

# 2017 SPECIALTY DAY

MARCH 18, 2017 | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



## Combined Session: Orthopaedic Trauma Association and American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons

### The Use of Evidence-Based Medicine for Proximal Humeral Fractures and Their Complications

3:00 pm – 3:50 pm

**Moderators: Mohit Bhandari, MD, PhD, FRCSC (OTA) and Jon JP Warner, MD (ASES)**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 3:00 pm – 3:10 pm | Locking Plate Fixation: Can We Do Better?<br><i>Emil H. Schemitsch, MD (OTA)</i>                                 |
| 3:10 pm – 3:20 pm | Displaced Proximal Humeral Fractures in the Elderly: Indications for Fixation<br><i>Brett D. Crist, MD (OTA)</i> |
| 3:20 pm – 3:30 pm | Hemiarthroplasty versus Reverse for Acute Fractures<br><i>Pascal Boileau, MD (ASES)</i>                          |
| 3:30 pm – 3:40 pm | Greater Tuberosity Fractures: New Indications?<br><i>Dominique Rouleau, MD (ASES)</i>                            |
| 3:40 pm – 3:50 pm | Discussion   |

# The Use of Evidence Based Medicine for Proximal Humeral Fractures and Their Complications

## Locking Plate Fixation: Can we do better?

Emil H Schemitsch MD FRCS(C)

Richard Ivey, Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery

Western University, London, Ontario

### **General problems**

- We still aren't sure who benefits from an operation, especially in the elderly
- High failure rate with conventional fixation
- Locked plating not as successful as was hoped
- Secondary reconstruction (hemiarthroplasty) not as good as primary intervention
- Few high quality studies to guide treatment

### **Technical problems**

- Osteoporotic bone
  - Screw penetration
  - Plate pull-off
  - Varus collapse
- Tuberosity pull-off
- Avascular necrosis
- Nonunion (plate failure)

### **How to maximize success with ORIF**

- Calcar reduction
- No varus
- Calcar screw
- Suture greater tuberosity

### **Conclusions**

- Most patients (especially the elderly) can and should be treated non-operatively
- Several well – established principles are important to maximize success with the use of PHLP's
- There are some improvements that can be made to current plating strategies
- Reverse TSA may be beneficial in primary treatment of severe proximal humeral fractures

Displaced Proximal Humerus Fractures in the Elderly: Indications for Fixation  
Brett D. Crist, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Identify indications for ORIF of elderly proximal humerus fractures
2. Utilize surgical techniques/adjuncts to minimize risk of postoperative failure
3. Recognize contraindications for proximal humerus ORIF in the elderly

What is considered elderly?

\_\_\_\_\_

What proximal humerus fractures are we talking about?

\_\_\_\_\_

What are the indications for ORIF?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

What are the contraindications to ORIF?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

What are the techniques/adjuncts that can be used to decrease risk of failure?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Hemiarthroplasty or  
Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty  
For Proximal Humerus Fractures**

Pascal Boileau, MD  
France

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Charles S. Neer, 1955**



"... results of hemiarthroplasty for acute proximal humerus fractures are good ..."

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**HA for Fx = Unpredictable Results**



**No average results (Rule of 'all or nothing')**

*Boileau et al., JSES 2002*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Tuberosity malposition and migration: Reasons for poor outcomes after hemiarthroplasty for displaced fractures of the proximal humerus**

JOURNAL OF SHOULDER AND ELBOW SURGERY

P. Boileau, S. G. Krishnan, L. Tinsi, G. Walch, J. S. Coste, and D. Molé, Nice, France **2002**



GT displacement → Poor functional outcomes

---

---

---

---

---

---

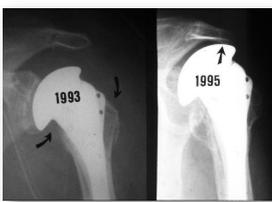
---

---

**Tuberosity Complications**

**= 50% !!**

- Initial Malposition 35%
- Migration 24%
- Nonunion / Malunion 53%



Boileau et al., JSES 2002

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**The Problems**

- Improper Prosthesis Positioning
- Poor Prosthetic Design
- Poor Suture Fixation Technique
- Improper Post-op Management

---

---

---

---

---

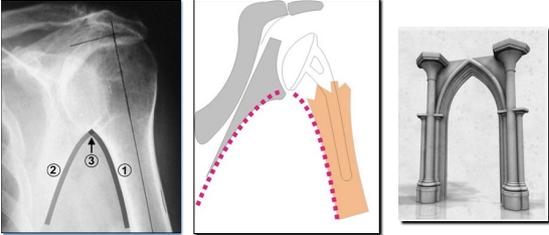
---

---

---

### Prosthesis Malpositioning

Too Proud → GT pull out / migration



Restoration of the Gothic arch

*Krishnan et al., JSES 2005*

---

---

---

---

---

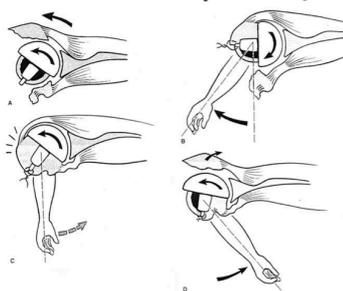
---

---

---

### Prosthesis Malpositioning

Too Retroverted → GT pull out / migration



*Boileau et al, JSES 2002*

---

---

---

---

---

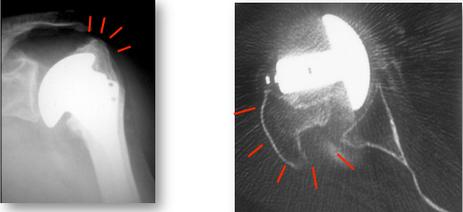
---

---

---

### Tuberosity Malpositioning

→ GT pull out / migration



GT = Too High  
...or too Low

GT = Too Post ...

*Boileau et al JSES 2002*

---

---

---

---

---

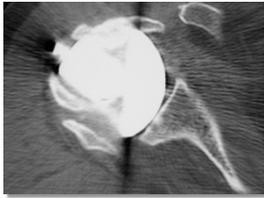
---

---

---

## Bulky Prostheses Don't Help!

Excess of Metal+++



= Obstacle to  
GT positioning



= Barrier for  
bone healing! ...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Type of Prosthesis Does matter!

• Loew et al., JBJS Br 2006

**Tuberosity healing:**  
50% with a Fracture Prosthesis vs  
29% with a Standard prosthesis



• Krishnan et al., CORR 2011

58 Conventional Prostheses  
112 Fracture Prostheses

→ Use of fracture-specific stems did improve  
shoulder function and tuberosity healing  
compared with conventional stems



---

---

---

---

---

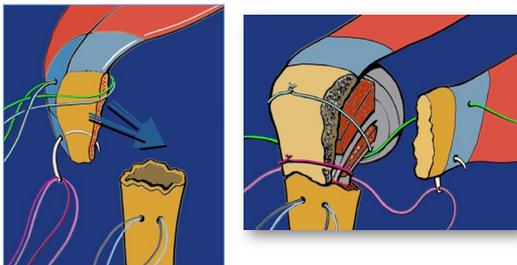
---

---

---

## Poor Tuberosity Fixation

→ Separate fixation of GT & LT +++



Boileau et al, TSES 2002

---

---

---

---

---

---

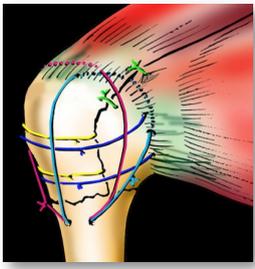
---

---

### Poor Tuberosity Fixation

→ Cerclages + Tension-Band

4 Horizontal Cerclages



2 Vertical Tension Band Sutures

*Boileau et al, TSES 2002*

---

---

---

---

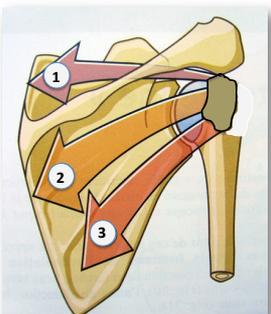
---

---

---

---

### Over Aggressive Rehabilitation



→ GT fragment Detachment!!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Protection of GT Repair

→ Neutral Rotation brace++



Pendulum exercises ONLY  
for the first 4 weeks

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# HA for Fractures

How to maximize outcomes?...

Does the prosthesis matter?...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Can surgeons predict what makes a good hemiarthroplasty for fracture?

JOURNAL OF SHOULDER AND ELBOW SURGERY 2013

Pascal Boileau, MD<sup>\*,\*</sup>, Matthias Winter, MD<sup>†</sup>, Alec Cikes, MD<sup>‡</sup>, Yung Han, MD<sup>§</sup>, Michel Carles, MD, PhD<sup>¶</sup>, Gilles Walch, MD<sup>¶</sup>, Daniel G. Schwartz, MD<sup>¶</sup>

61 Fractures  
Two Types of Implants



**Standard stem**  
N = 31  
(1991-1997)

**Fracture stem**  
N = 30  
(1998-2006)

---

---

---

---

---

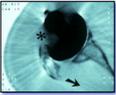
---

---

---

## Type of implant does matter!

Use of a Standard (bulky) Implant



- decreased GT adequate positioning 52% vs 97% p=0.0001
- decreased GT healing+++ 45% vs 87% p=0.0001
- decreased Functional outcome++ AAE 113° vs 136° CS 58 vs 68 p=0.0001

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Patient's age & gender also matter!**

**Patients over 75 years & Women have:**

- Higher rate of tuberosity complications
- Lower functional results

(Regardless of the type of implant used)

Reverse prosthesis is probably a better option in the elderly (> 75yo) female patients

---

---

---

---

---

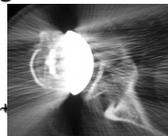
---

---

---

*In Summary* **HA for Acute Fractures**

- Still unpredictable results  
"All or Nothing"
- Prosthesis / GT malpositioning
- Poor technique & prosthetic design  
"Low Profile" fracture Prosthesis+++
- Influence of patient's age & Gender  
poor results in the elderly women+++



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Can RSA be an  
alternative to HA  
in elderly patients?...**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Prospective Randomized Study

<b>RSA</b>	<b>HA</b>
	
28 cases 79 yo	28 cases 76 yo

**Patients > 70 y**  
**Reverse / Aequalis-Fx**  
**> 12 months FU**  
**38 cases**

*Sirveaux & Molé, Nice Shoulder Course 2008*

---

---

---

---

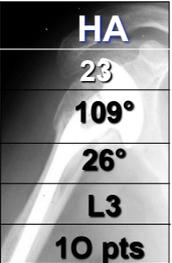
---

---

---

---

### Functional Outcomes

<b>RSA</b>	<b>33 months F.U</b>	<b>HA</b>
	<b>Cases</b>	
20 122° 18° Sacrum 12 pts	23 <b>AFE</b> <small>(p=0,07)</small> <b>Active ER</b> <b>Active IR</b> <b>Pain</b>	23 109° 26° L3 10 pts

*Sirveaux & Molé, Nice Shoulder Course 2008*

---

---

---

---

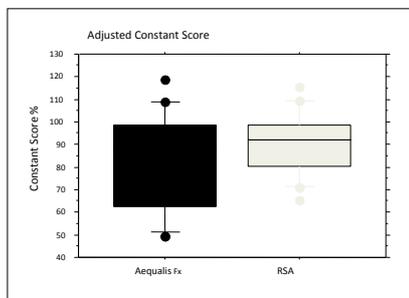
---

---

---

---

### RSA: More Predictable Results



*Sirveaux & Molé, Nice Shoulder Course 2008*

---

---

---

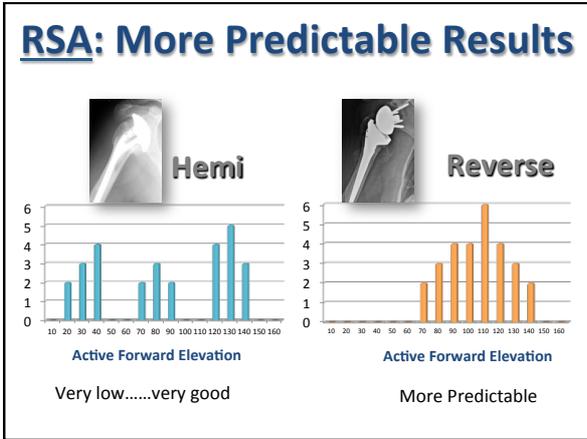
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Do Tuberosities Heal better in RSA?...

---

---

---

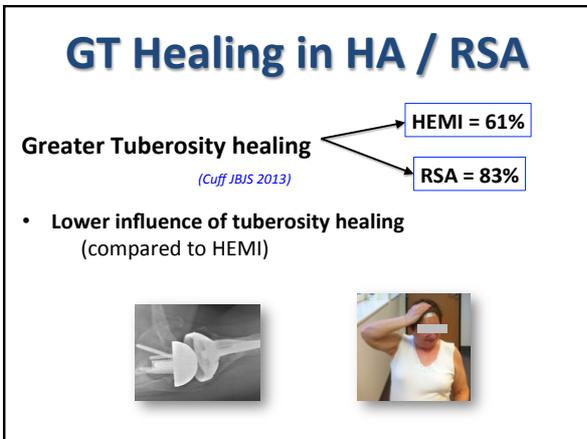
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Comparative Study: HA vs RSA

Hemiarthroplasty versus reverse shoulder arthroplasty in 4-part displaced fractures of the proximal humerus: Multicenter retrospective study

OTSR 2016

N. Bonneville<sup>a,\*</sup>, C. Tournier<sup>b</sup>, P. Clavert<sup>c</sup>, X. Ohl<sup>d</sup>, F. Sirveaux<sup>e</sup>, D. Saragaglia<sup>f</sup>, et la Société française de chirurgie orthopédique et traumatologique

	HA (N=57)	RSA (N=41)	P
Constant	54	57	NS
Adj. Constant	73%	83%	0.02
AFE	112°	130°	0.01
AER	28°	23°	NS
AIR	L3	Sacrum	0.03
GT Healing	70%	70%	NS
Complications	24%	10%	0.01
SSV	66%	75%	NS

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Is Absence of Tuberosity Healing a Problem in RSA for Fracture?...

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The Importance of GT Healing



	AFE	AER1	AER2
GT Healing	127° 	25° 	50° 
Absence of GT Healing	114° 	2°* 	15°** 

Sirveaux & Molé, Nice Shoulder Course 2008

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Absence of GT Tuberosity Healing in RSA**

- Poor External Rotation
- Decreased ADLs
- Decreased patient's satisfaction



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Evidence**

- RSA outcomes are more predictable
- Rotator cuff is not essential for proper function of a RSA, the deltoid function is sufficient
- Improved ER when tuberosities reconstructed
- Preservation of the rotator cuff can help maintain stability and ultimately improve shoulder function

Sufficient arguments for NOT Excising tuberosities in RSA

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Are Results better  
in RSA?...**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Comparative Study: HA vs RSA

Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty Versus Hemiarthroplasty for Proximal Humeral Fractures: A Systematic Review

Ferrel, Jason R. MD; Trinh, Thai Q. MD; Fischer, Richard A. MD 2015 **JOT**

→ **Meta-analysis** : 30 studies (2004-2014, min. 1y FU)

HA		RSA
63	<b>ASES score</b>	65
58	<b>Constant score</b>	55
108°	<b>Active AE</b>	118°
30°	<b>Active ER</b>	20°
30% (26% tub)	<b>Complications</b>	10%
5.7%	<b>Reoperation</b>	5%

---

---

---

---

---

---

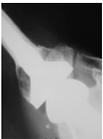
---

---

*In Summary*    **RSA for Acute Fractures**

- AFE is more predictable in RSA than in HA, and complication rate is lower
- But, IR is decreased in RSA
- GT healing is needed to restore active ER and improves ADL++

→ **Tuberosities in RSA should NOT be excised, but repaired+++**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Take-Home Messages

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### GT Healing is Needed in HA

In order to get good functional outcomes



The image shows three panels: a preoperative X-ray of a shoulder, an X-ray at 3 years post-operation showing a well-positioned hemiarthroplasty, and a photograph of a patient with their arms raised, indicating good functional recovery.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Absence of GT Healing in HA

is catastrophic!!....



The image shows two panels: an X-ray of a shoulder with a blue arrow pointing to a failed hemiarthroplasty, and a photograph of a patient with a severely limited range of motion.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### GT Healing is Not Needed in RSA

But, tuberosity healing improves :

- Constant score
- Active ER++
- ADLs



The image shows four panels: two X-rays of a reverse shoulder arthroplasty, and two photographs of a patient with their arms raised and bent, demonstrating good functional recovery.

---

---

---

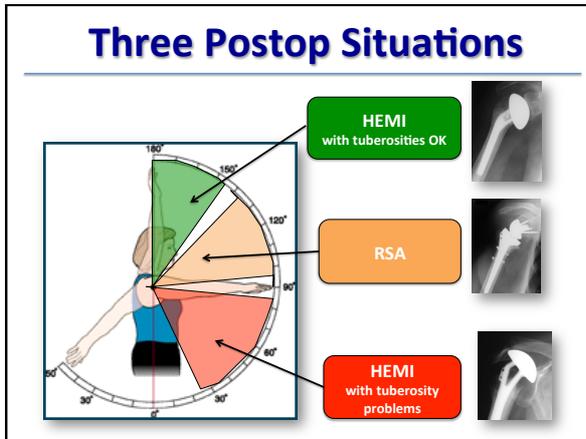
---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A RSA without ER muscles is a bad RSA!

**Absence of GT fixation/healing:**

- Hornblower sign/ Lag Sign
- Decreased ADLs
- Increased Humeral loosening

→ NO Tuberosity excision+++

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Prosthesis Design & Surgical Technique Do matter for both HA / RSA

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Indications for RSA in Acute Fractures



**Patient's Age (>75)**  
**Women (osteopenia+++)**  
**Poor blood supply (Diabetes, smoking)**  
**Poor compliance with Rehabilitation (Dementia)**



**Greater Tuberosity comminution**  
**Poor bone quality (cortical thickness)**  
**Combined Humerus & Glenoid fracture**



**Preexisting Rotator Cuff pathology (up to 5%)**  
**Severe Fatty infiltration of RC muscles (Goutallier stage 3 or 4)**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Greater Tuberosity fractures

## New indications for fixation?

Jonah Hebert-Davies

Harborview Medical Center

Dominique M Rouleau

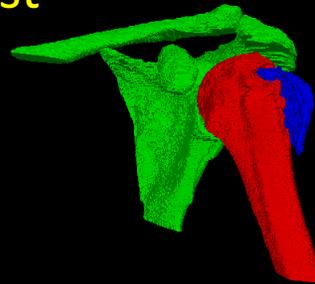
Hôpital du Sacré-Coeur de Montréal



## Conflicts of interest

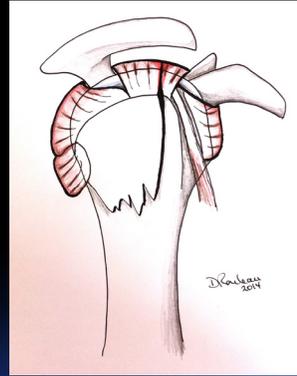
Senior Author

- Consultant for Wright
  - Design team on PHF plate
- Consultant for Bioventus
- Research or teaching funding's from: Arthrex, Conmed, Depuy-Synthes, Smith and Nephew, Stryker, Wright, Zimmer
- Associate editor OTSR-RCO



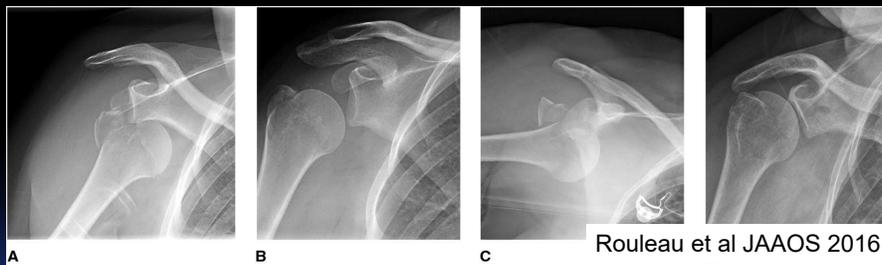
## Outline

- Classification
  - Updates for 2017
- Displacement measurement
- Treatment algorithms
- Surgical tips and tricks



## GT fracture

- ~20% of all Proximal Humerus Fractures
- Young men
- Occur in 15-30% of GH dislocation



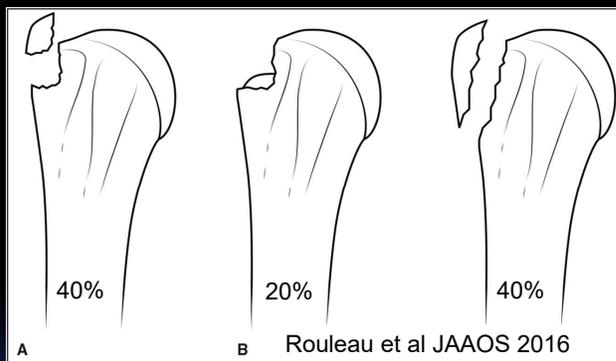
## Classification...s

- AO and Neer classifications
  - Split type only
  - Poor Reliability
- AO inter/intraobserver
  - 0.35/0.65
- Neer inter/intraobserver
  - 0.35/0.63

Mutch et al BJJ 2014  
Bahrs JSES 2006

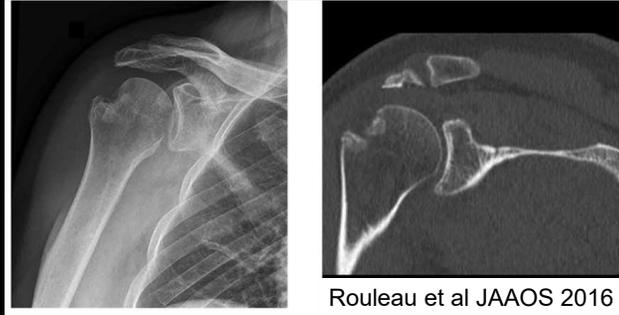
## Classification...s

- 3 specific types of GT fractures
  - Avulsion
  - Impaction
  - Split



Mutch et al BJJ 2014  
Bahrs JSES 2006

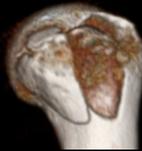
## Impaction fractures are real!



Rouleau et al JAAOS 2016

- Associated with glenohumeral dislocation
  - Up to 46% of cases

Mutch et al BJJ 2014  
Davies Injury 2000  
Kaspar JSES 2004



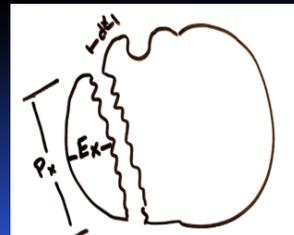
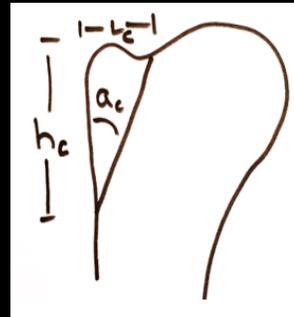
## GT split sizes CT scan

Thickness 15 mm

Height 34 mm

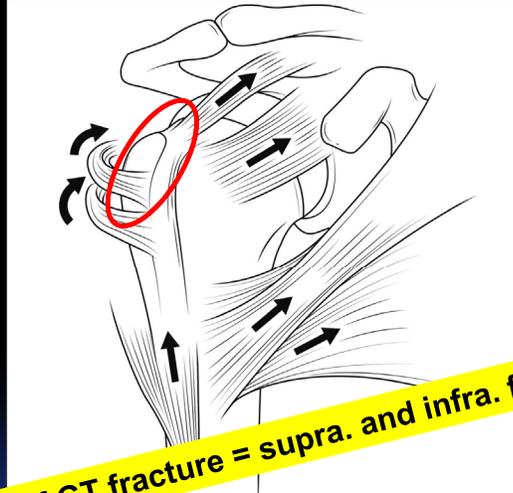
Fx angle 37°

AP diameter 31 mm



Boaretto, Rouleau et al, submitted JSES

## Displacement

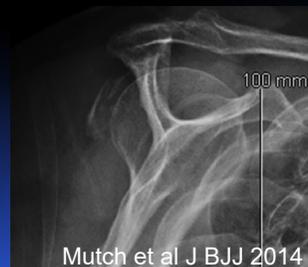


57% of GT fracture = supra. and infra. facets

Rouleau et al JAAOS 2016

## Displacement

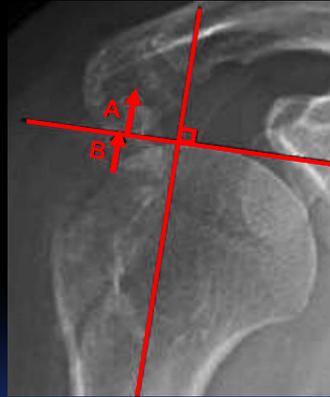
- >5 mm displacement = worse outcomes
  - Either posterior or superior
- Severe RC muscular atrophy is seen when displacement is of > 7mm
  - Rouleau et al. SE UK 2016



Mutch et al J BJJ 2014

## GT Ratio on AP x ray

- **Ratio =  $A+B / B$** 
  - <0 : Conservative
  - 0-0.5 : CT scan
  - >0.5 : Surgery
- **High correlation with CT**  
**R=0.852**
- **less radiation**



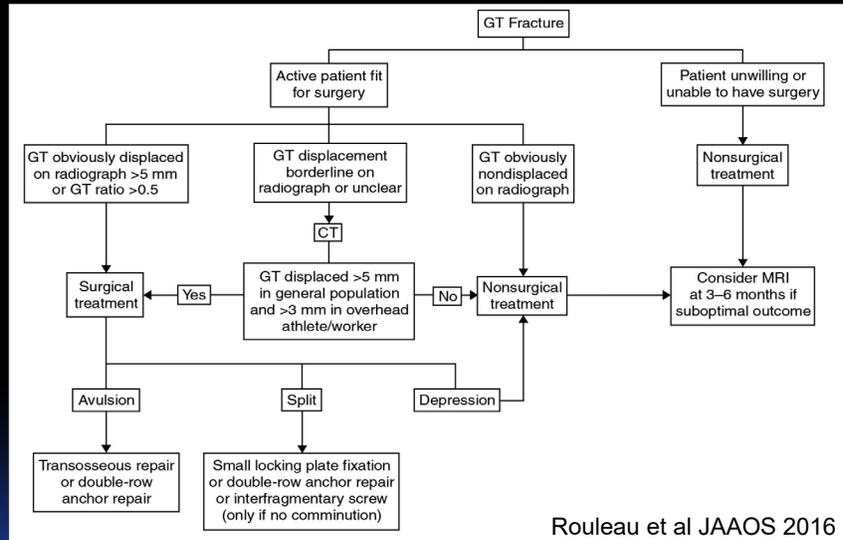
Mutch, Rouleau et al JOT 2014  
Rouleau et al JAAOS 2016

## Associated Dislocation

- Hebert-Davies et al 2015 JOT
- “Undisplaced” fractures after reduction
  - 20% will displace
  - Close follow-up warranted

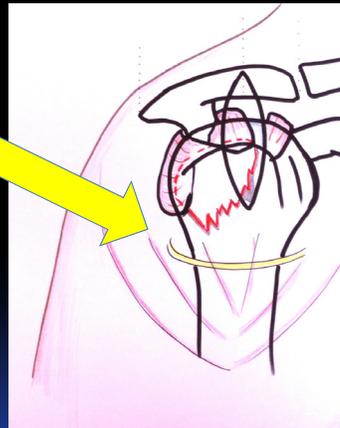


## Treatment algorithm

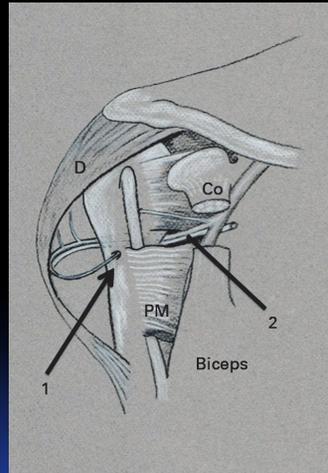


## Surgical Treatment

- Standard Deltoid-Split Mini-open approach
- Axillary Nerve  
–  $\geq 5$ cm from acromion



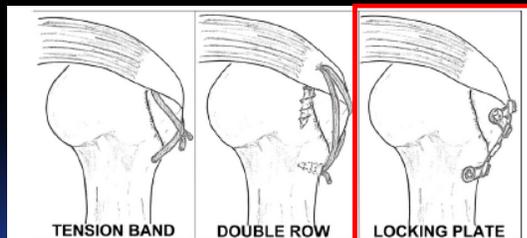
## Posterior circumflex artery



Smith BJJ 2016

## Displaced GT Split Fracture

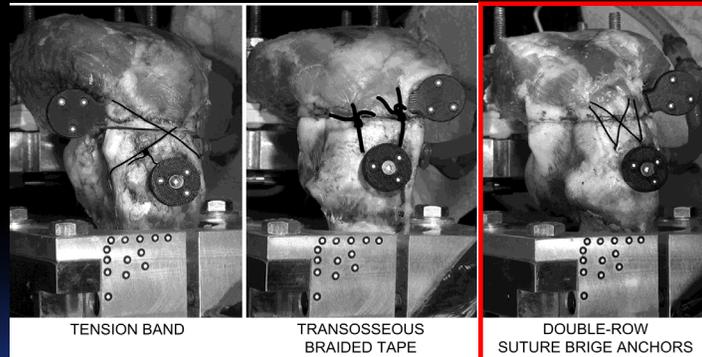
- Displaced Split combined treatment
- Biomechanical : Gaudelli et al 2014
- **Plate vs double row for SPLIT =**
  - 3x stronger
  - 5x stiffer



Gillespie RJ AJO 2015

## Displaced GT avulsion fracture

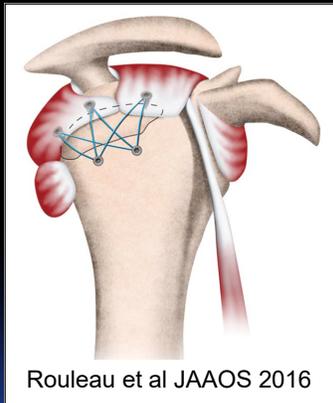
- Biomechanical study Brais et al 2015
  - Double Row = less displacement



Brais Rouleau et al, Injury 2015, Cheng-Li JSES 2015

## Displaced GT avulsion fracture

- Preferred method of treatment
- Open or Arthroscopic



## Arthroscopy vs open



	Arthroscopy N=15	ORIF N=17	p
OR time (min)	95	62	<0.05
Flexion	153	138	<0.05
Abduction	146	132	<0.05
ASES	92	87	0.02

Liao et al CORR 2016

## GT avulsion arthroscopic fixation

- Associated more blood
- Medial anchors in **normal** bone
- Suture passer **fracture/compress** the fragment
- Needle passer more precise



## GT depression fracture

- Rarely displaced
- If displacement :
  - treat as avulsion
- Advanced imaging
  - R/O Cuff tear



## GT outcomes?

- Not Always disappointing
- 80-100% good to excellent outcomes
- Identifying type + treatment = key
- Complications often treated with injections



- Rouleau et al SE UK 2016
- Maman E Orthop. 2014

## GT outcomes?

- Residual Symptoms
  - Adhesive Capsulitis
  - Malreduction/displacement > 5mm
  - Rotator cuff tear (15%-30% full tear)
  - Long head of the biceps
  - Bursitis (57%)\*
  - Previous surgery... P acnes

- Rouleau et al SE UK 2016
- Maman E Orthop. 2014

## Conclusion

- Displacement of GT fracture
  - Difficult to quantify on X-ray
  - Superior, posterior or combined
- Indications for Surgery
  - 5 mm of displacement
  - GT ratio >0.5

## Conclusion

- Avulsion fractures
  - Double row or suture bridge construct
  - Arthroscopic or open
- Split fracture
  - ORIF with plate
  - Combined with suture fixation
- Depression fracture
  - Mostly Non-operative treatment