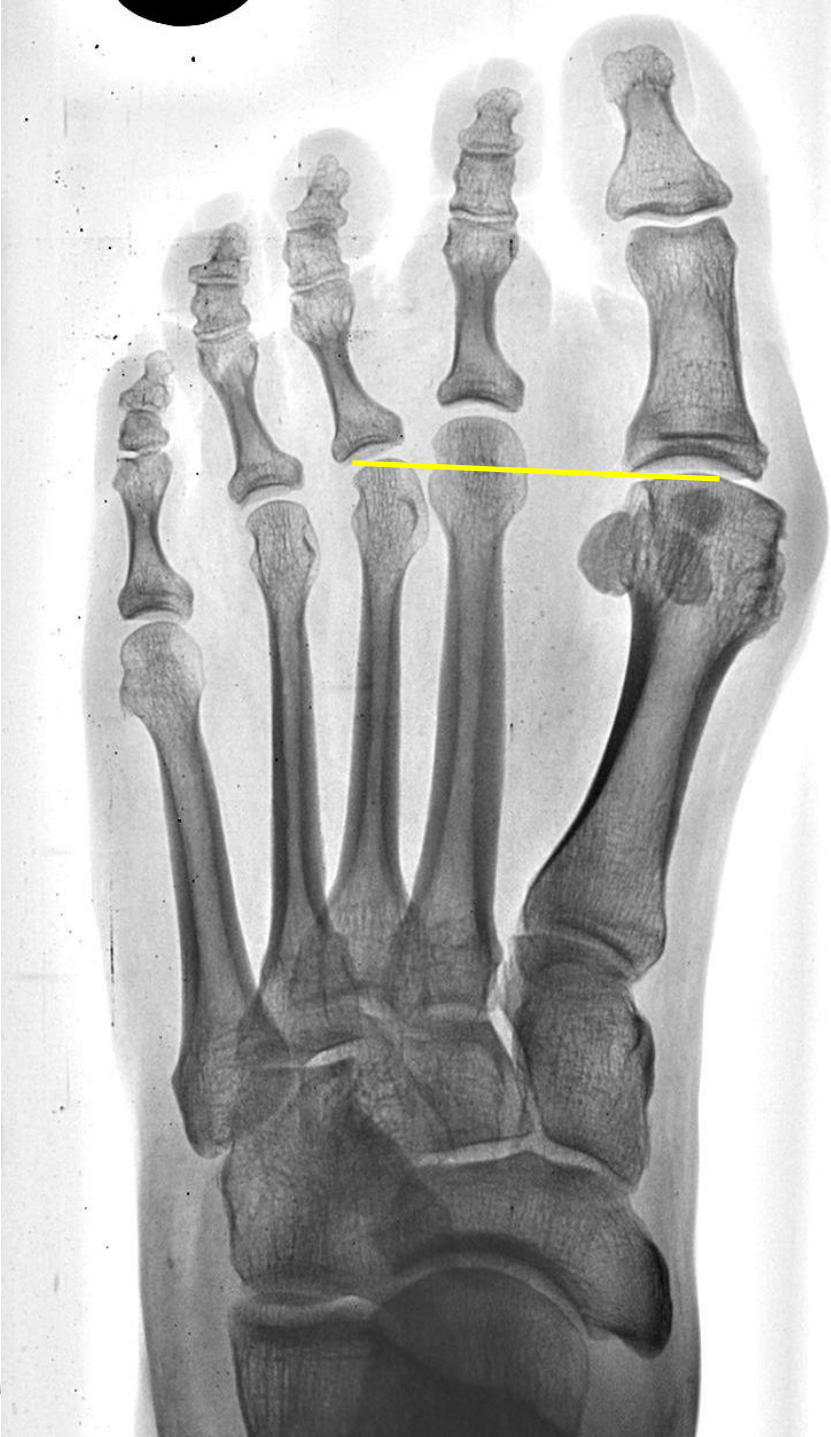
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Results – Toe Splaying



What about the other side?

Exam Parameter	Pathologic Side	Non – Pathologic Side	Difference
Hardy & Clapham's Method	-0.7 mm \pm 3.23 mm (Range -10 – 10 mm)	-0.9 \pm 2.9 mm (Range -9 mm – 5 mm)	0.2 mm
Coughlin's Method	4.5 mm \pm 1.2 mm (Range 2 – 7 mm)	3.7 \pm 2.1 mm (Range -4 – 7 mm)	0.8 mm
Maestro 1 st Metatarsal	9.8 \pm 2.5 mm (Range 5 – 15 mm)	9.8 \pm 2.1 mm (Range 5 – 15 mm)	0 mm
Maestro 2nd Metatarsal	13.8 \pm 3.3 mm (Range 6 – 21 mm)	13.3 \pm 3.3 mm (Range 6 – 12 mm)	0.5 mm
Maestro 3 rd Metatarsal	9.1 \pm 3.1 mm (Range 3 – 20 mm)	9.1 \pm 3.1 mm (Range 3 – 20 mm)	0 mm



Metatarsal Length

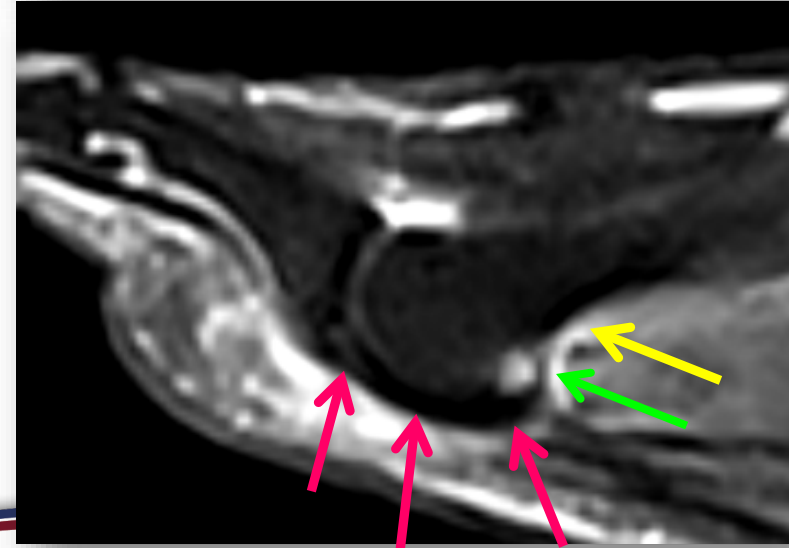
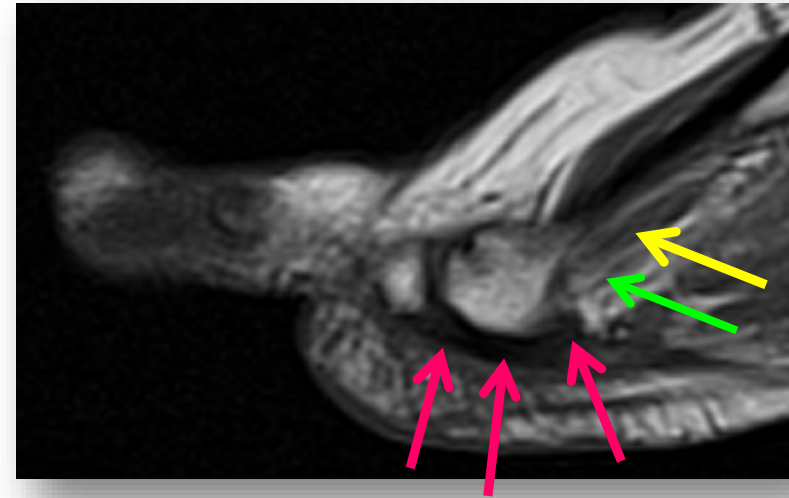
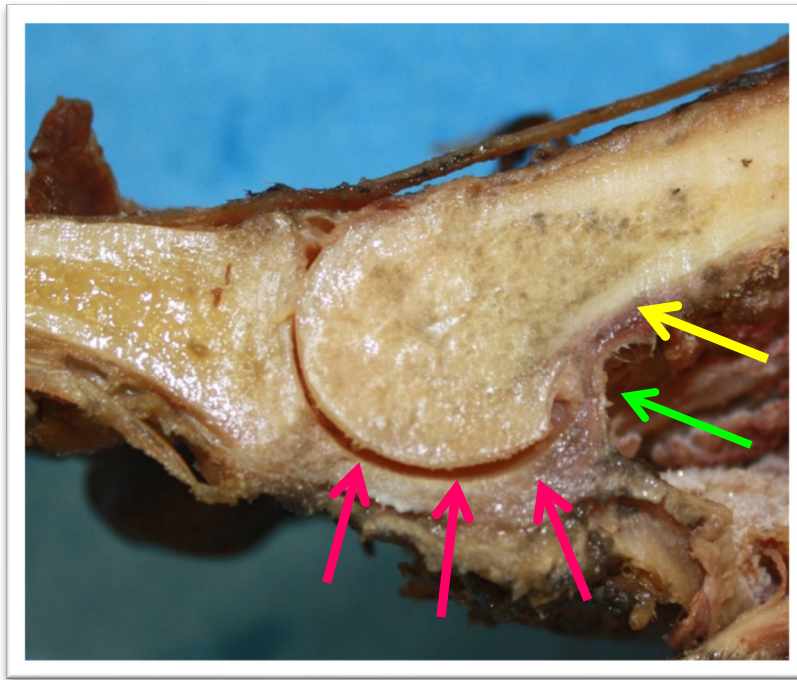
- Metatarsal parabola evaluation is critical
 - Underlying osseous deformity
 - Soft tissue imbalance



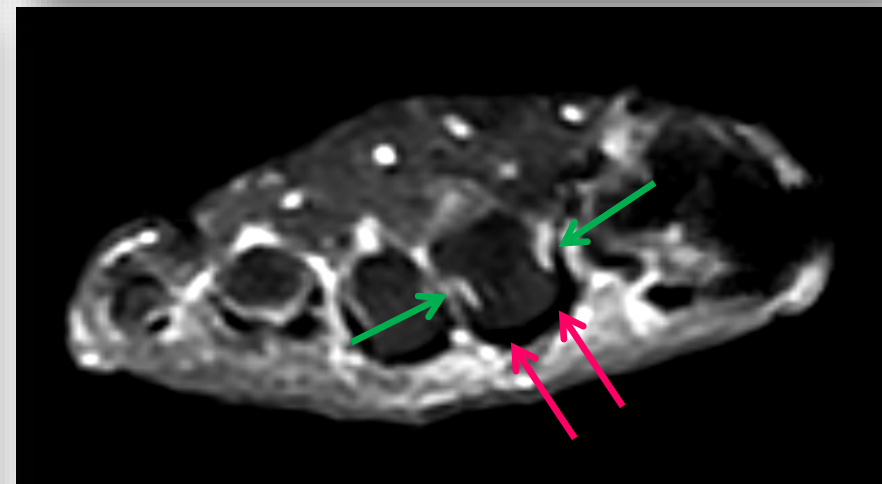
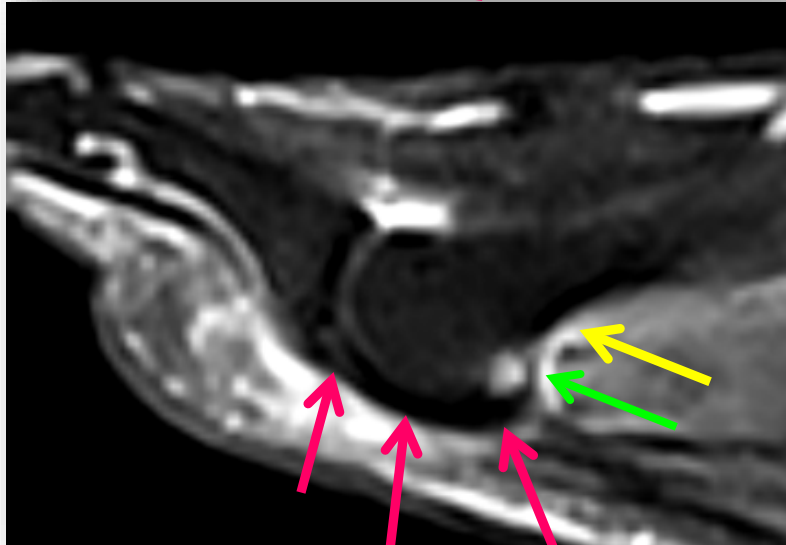
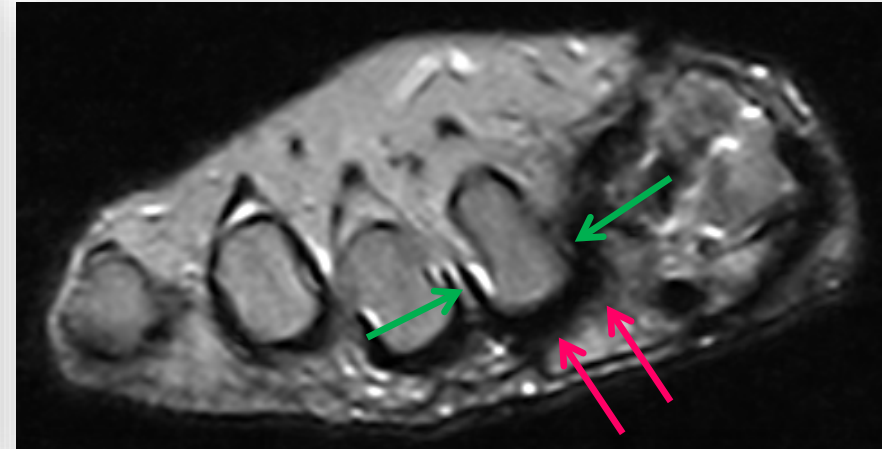
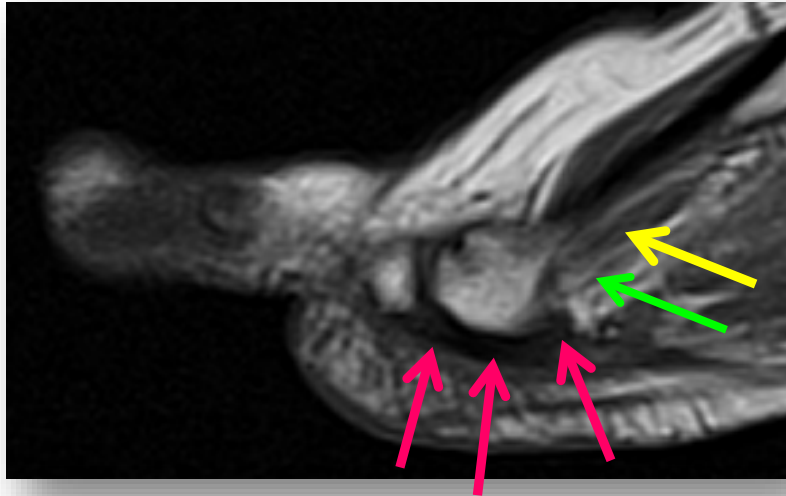
Advanced Imaging

You CAN see the plantar plate on advanced imaging studies!

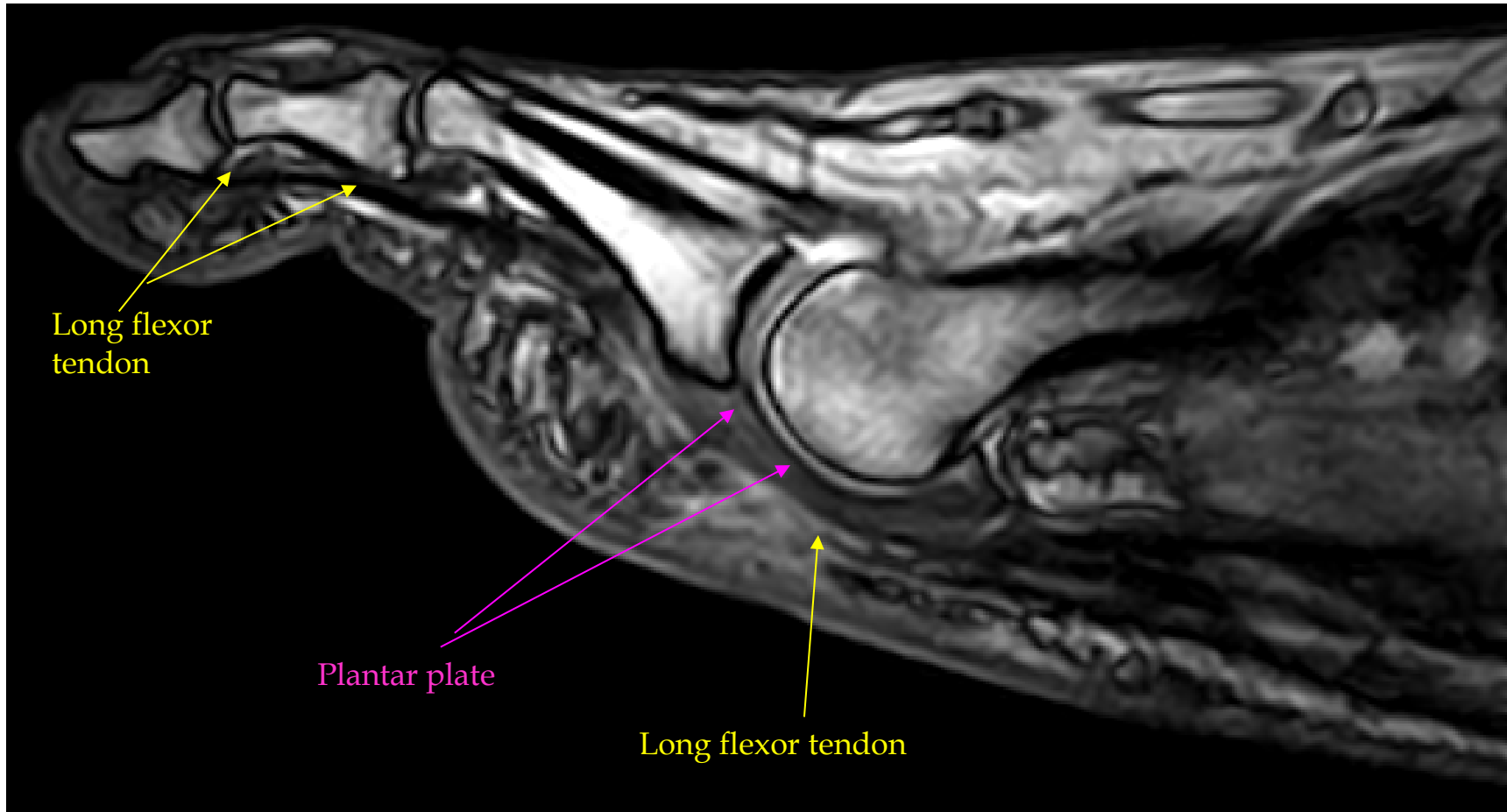
Advanced Imaging



Advanced Imaging



3D SHARC



MRI Protocol

Sung W, et al. *Diagnosis of plantar plate injury by magnetic resonance imaging with reference to intra-operative findings.* **J Foot Ankle Surg.** 2012 Sept-Oct; 51(5): 570-574.

Non-Surgical Correction

What are the options?

Do they work?

Shoes

- Decrease barefoot walking
- Decrease higher heels
- Wide enough to accommodate the forefoot

- Stiff bottom
- Soft upper



Orthotics

- What is the 1st MTPJ ROM?
- What is the current gait pattern?
- Metatarsal cookie
- 2nd met head cut out
- Multiple met head cut outs?
- Shock absorption of the device



Bracing

- Primarily night time
- May not be tolerated



Taping/Strapping

- Possible adjunct during the day
 - Beware cutting off the circulation to the toe with spika taping



- Kinesiotape?

Injections

- Cortisone
 - Not indicated
 - May make the problem worse
 - Documented to cause dislocations
- Biologic
 - May have a role for partial thickness tears
 - May cause dislocation



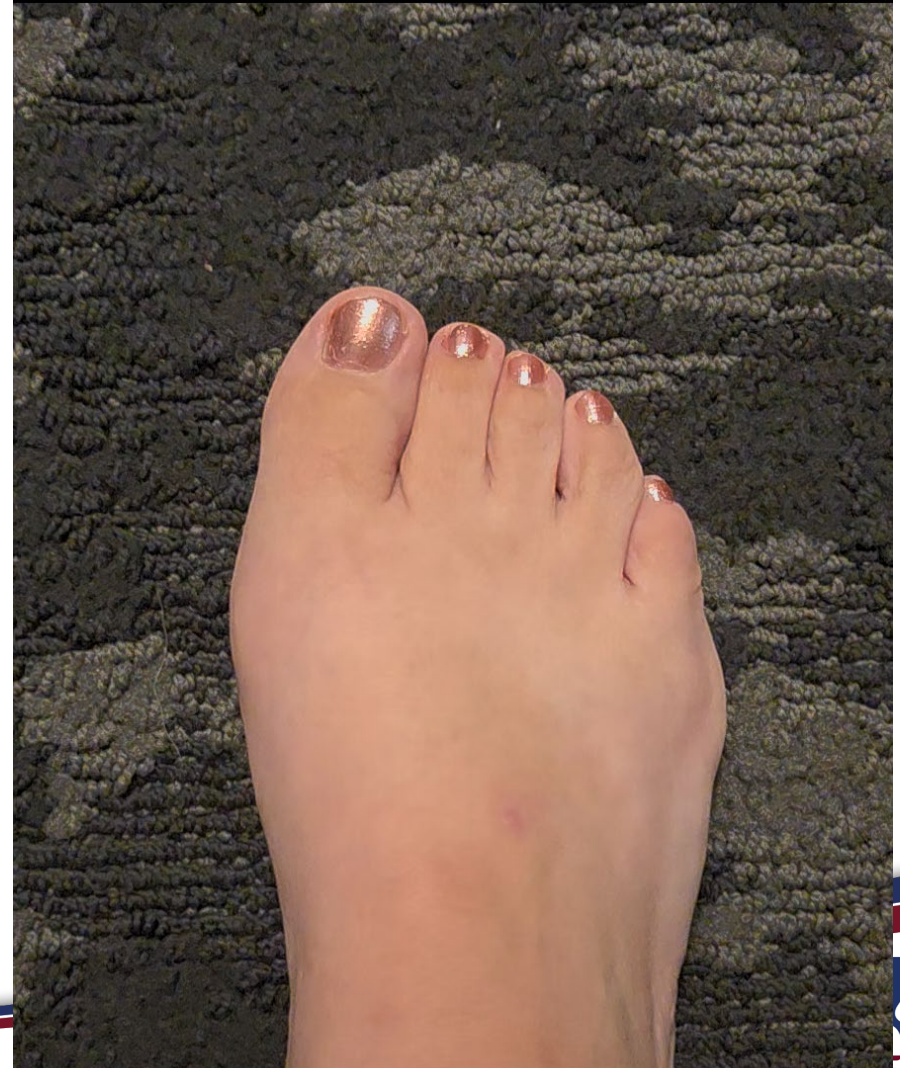
Physical Therapy

- 1st MTPJ/1st ray function
- Lesser MTPJ function
- Intrinsic muscle strengthening
- Ankle joint contracture/equinus
- Gait stabilization/normalization
- Adjunctive modalities (ASTYM, graston, e-stim, laser, etc)

Intrinsic Muscle Strengthening



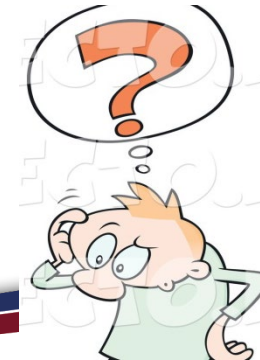
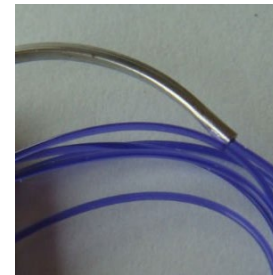
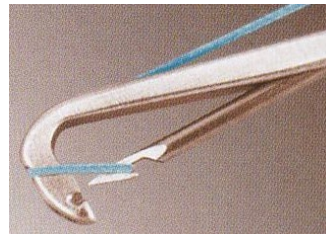
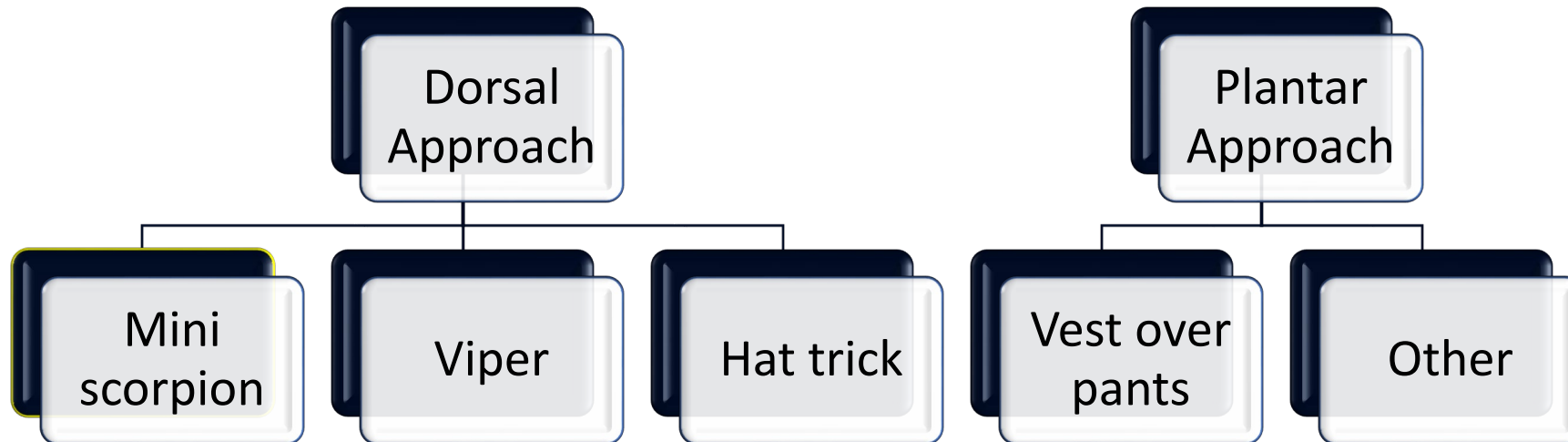
Intrinsic Muscle Strengthening



Surgical Correction

Currently Described Techniques

Currently Described Techniques



Dorsal Approach Repair

Anatomic plantar plate repair using the Weil metatarsal osteotomy approach.

Weil L Jr, Sung W, Weil LS Sr, Malinoski K.

Foot Ankle Spec. 2011 Jun;4(3):145-50.



CPR - Viper

- Normal metatarsal length pattern
- Previous shortening osteotomy without plantar plate repair
- The metatarsal is NOT shortened in this scenario

Dorsal Approach Repair

Video Credit: Christopher Hyer, DPM



Comparing the Literature

	Prissel, et al.	Klein, et al.
Patient enrollment	131 patients (144 toes)	53 patients (53 toes)
Response rate	53.5%	90%
Length of follow-up	8.5 months	10 years
Well aligned toe	87.1%	87.5%
Recurrence	7.5%	5%
Revision	2.8%	35% (arthrofibrosis)
PROM	FFI significantly better	FAOS significantly better
VAS	2/10	1.5/10
Patient satisfaction	“Mixed rate of satisfaction”	78% of patients would do this again

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Well aligned toe	87.1%	87.5%
Recurrence	7.5%	5%
Revision	2.8%	35% (arthrofibrosis)
PROM	FFI significantly better	FAOS significantly better
VAS	2/10	1.5/10
Patient satisfaction	“Mixed rate of satisfaction”	78% of patients would do this again

Where is research still
needed?

Where is research still needed?

Non-surgical care.

Physical therapy.

The role of peri menopausal hormones in msk health and post operative outcomes.

More surgical outcome studies that focus on the patient's perception of outcome rather than radiographic outcome.

What can we conclude
from all of this?

Conclusions

- Plantar plate repair is a common pathology that can affect patients physically and alter their quality of life.
- Surgical treatment options are available for these patients but more research is needed in the realm of non-surgical care.

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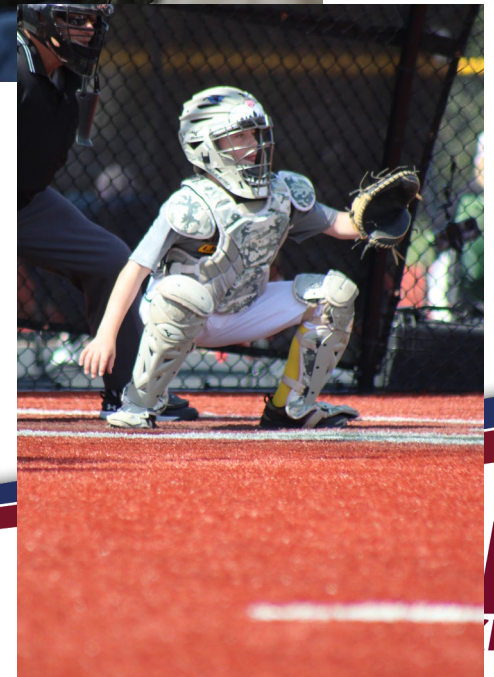
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Thank you!

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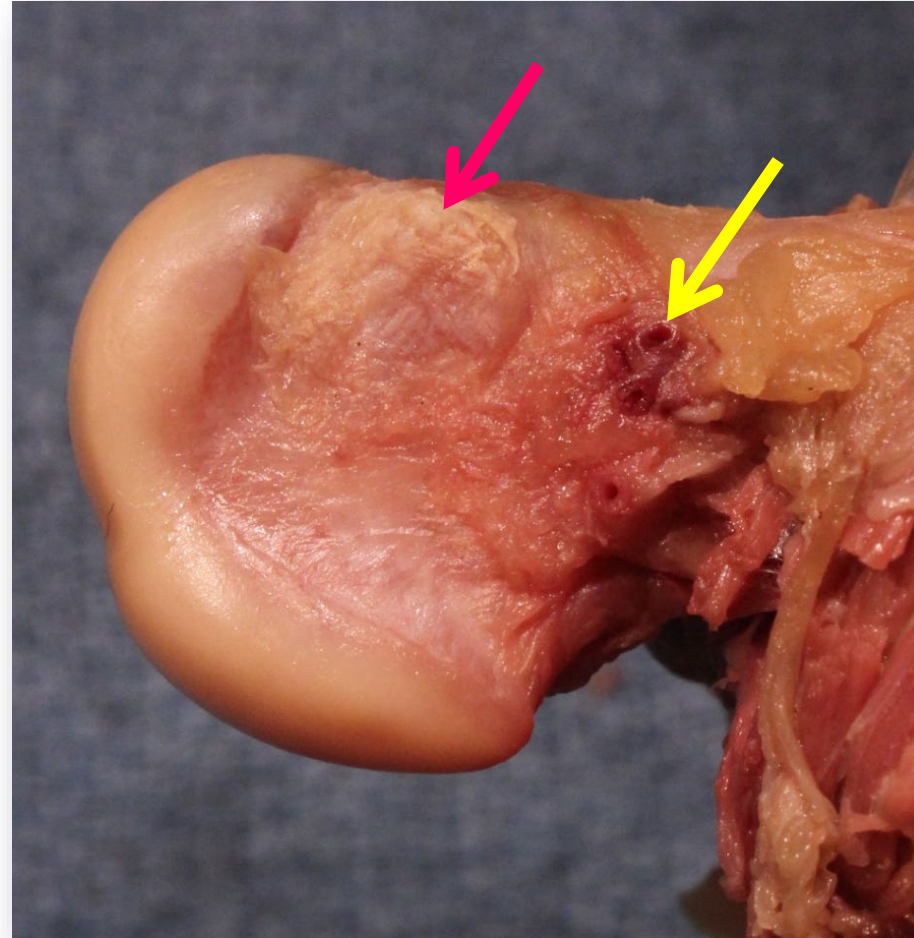
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Commonly Asked Questions

Why do you dissect the collaterals from the phalangeal base rather than the metatarsal head?

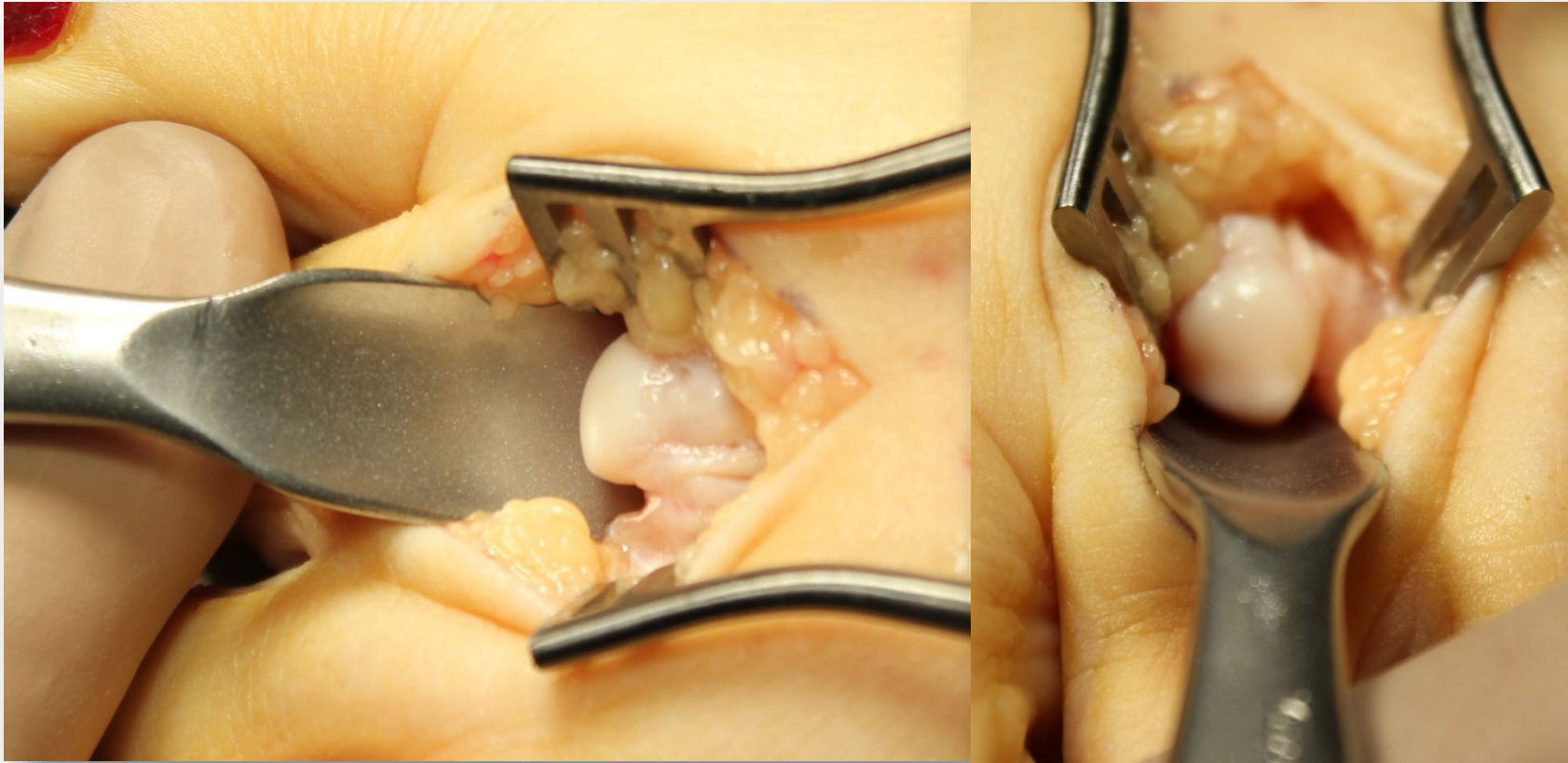
Metatarsal Head Blood Supply



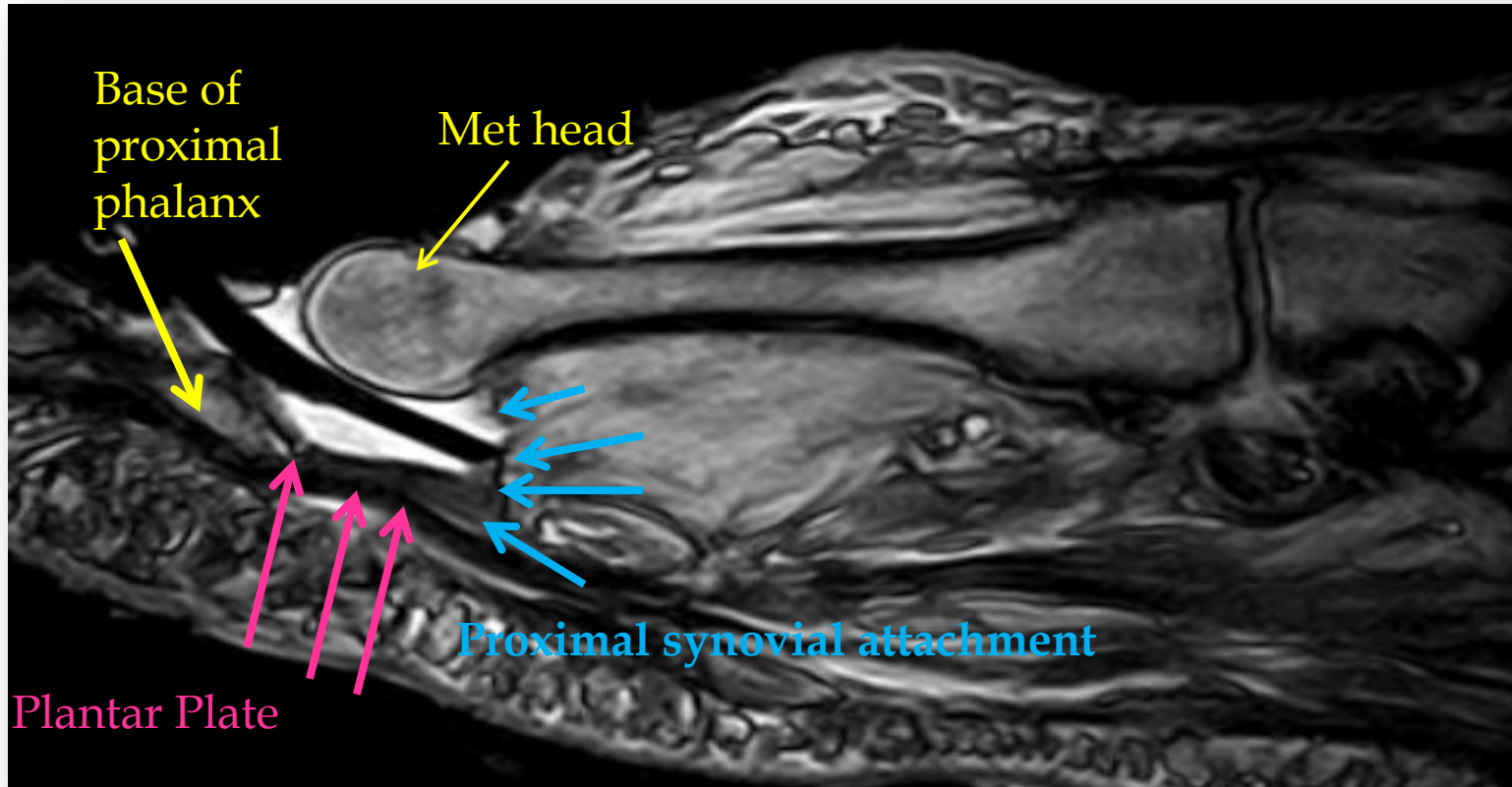
Commonly Asked Questions

What is the McGlamry actually doing?

McGlamry Elevator



McGlamry Elevator



Commonly Asked Questions

What is your post operative course/protocol?

Post Op Protocol

- POD #7 - 10
 - PWB in a surgical shoe
- POD#10
 - Gym shoe
 - Physical therapy
 - Night time bracing

Stabilization Strap



1 Year Post Op



1 Year Post Op - ROM



1 Year Post Op – Drawer Sign



1 Year Post Op - Strength



Do patients actually get better with this procedure?

YES!!!!!!

Results

- 53 consecutive 2nd MTP joints
 - 50 women; 3 men
- Average: 58.2 \pm 9.8 years of age

Surgical grading system	Description of tear	Frequency of occurrence in this patient population
Grade I	<50% transverse tear	13.2%
Grade II	>50% transverse tear	66.0%
Grade III	Vertical tear	18.9%
Grade IV	Complete tear	1.9%

Results

	VAS Pain	Edema Present	Positive Drawer Sign
Pre-operatively	6.5 ± 1.5	94%	97%
2 years post-operative	1.5 ± 0.5	15%	2.3%
10 years post-operative	0.75 ± 0.6	--	--

Results

