



# Best Practices in Forearm & Hand Injuries

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# De Quervain's Tendinopathy

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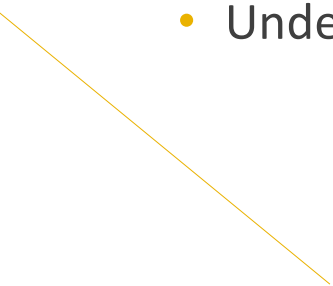
# Disclosures

- none

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# Goals

- The active listener should be able to
    - Identify de Quervain tendinopathy symptoms
    - Identify patient population most at risk for de Quervain tendinopathy
    - Discuss the nonsurgical treatment options available and their affect
    - Understand the surgical option available, goals of surgery and the results
- 

# De Quervain Tendinopathy

- First described in 1895 by Fritz de Quervain
- Harry Finkelstein further described in 1930 identifying a detailed physical examination test
- Daniel Patterson first called it de Quervain disease in 1936

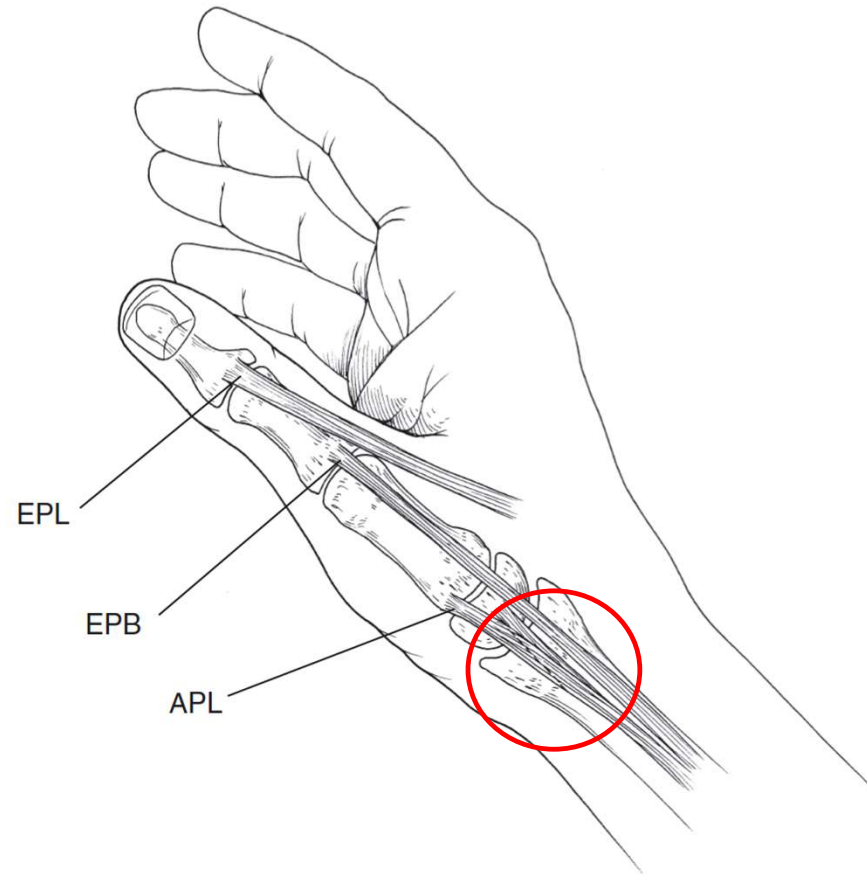


# Pathology/Pathophysiology

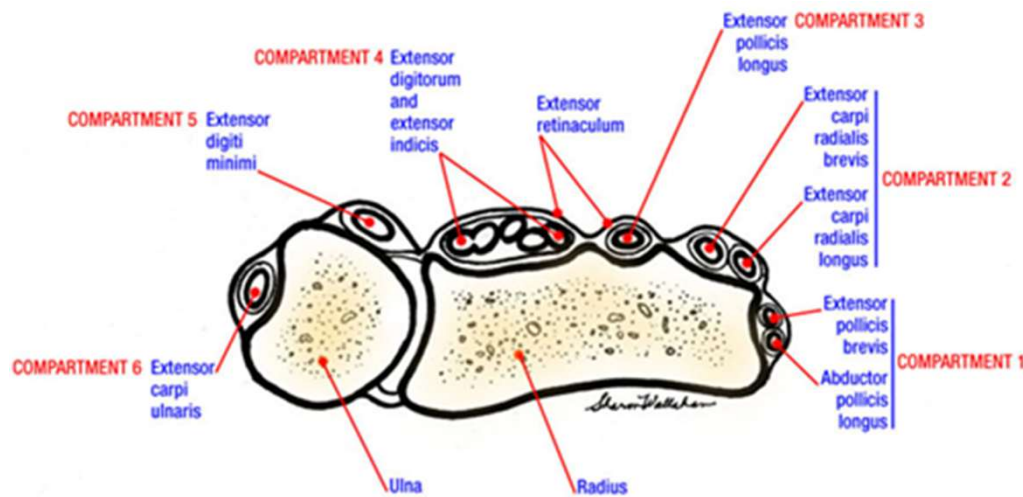
- Originally thought to be inflammation around the tendon
  - Stenosing tenosynovitis
  - Peritendinitis
  - Styloid tenovaginitis
  - Stenosing tendovaginitis
- Later found to be attritional and degenerative

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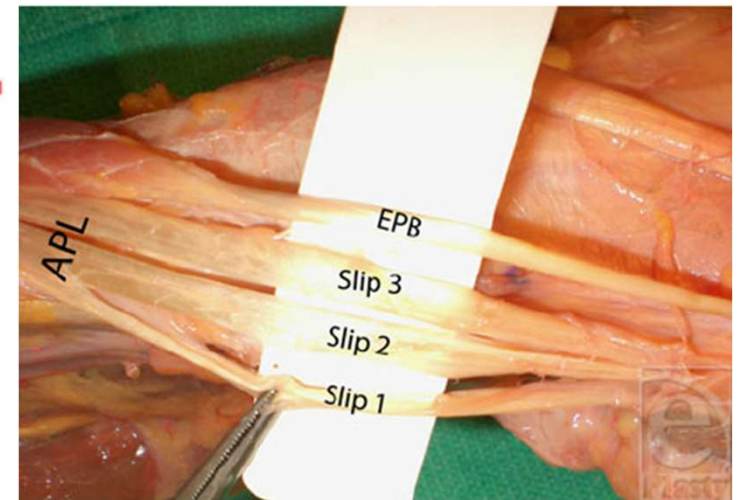


# Anatomy Variations



Variations in anatomy have included

- Multiple slips of APL and occasional EPB
- Division of the 1<sup>st</sup> dorsal compartment by additional septum





## Potential predisposing factors

- Historically from overexertion from household duties
- Repetitive motions
- New mother's
  - Lower cribs
  - Older mothers
  - Heavier children
  - Frequent smartphone scrolling
- Debate on association of DeQuervain's and work related factors



## SCIENTIFIC ARTICLE

## Incidence of de Quervain's Tenosynovitis in a Young, Active Population

Jennifer Moriatis Wolf, MD, Rodney X. Sturdivant, PhD, Brett D. Owens, MD

- J Hand Surg 2009
- 11,332 cases of de Quervain's in military patients
- **Gender:** Women had significantly higher rate
  - 2.8 cases per 1000 person-years compared to men at 0.6
- **Age:** greater than 40 sig risk factor
  - 2.0 per 1000 person-years
- **Race:** Blacks higher incidence at 1.3 per 1000 person-years

**TABLE 1. Unadjusted and Adjusted Incidence Rates and Rate Ratios of de Quervain's Tenosynovitis by Gender Among U.S. Service Members Between 1998 and 2006**

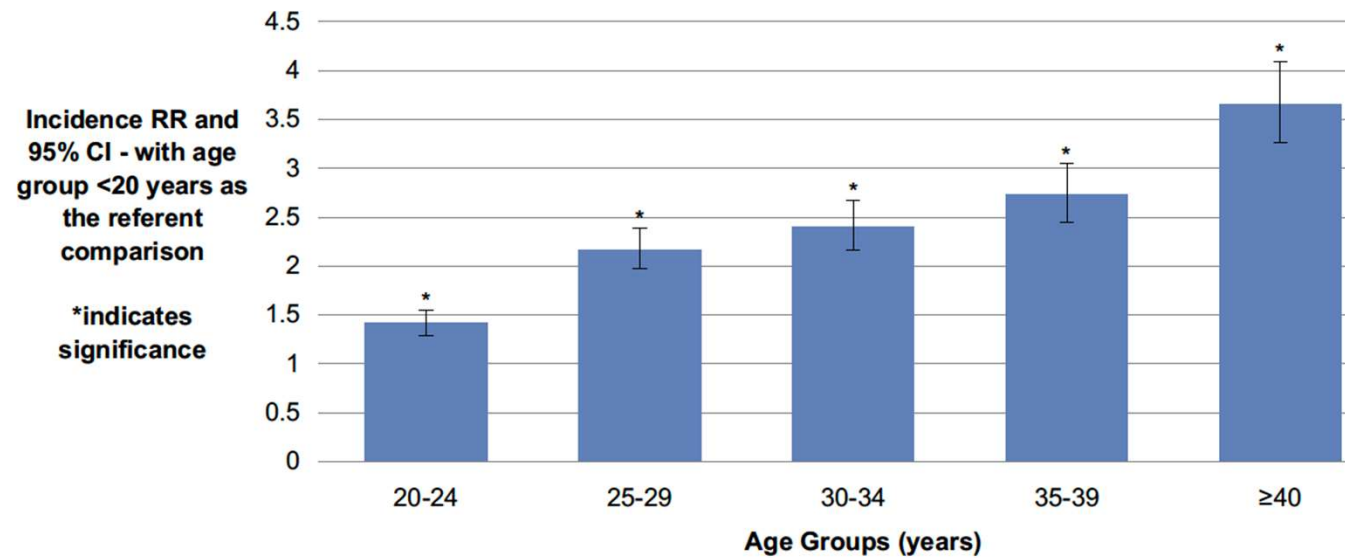
Gender	Injuries	Person-Years	Unadjusted		Adjusted	
			Rate	Rate Ratio (95% CI)	Rate	Rate Ratio (95% CI)
Male	6,376	10,351,762	0.6159	n/a	0.5350	n/a
Female	4,956	1,765,987	2.8064	4.5563 (4.3902, 4.7285)	2.3799	4.4487 (4.2810, 4.6231)

Rate per 1000 person-years; male referent category; adjusted for race, age, service, rank.

**TABLE 2. Unadjusted and Adjusted Incidence Rates and Rate Ratios of de Quervain's Tenosynovitis by Race Among United States Service Members Between 1998 and 2006**

Race	Injuries	Person-Years	Unadjusted		Adjusted	
			Rate	Rate Ratio (95% CI)	Rate	Rate Ratio (95% CI)
Black	3,168	2,417,075	1.3107	1.6080 (1.5418, 1.6770)	1.1975	1.3099 (1.2056, 1.4231)
Other	1,226	1,188,909	1.0312	1.2651 (1.1906, 1.3443)	1.1869	1.1744 (1.1047, 1.2484)
White	6,938	8,511,765	0.8151	n/a	1.0107	n/a

Rate per 1000 person-years; white referent category; adjusted for gender, age, service, rank.



**FIGURE 1:** Incidence rate ratio and 95% confidence intervals by age group.

# Presentation

- Gradual onset of pain localized along the radial side of the wrist
- Often experience an exacerbation of symptoms caused by grasping and raising objects with wrist in neutral rotation

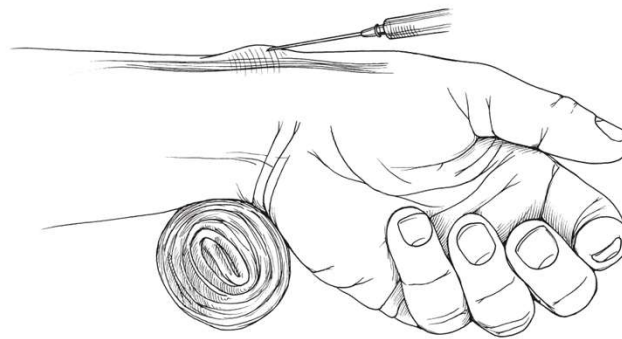


# Diagnosis



# Nonsurgical Treatment

- Should be 1<sup>st</sup> course of action
  - Rest
  - Splinting
  - NSAIDS
  - Corticosteroid injections
- ~80% have been found to have resolution of symptoms within 1 year of onset



## Corticosteroid Injection With or Without Thumb Spica Cast for de Quervain Tenosynovitis

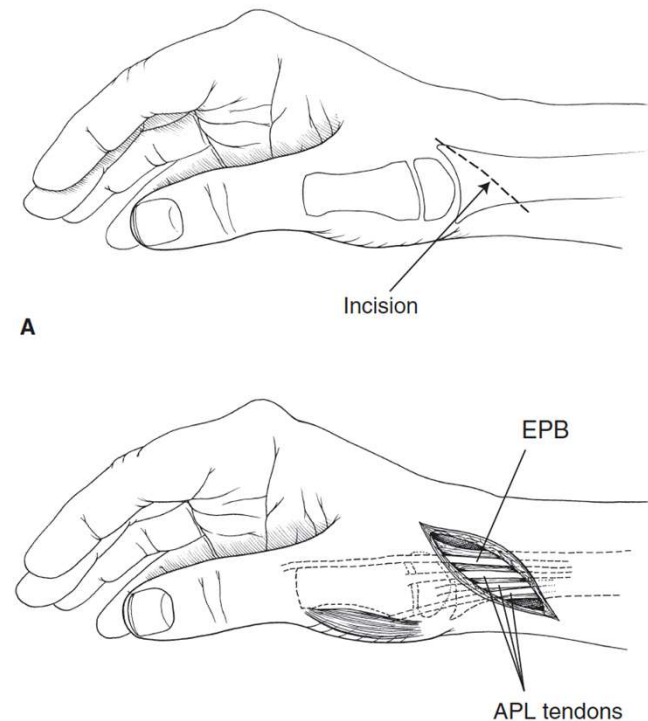
Mohsen Mardani-Kivi, MD, Mahmoud Karimi Mobarakeh, MD, Farzaneh Bahrami, MD,  
Kevyan Hashemi-Motlagh, MD, Khashayar Saheb-Ekhtiari, MD, Niloofar Akhoondzadeh, MD

- J Hand Surg 2014
- 67 patients randomized to corticosteroid alone or thumb spica cast + corticosteroid injection
- Treatment success = absence of radial sided wrist pain and negative Finkelstein test
- Following 3 weeks of treatment
- 93% treatment success rate in the casting + steroid group
- 69% treatment success in the corticosteroid group



# Surgical Intervention

- Typically after >6 mo of failed non-operative intervention
- Psychiatric illness and Medicaid insurance have been associated with undergoing surgery<sup>1</sup>
- Anatomy a factor
- Fundamentals
  - Protect sensory radial nerve
  - Fully release the first dorsal compartment
    - Including any sub-compartments
- Success rate  $\geq 91\%$



# Satisfaction

- Patients with longer symptoms (9 mo or longer) typically more satisfied
- Most (>80%) tend to be satisfied even with persistent symptoms for > 3 mo such as
  - Wrist pain
  - Scar tenderness
  - Numbness and tingling at surgical site
  - Restricted range of motion



# Conclusion

- De Quervain's tendinopathy is a mucoid degenerative process exacerbated by motion
- Occurs in about 1%-2% of all active young adults
- Women, patients greater than 40 and non-white population with higher incidence
- Varying opinions as to optimal treatment
- Nonsurgical intervention with combination of splinting/casting/steroid injections helpful
- Surgical intervention available
  - Usually necessary in patients with separate subsheath of EPB of multiple APL tendon slips

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# Scapholunate Ligament Injuries

**Hervey L. Kimball MD**

**Boston Sports & Shoulder Center**

**New England Baptist Hospital**

**BSSC**  
Boston Sports & Shoulder Center  
**THE HAND CENTER**

Beth Israel Lahey Health   
New England Baptist Hospital



# Clinical Case

35 year old laborer

- Fall on wrist 6 months prior
  - Re-injury with sledge hammer
- Complaint:
  - Wrist pain with use
  - Weakness and clicking
- Treatment: splint short term & NSAIDs



# Clinical Case

## Wrist Radiographs

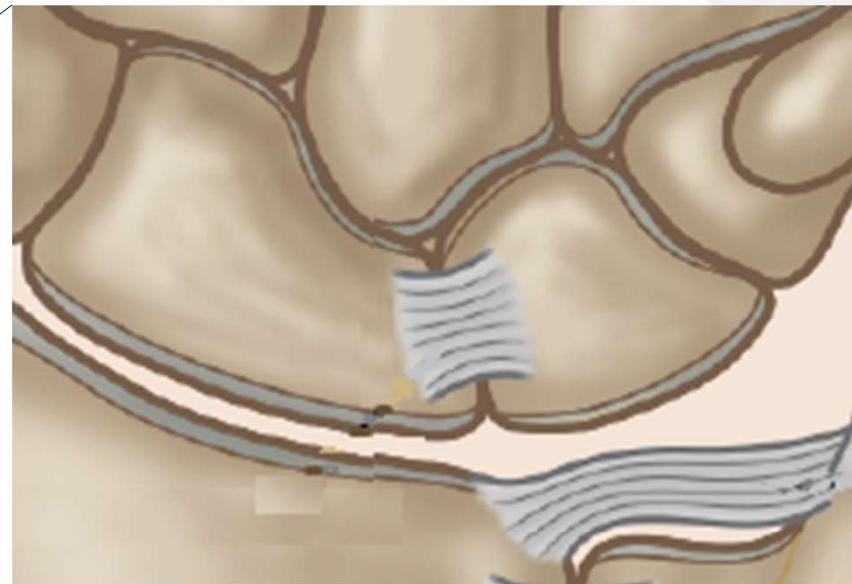
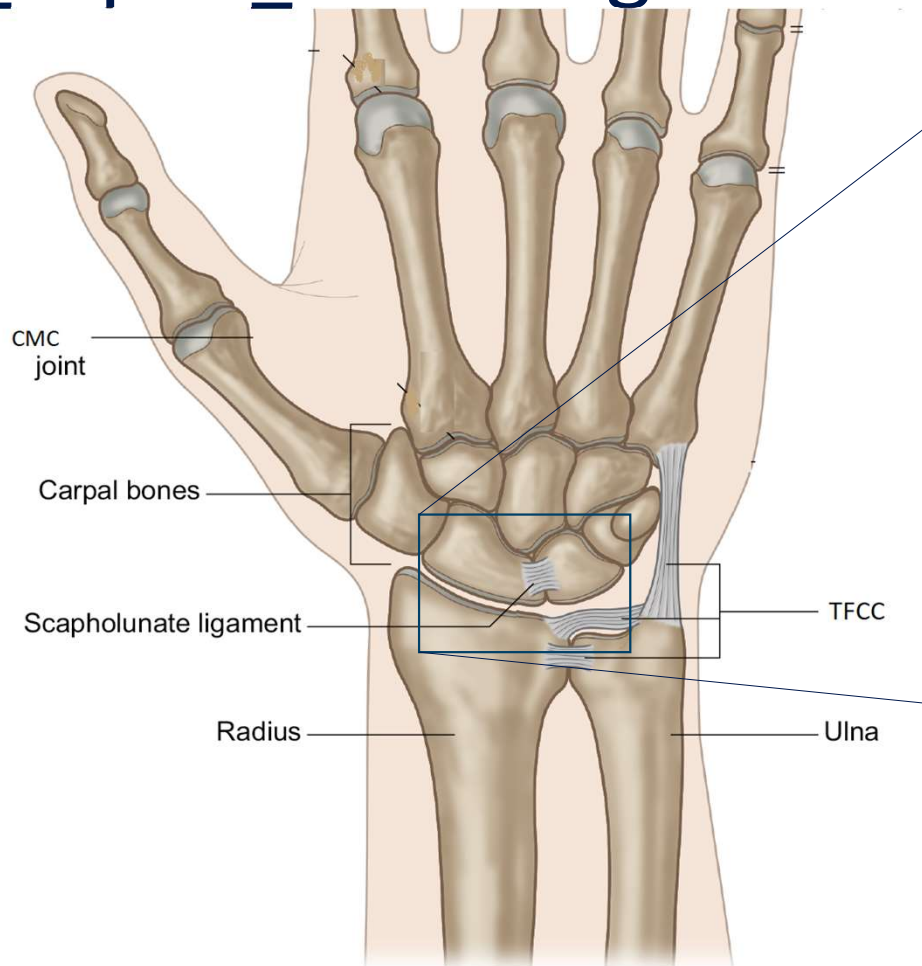




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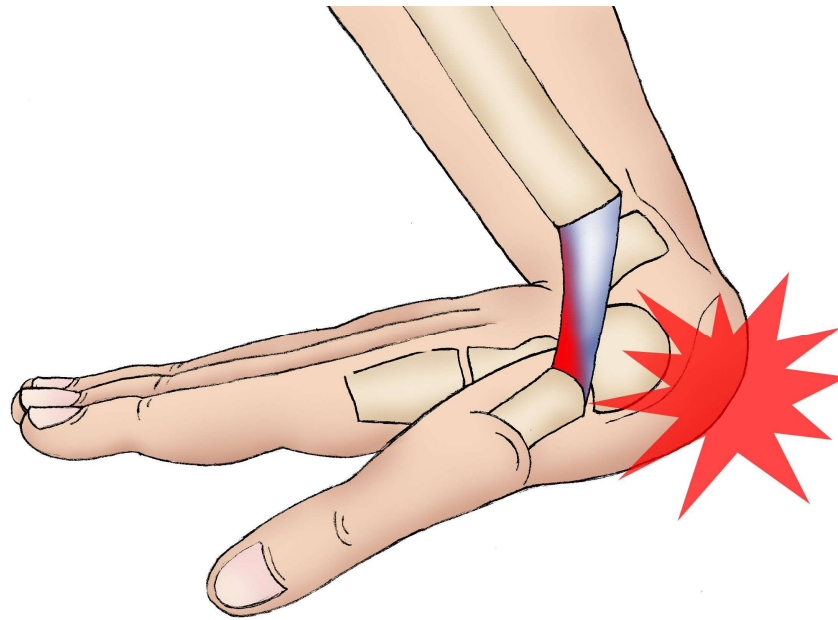
# ScaphoLunate Ligament (SL)





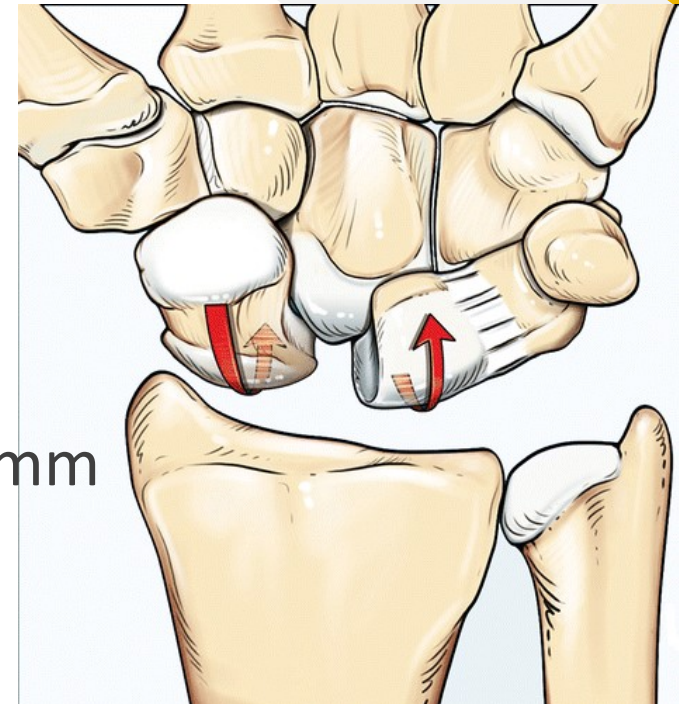
# Incidence & Etiology

- Impact force to wrist
- Fall : wrist extension, ulnar deviation & carpal supination



# Pathoanatomy SL Instability

- Scaphoid Lunate Dissociation
- Rotation
  - Scaphoid flexion and lunate extension
- Diastasis
  - Gap between scaphoid and lunate  $> 3.0$  mm
  - Associated capsular injury



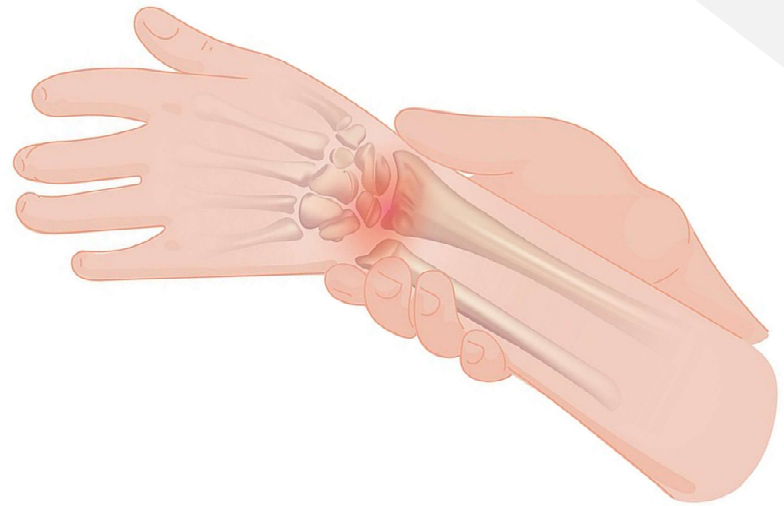
# Acute vs. Degenerative SL Tears

## Considerations:

- Mechanism of injury
- Duration from injury
- Age
- Level of activity
- Underlying arthritis : *GOUT*

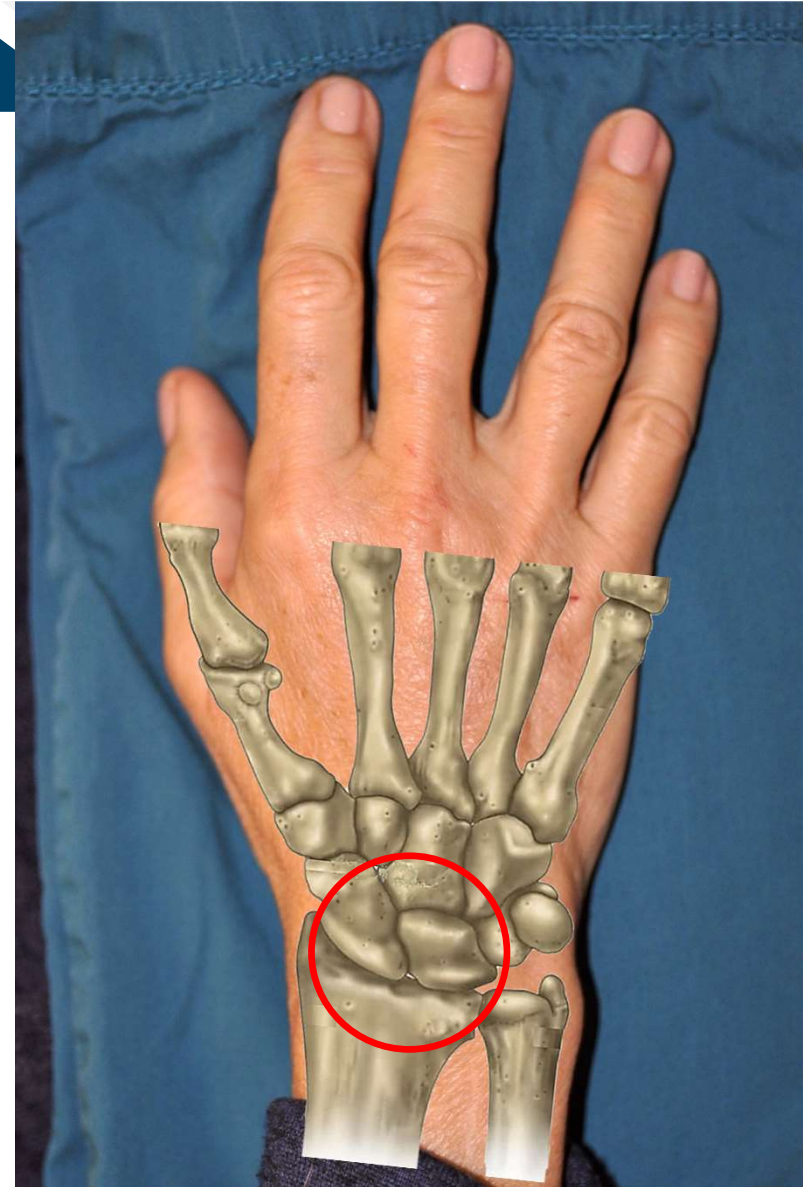
# Symptoms

- Dorsal & radial wrist pain
- Clicking or catching of wrist

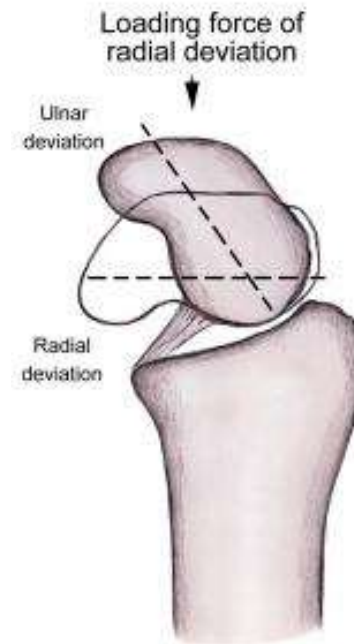


# Examination

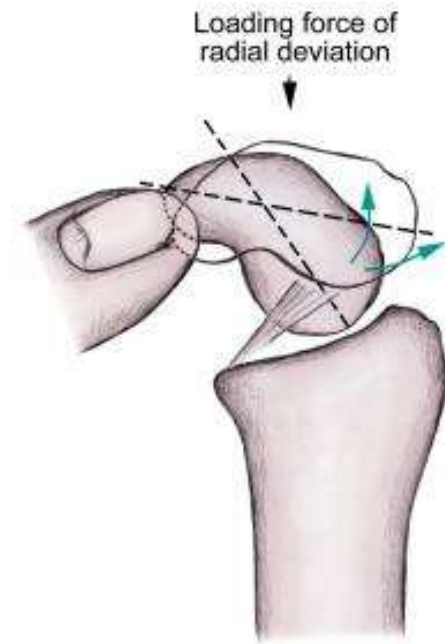
- Tenderness over SL
- Painful at end ranges
- Watson Test : Scaphoid shift test



# Scaphoid Shift Test : Watson



Normal

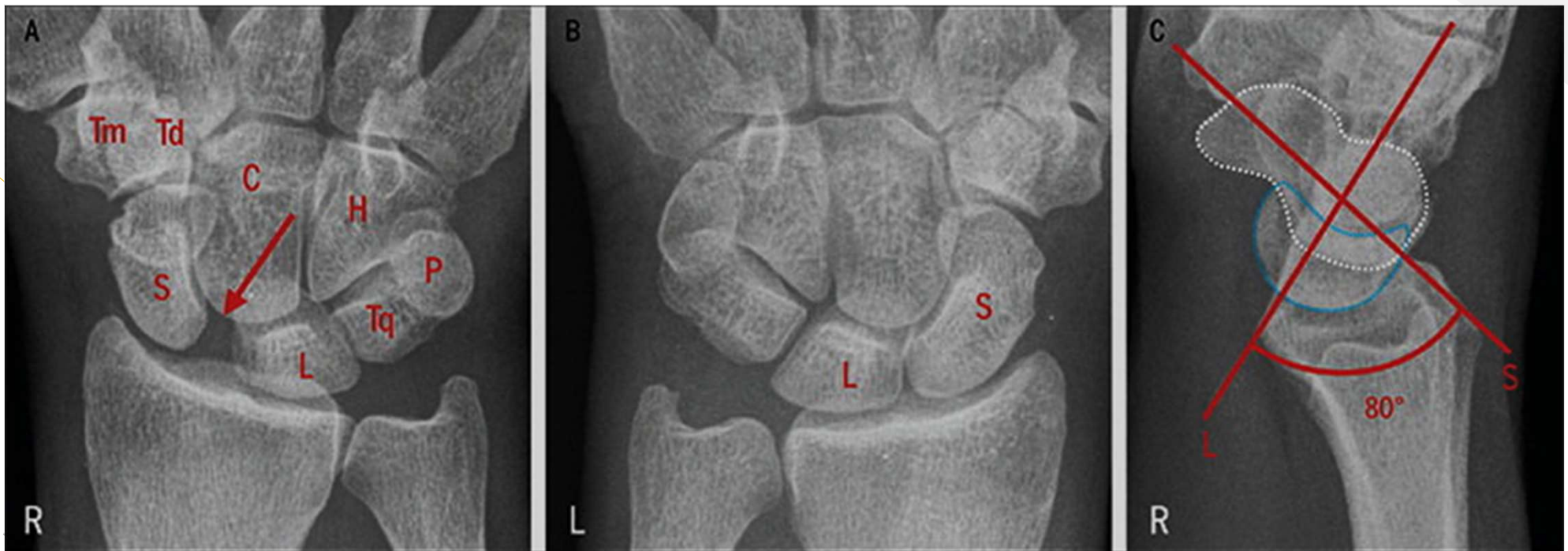


Watson maneuver



# Imaging : Radiographs

- SL gap > 3.0 mm
- Cortical Ring sign
- Increased SL angle >70°



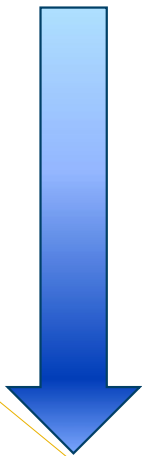
# Imaging

- MRI
  - Over used for screening
  - Low sensitivity
  - Improves with arthrography



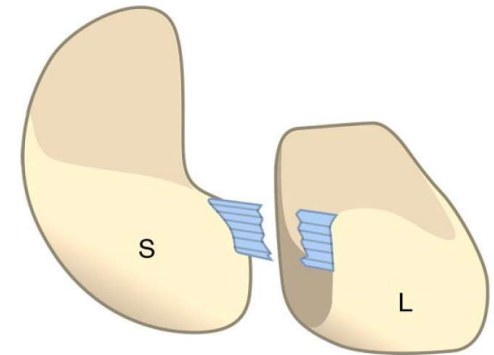
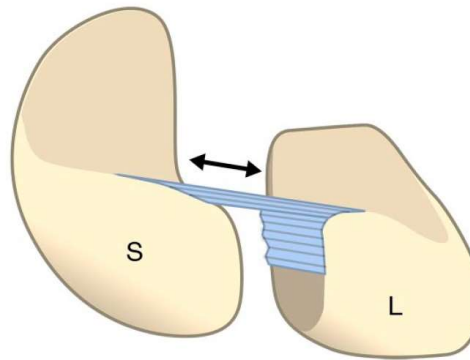


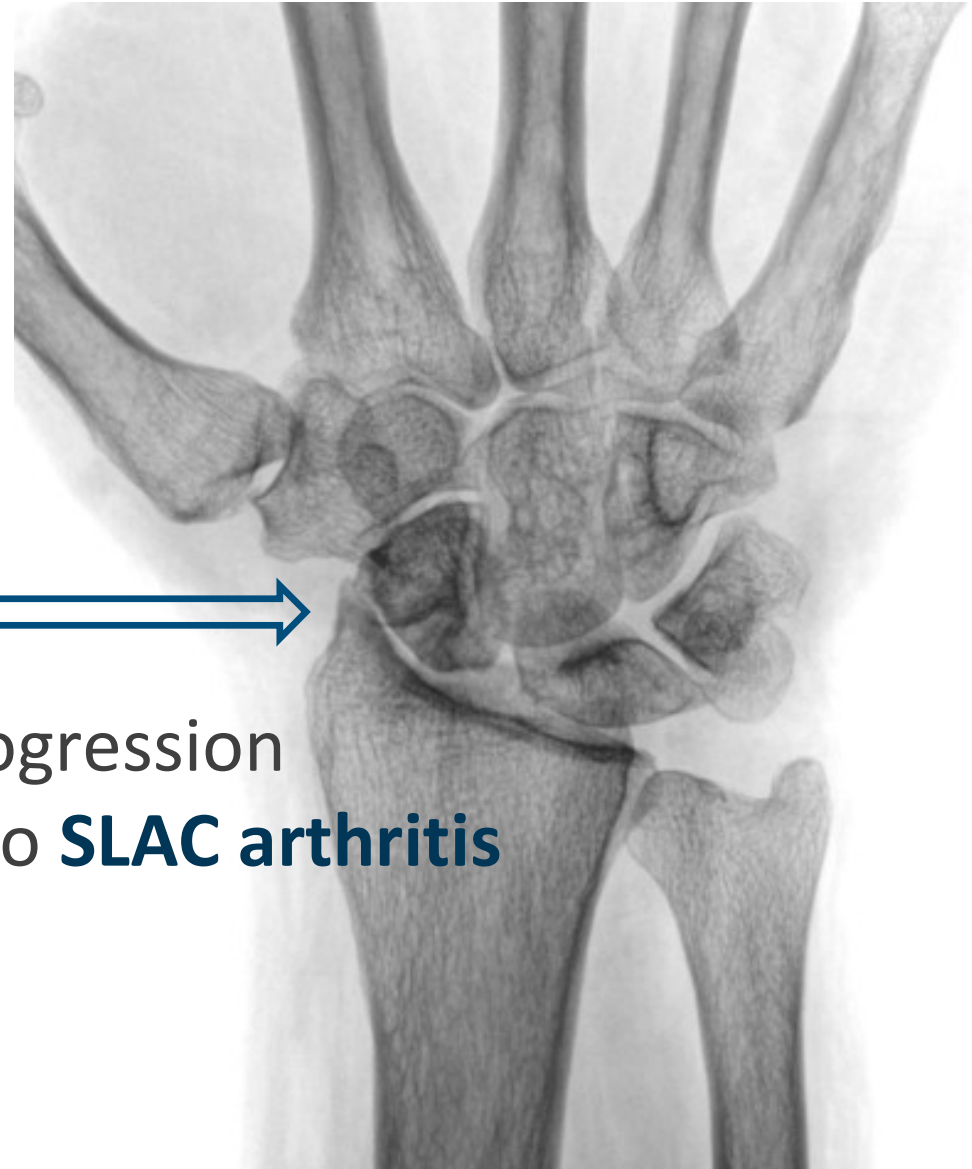
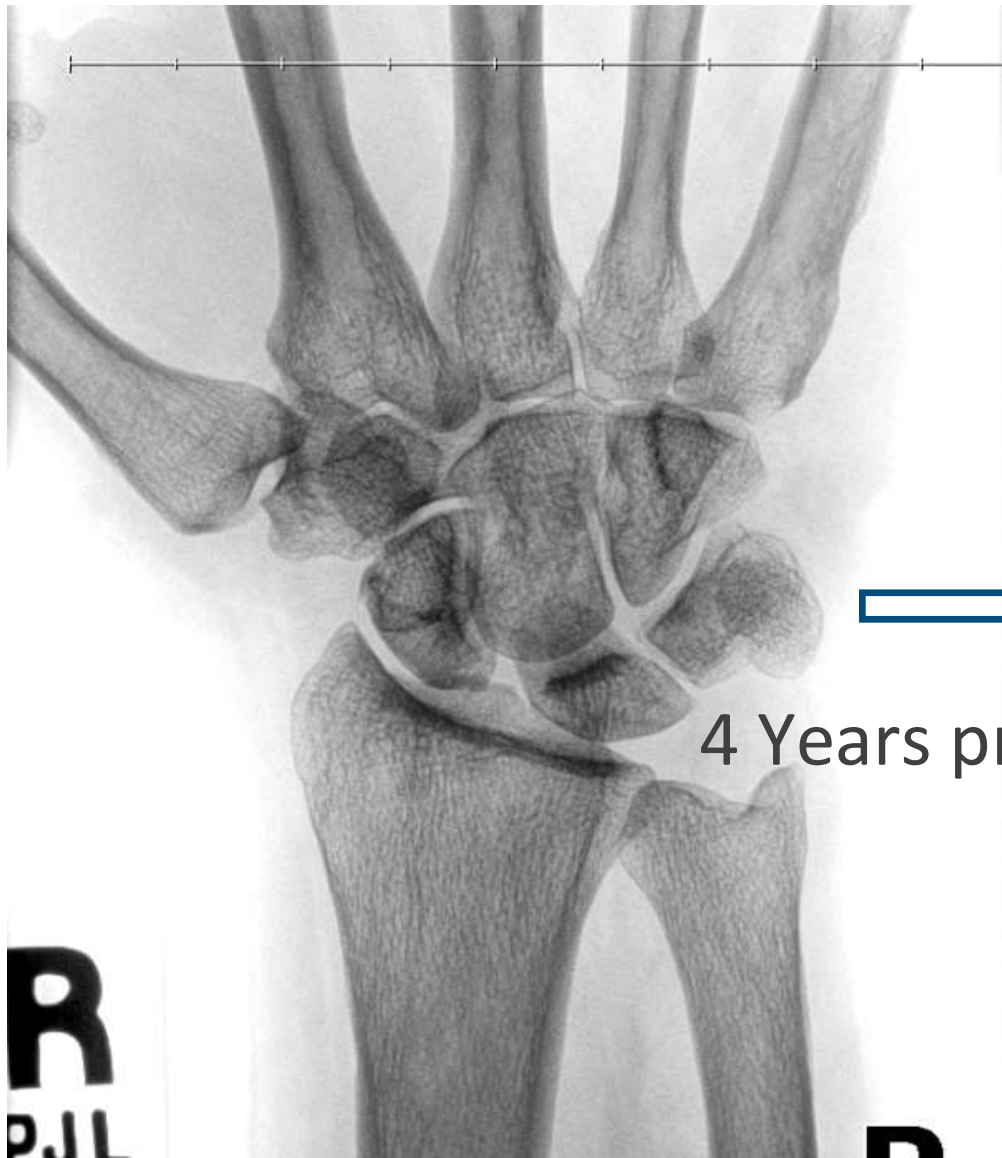
# Stages SL Instability



- Predynamic
- Dynamic
- Static
- Arthritis : SLAC

ScaphoLunate Advanced Collapse





4 Years progression  
to **SLAC arthritis**

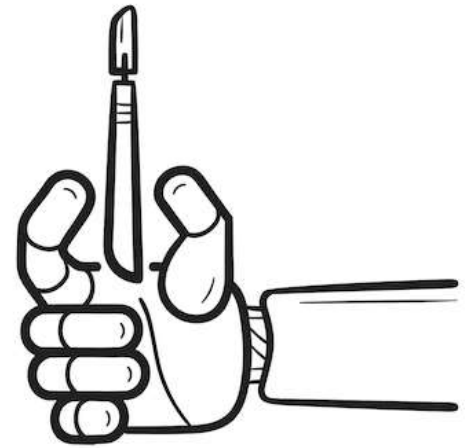
# Nonoperative Treatment

- Immobilization
  - Acute without carpal malalignment
  - Chronic tear
    - Age
    - Activity
    - Arthritis
- Questionable efficacy

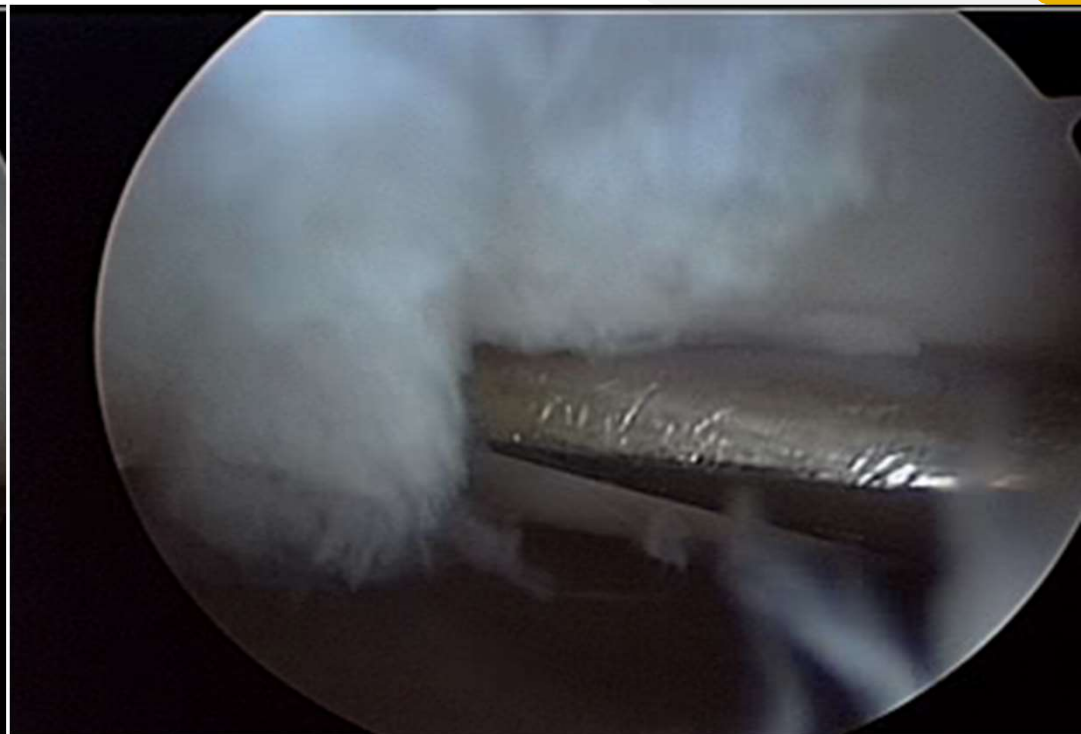
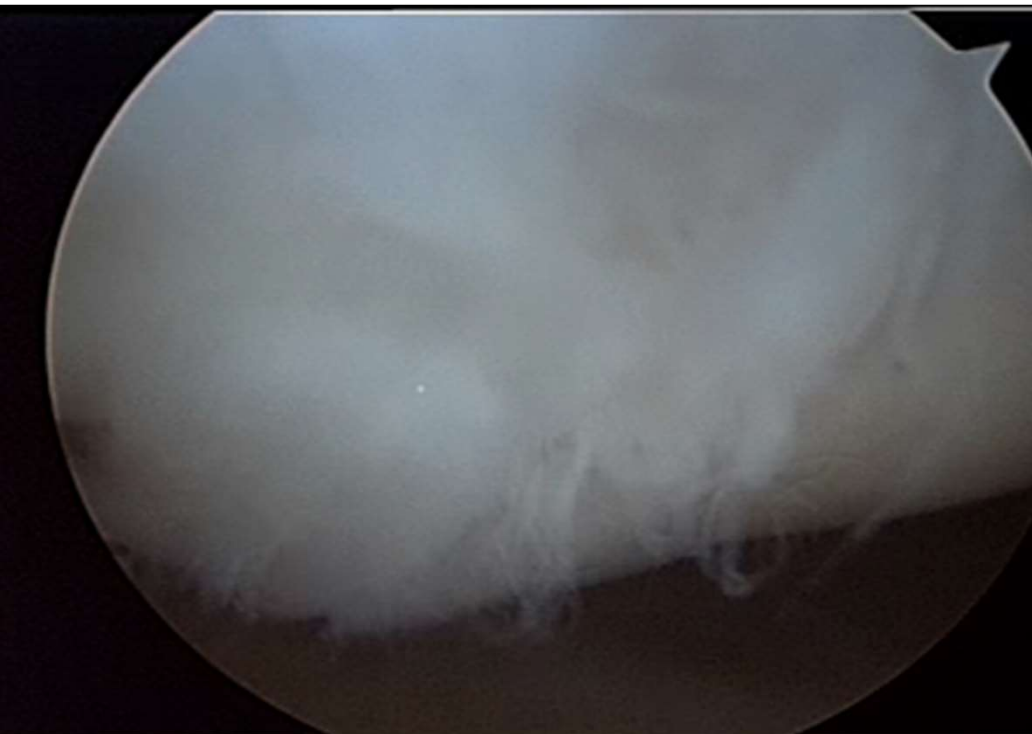


# Operative Management

- Scapholunate Ligament Repair
  - Reconstruction of Ligament
  - Fusion of carpal bones
- 
- Wrist Arthroscopy may be considered for diagnosis



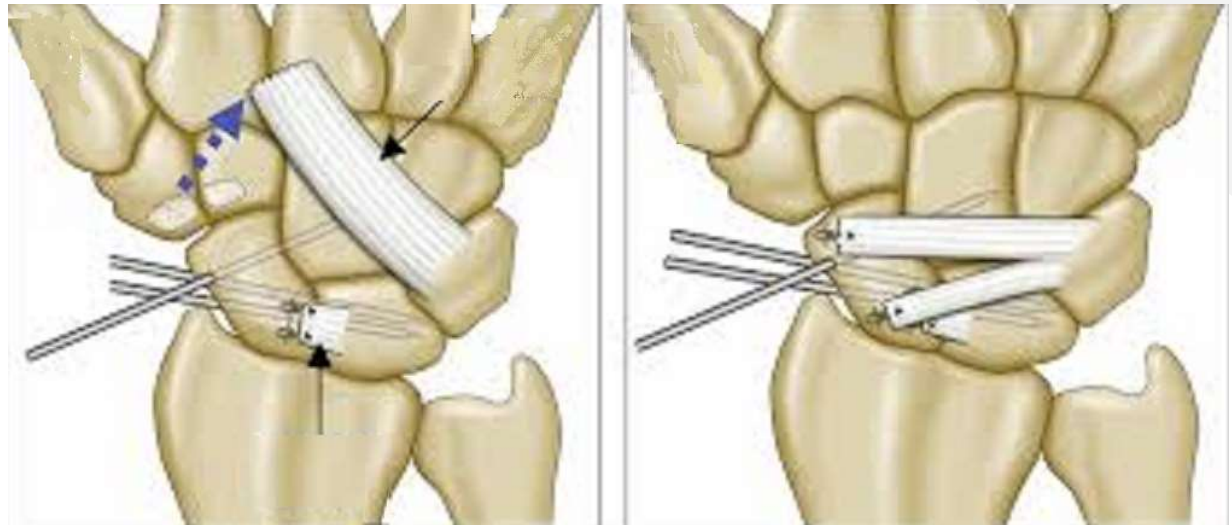
# Wrist Arthroscopy



# Scapholunate Repair & Reconstruction



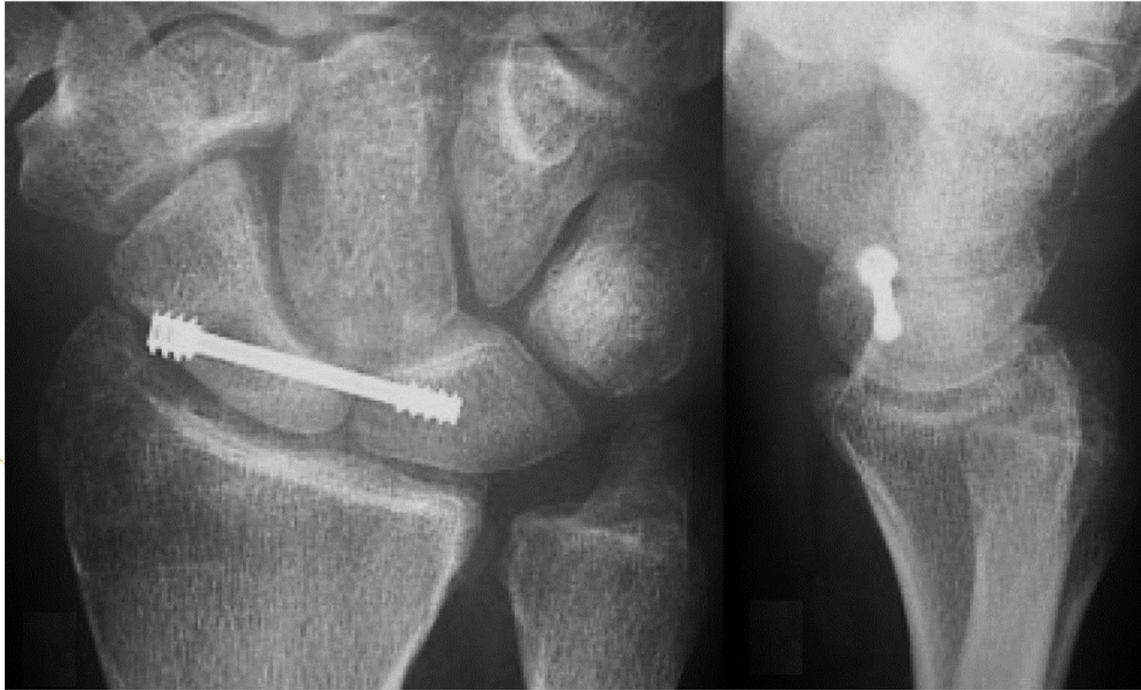
Arthrex Internal Brace



Dorsal Ligament Augmentation



# RASL or Carpal Fusion



Reduction Association Scaphoid Lunate: RASL



Carpal STT Fusion

# Clinical Case: 35 yo Laborer

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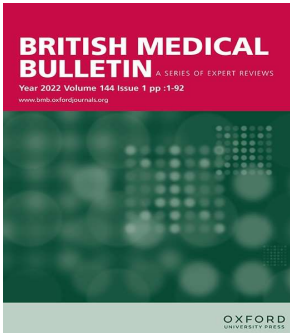


# Post-Operative Care

- Cast 6-12 weeks
- Pin Removal
- Therapy
  - ROM
  - Strengthening @ 2-3 months
  - Work simulation

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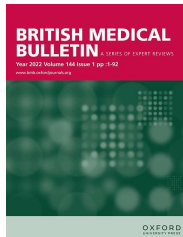
## **Return to sport or work following surgical management of scapholunate ligament injury: a systematic review**

**Mei Yen Liew<sup>2</sup>, Lewis A. Dingle<sup>3</sup>, Abi Semple<sup>1</sup>, and Philippa A. Rust<sup>1,2,\*</sup>**

- 14 studies with 6 different surgical interventions
- All surgical techniques demonstrated >80% RTW/S
- Optimal surgical intervention undetermined

October 2022 Study

**BSSC**  
Boston Sports & Shoulder Center  
**THE HAND CENTER**<sup>42</sup>



## Return to sport/work following surgery for SLL injury, 2022

**Table 4** Summary of the primary and secondary outcomes following surgical management of isolated SLL injury

Type of surgical intervention	N <sup>(Total)</sup>	Rate of return to sport/work/activity	Rate of return to pre-injury level of sport/work/activity
Open repair <sup>25,28,32,33</sup>	87	74/87 (85.1%) <sup>25,28,32,33</sup>	70/74 (94.6%) <sup>25,28,32,33</sup>
Dorsal capsulodesis <sup>25,27,28,31,32</sup>	100	82/100 (82.0%) <sup>25,27,28,31,32</sup>	70/71 (98.6%) <sup>25,27,28,32</sup>
Ligament reconstruction <sup>27,29,34–38</sup>	130	109/130 (83.8%) <sup>27,29,34–38</sup>	94/109 (86.2%) <sup>27,29,34–38</sup>
Arthroscopic soft tissue treatment <sup>30</sup>	14	12/14 (85.7%) <sup>30</sup>	12/12 (100.0%) <sup>30</sup>
Bone–ligament–bone graft <sup>31,33</sup>	31	29/31 (93.5%) <sup>31,33</sup>	15/18 (83.3%) <sup>33</sup>
Scapholunate joint stabilization via tenodesis combined with fusion through metalwork <sup>26</sup>	11	11/11 (100.0%) <sup>26</sup>	11/11 (100.0%) <sup>26</sup>



Beth Israel Lahey Health   
New England Baptist Hospital



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

Andrew L. Terrono, MD  
New England Baptist Hospital  
Tufts University Combined Hand Service



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

- Post- traumatic- Uncommon
  - Post IA Fracture
  - CMC Dislocation
- Inflammatory i.e. RA
- **Osteoarthritis**- Most Common
  - Familial

# Thumb CMC Osteoarthritis



- Women > men
- “Middle aged”

Associated  
Trigger digit  
CTS



# Thumb CMC Osteoarthritis

- Definition- Loss of articular cartilage
- Incidence MD treated
  - Women 1.4%, Men .62
  - Presenting Age
    - Women 60-69
    - Men 70-79
  - Peak incidence
    - Woman 70-74
    - Men 80-84
- Age mean 68



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Basal Joint Arthritis Diagnosis

- Symptoms
  - Pain/tenderness/deformity base of thumb
  - Painful pinch/grasp (key, wash cloth)
  - Loss dexterity
  - Impaired strength
  - Limited/painful/crepitant thumb motion

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Physical Exam

- Deformity
- Synovitis
- Subluxation
- Instability
- Painful grind at CMC joint
- ↓ Pinch strength

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

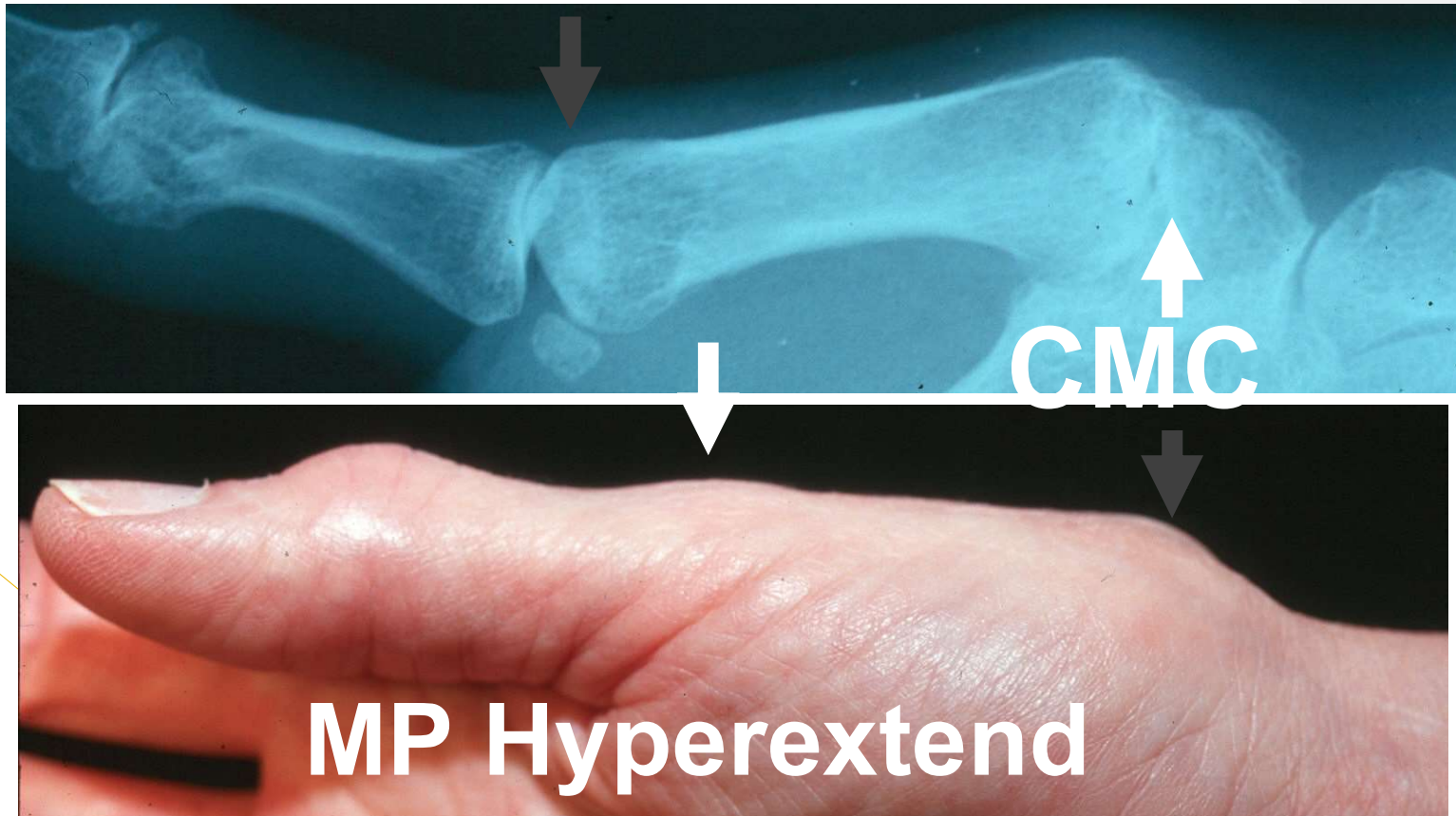


- ❑ X-ray confirms
- ❑ R/o other causes

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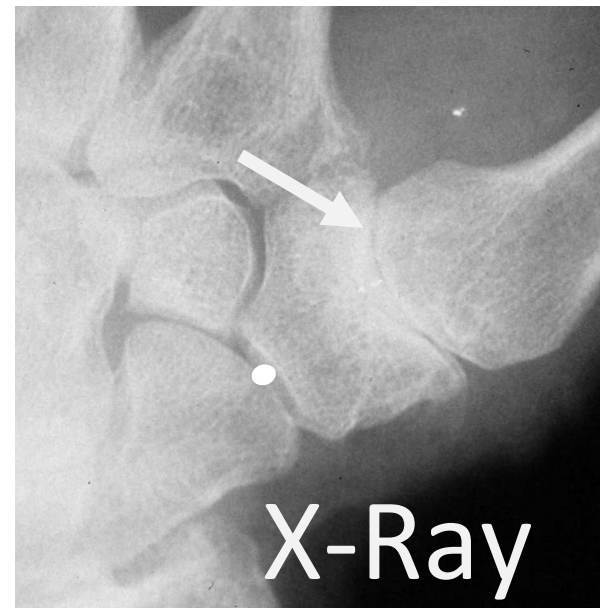
# Thumb CMC Osteoarthritis



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

- If non-tender

Look for other cause



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Treatment

- Rest
- Joint protection
- Assistive devices
- NSAID
- Splint
- Hand therapy
- Injection
- Surgery

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Non-Operative Treatment

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- Prefab splint





# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Non-Operative Treatment



Splinting

← Hand Based



Long  
opponens

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Surgery Indications

- Failure of non-op treatment
- Persistent **pain**, impairment
- Approximately 14% need surgery\*

## Thumb CMC Arthrosis

# Surgical Indications



**?** Radiographs consistent with CMC DJD

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Surgery

## Contraindications

- ❑ Infection
- ❑ **No pain**
- ❑ No functional problems

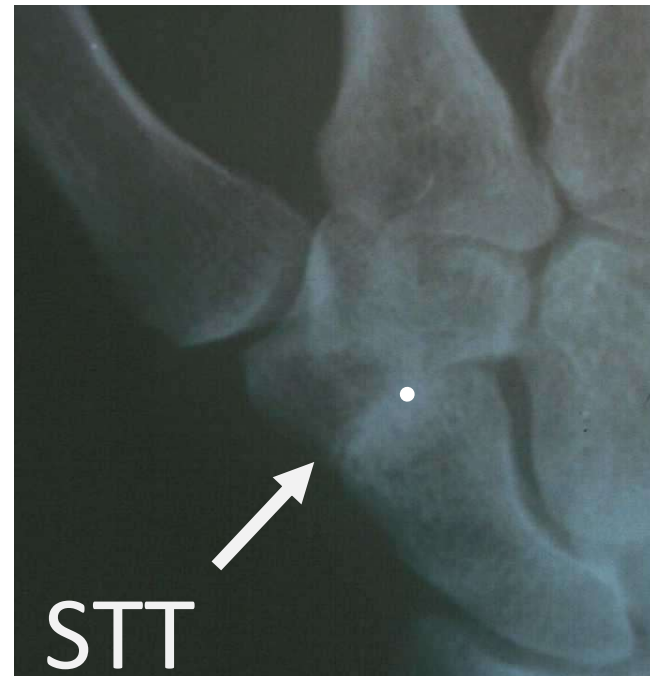
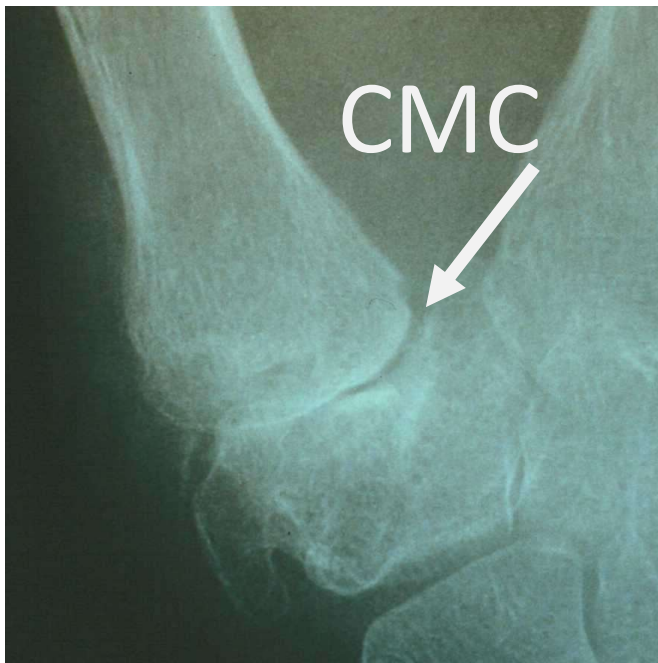
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# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Staging

### With w/o STT



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

## Surgical Options

- ☐ Debridement- Arthroscopic/Tendon implant
- ☐ Extension osteotomy
- ☐ CMC Fusion
- ☐ **Trapezial resection arthroplasty**
  - ☐ **With** / without ligament reconstruction

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

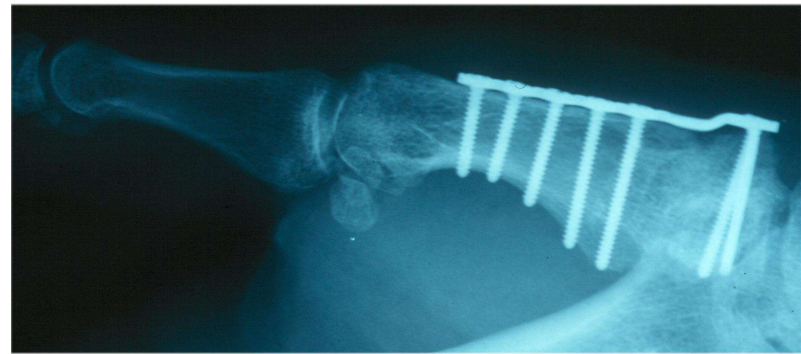
## Surgical Options- Salvage

### Arthroplasty



- With ligament reconstruction
- Most Common

### Fusion



Good for young laborers  
Ligament laxity



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# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Surgical Options

## Arthroplasty

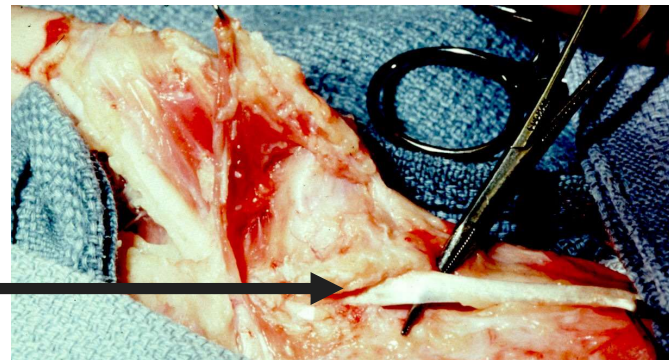


# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Surgery

## Arthroplasty Options

- Many options
- Gold standard still trapezium excision and ligament reconstruction

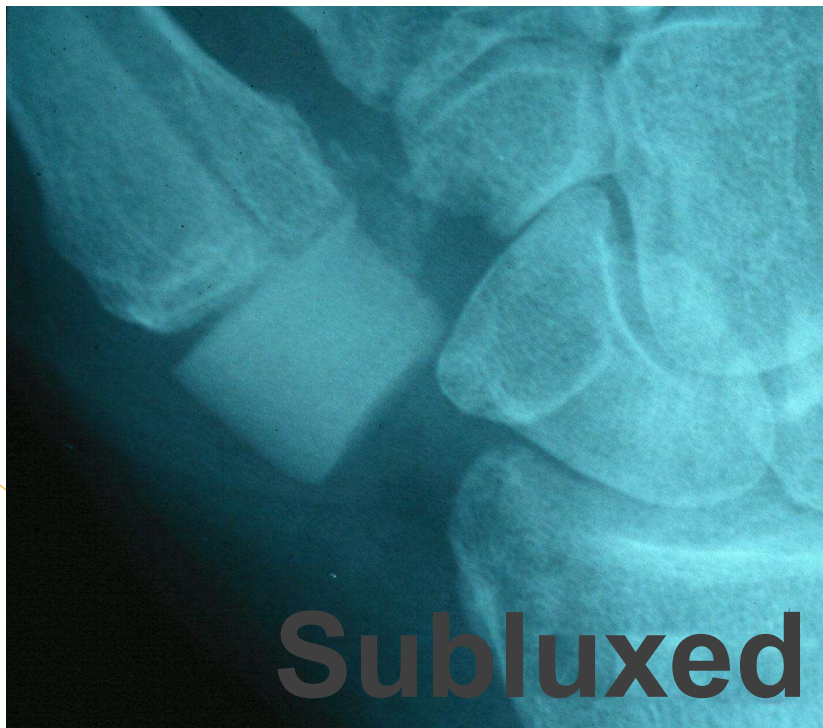
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# Thumb CMC Arthritis Surgical Options

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## Trapezial Arthroplasty

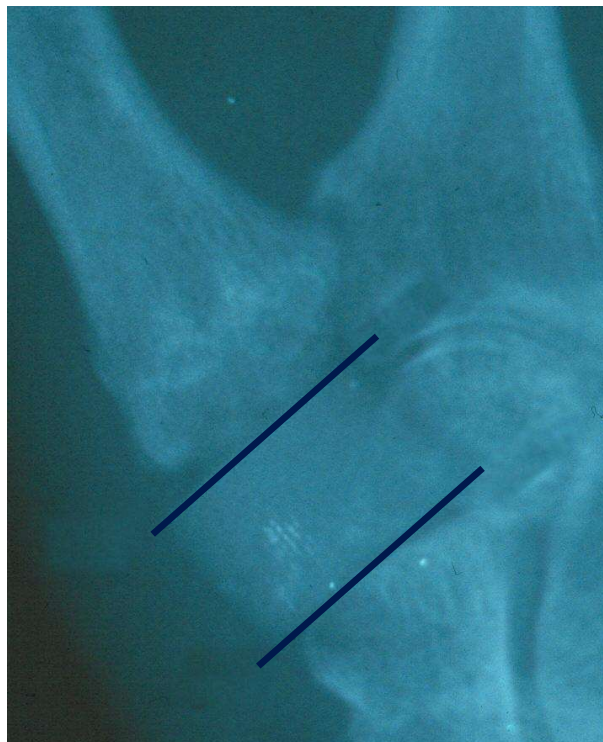


**Deformed**

# Thumb CMC Arthritis Surgical Options

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## Trapezial Arthroplasty





# Thumb CMC Arthrosis CMC Arthroplasty

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## Orthosphere

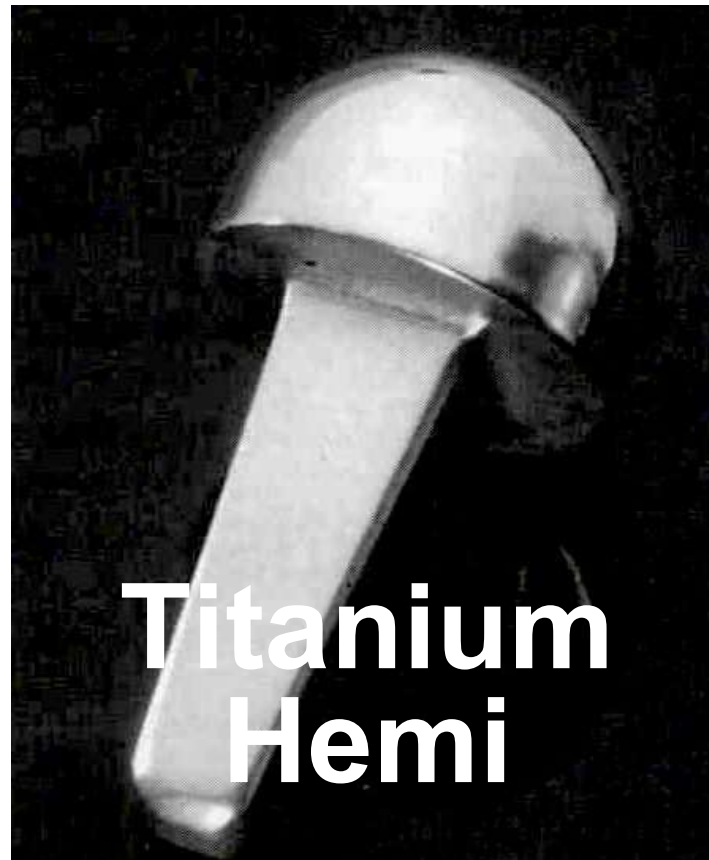


# Failure

# Thumb CMC Arthrosis CMC Arthroplasty

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# Thumb CMC Arthrosis Implant Arthroplasty



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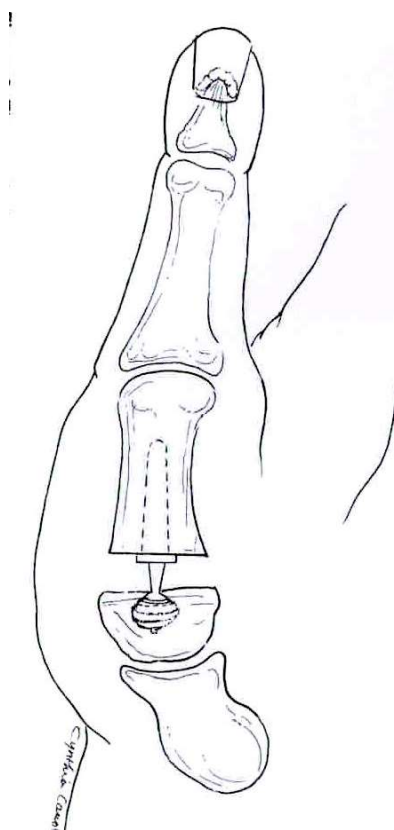


# Thumb CMC Arthrosis

# Total Joint Implant Arthroplasty

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# Thumb CMC Resection Arthroplasty Results

- > 90% pain relief
- Good motion
  - Opposes usually to MP of small finger
- Strength good not normal
- May fatigue with repetitive pinch
- Uncommon need revision
  - Ligamentous laxity

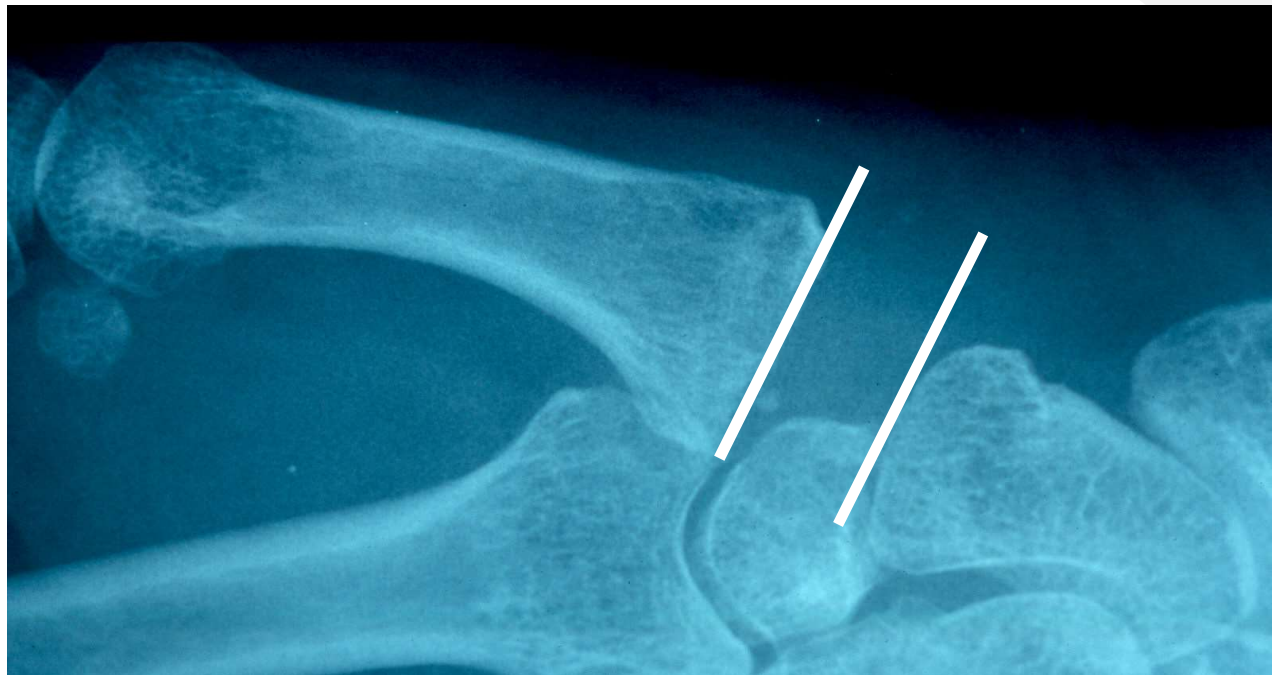
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# Thumb CMC Resection Arthroplasty

## Results- LRTI- Modified

Excellent space maintained at 5 yrs



# Thumb CMC Arthrosis





## Case Discussion

Andrew B. Stein, M.D.

Boston University Medical Center

# 42M Laborer with Wrist Pain

- Fell on outstretched extremity at work site
- Denies prior injury/pain before injury
- Unable to RTW



# Natural History SLAC

- Untreated SL Dissociation →  
Αρτηριτις (Πρεδιχταβλε  
Προορεσσιον)  
↓
  1. Στψλοιδ αρτηριτις
  2. Ραδιο-σχαπηοιδ αρτηριτις
  3. Μιδχαρπαλ αρτηριτις



\*Radio-lunate joint preserved



# Treatment Options

- Non-op:
  - Splint/NSAID/Cortisone Injection
- Wrist Denervation
- Motion Sparing Procedures:
  - Scaphoid excision and limited carpal fusion
  - Proximal Row Carpectomy
- Total Wrist Fusion



# Motion Sparing Options

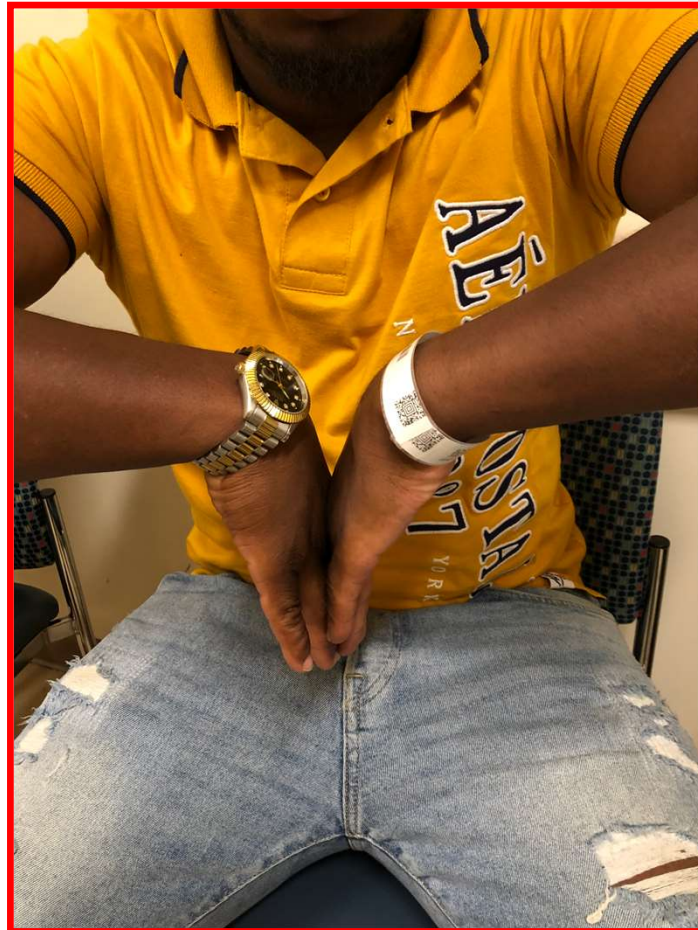
- Outcomes (ROM, grip) similar between PRC and partial fusions
- PRC (better?)
  - Simpler
  - No risk of non-union, hardware problems
  - Lower rate of conversion to total wrist fusion (4.9% vs. 19.2% - Chung *JHS* 2017)



# 6 mo s/p L PRC

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# Panel's Thoughts....

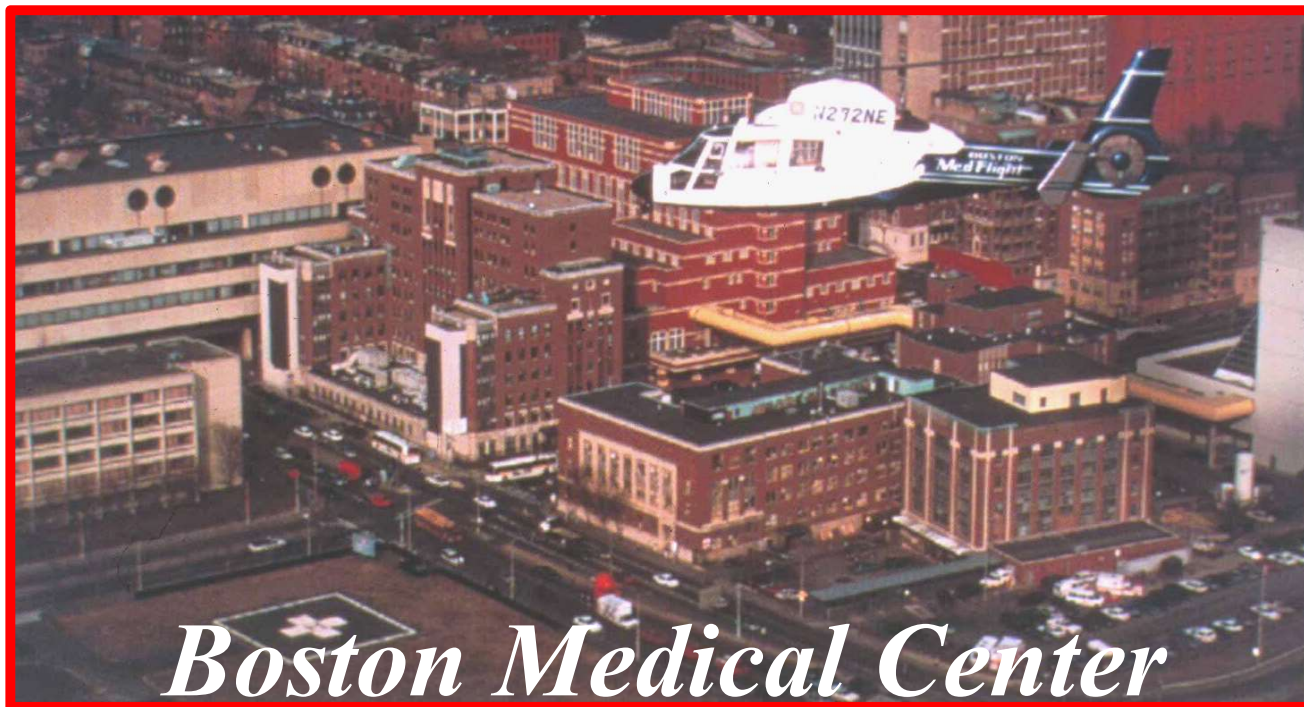




# THANK YOU!

**2023**

**Work Related Injuries  
Workshop**



*Boston Medical Center*