

Periprosthetic Fractures: Evaluation and Management

Victor Carlson, MD
OrthoCarolina Hip and Knee Center
May 5, 2023

Epidemic on the Rise

- THA / TKA rates increasing
- Life expectancy increasing
- Osteoporosis
- Osteolysis
- Uncemented stems
- Constrained revision implants



Outline

- Periprosthetic Fractures of the Hip
 - Evaluation
 - Treatment
- Periprosthetic Fractures of the Knee
 - Evaluation
 - Treatment
- Cases

Problem

- Usually elderly
- Poor bone quality
- Femoral stem blocks proximal fixation
- No endosteal blood supply if cemented stem
- High stress adjacent to femoral stem
- Cable fixation inadequate



Periprosthetic Fractures of the Hip



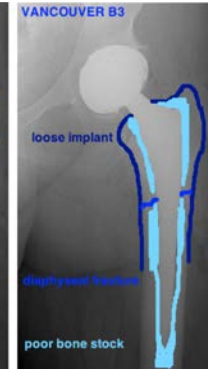
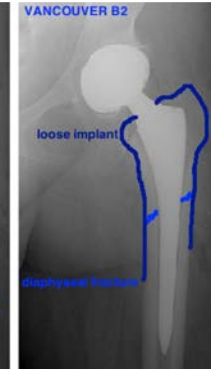
Classification

- Vancouver Classification
 - Duncan et al, 1995
- Important Factors
 - LOCATION
 - FIXATION OF STEM
 - BONE QUALITY
- Other factors
 - Age
 - General health



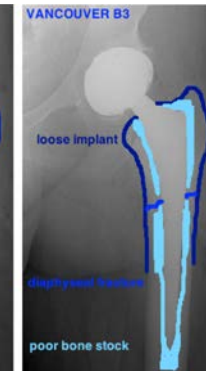
Vancouver Classification

- Type A
 - Trochanteric
- Type B
 - Shaft Fracture around stem
 - B1 implant stable
 - B2 implant unstable
 - B3 implant unstable / bone deficiency
- Type C
 - Shaft Fracture below stem



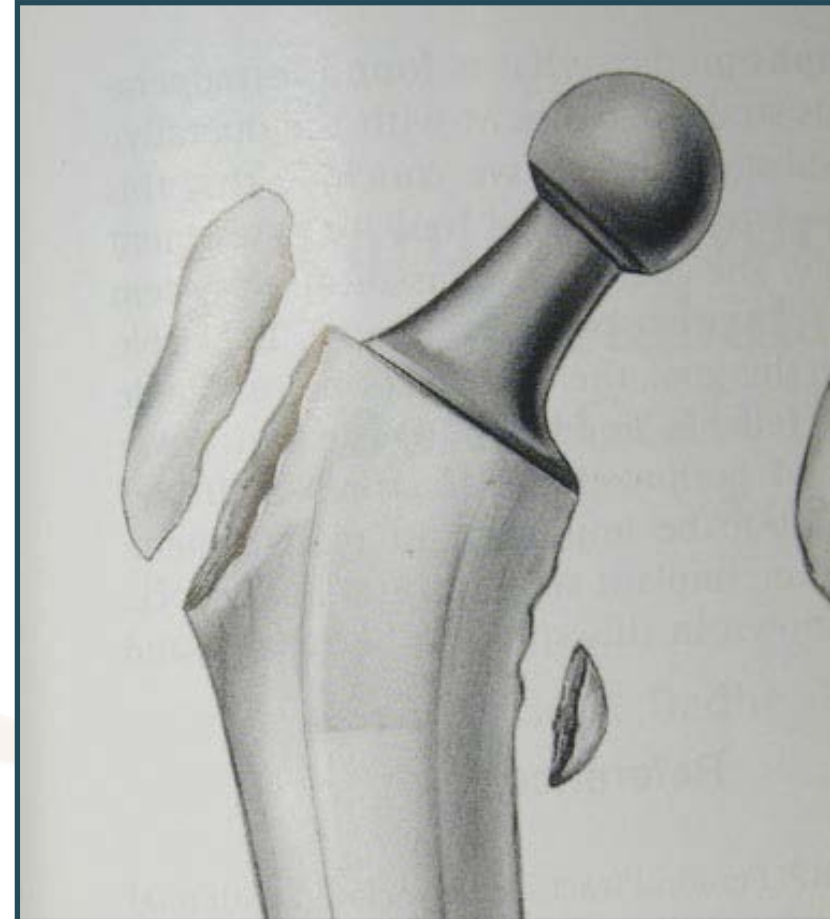
Vancouver Classification

- **Type A**
 - Trochanteric
- **Type B**
 - Shaft Fracture around stem
 - B1 implant stable
 - B2 implant unstable
 - B3 implant unstable / bone deficiency
- **Type C**
 - Shaft Fracture below stem



Vancouver Classification

- Type A
 - “Proximal” to the prosthesis
 - Greater or Lesser trochanter

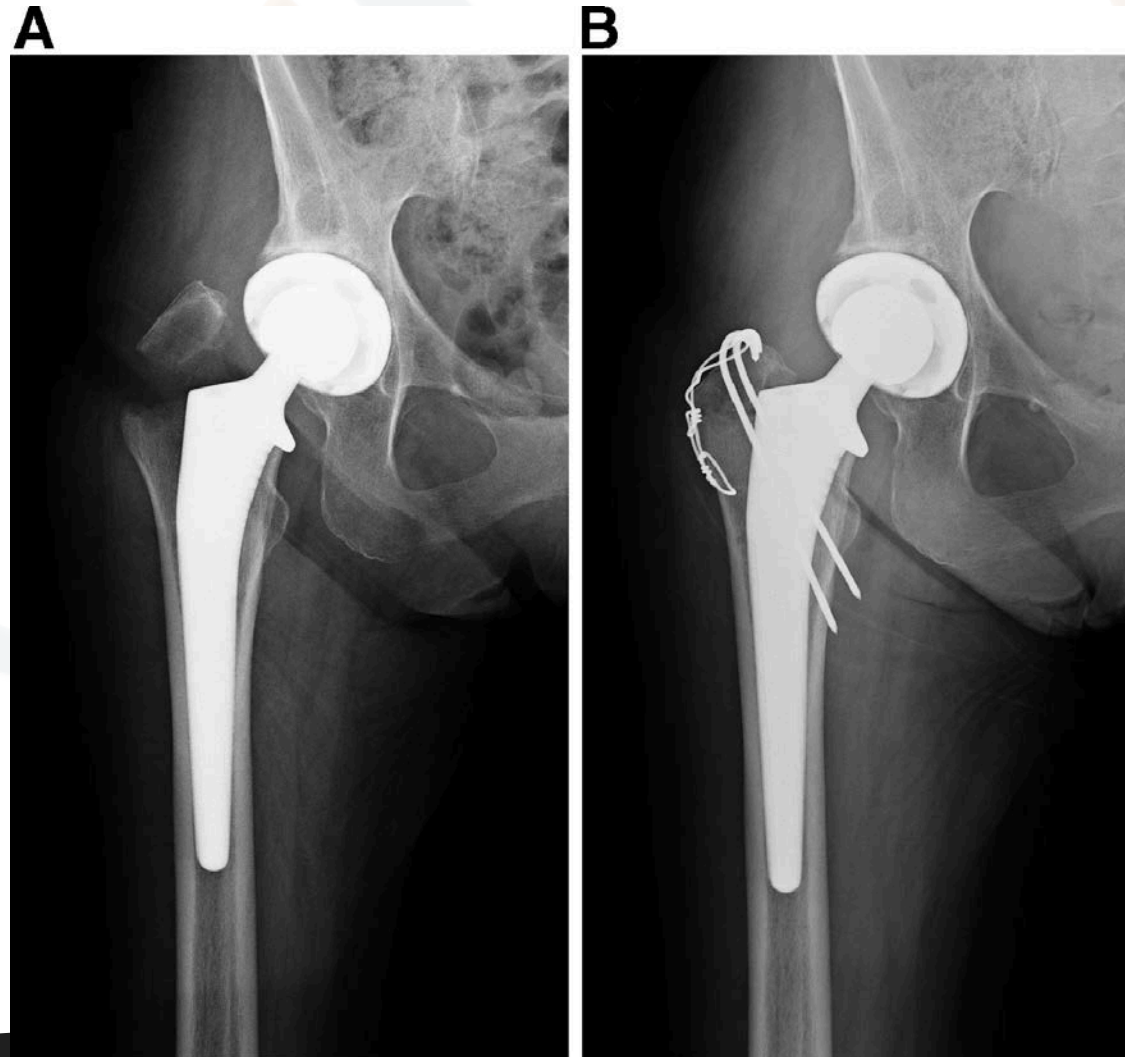


Type A: Trochanteric

- Lesser Trochanter
 - Conservative treatment
- Greater Trochanter
 - Nondisplaced – follow / observe closely
 - Displaced - ORIF
- Osteolysis
 - deal with osteolysis source

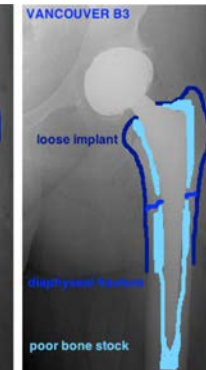


Type A: Trochanteric



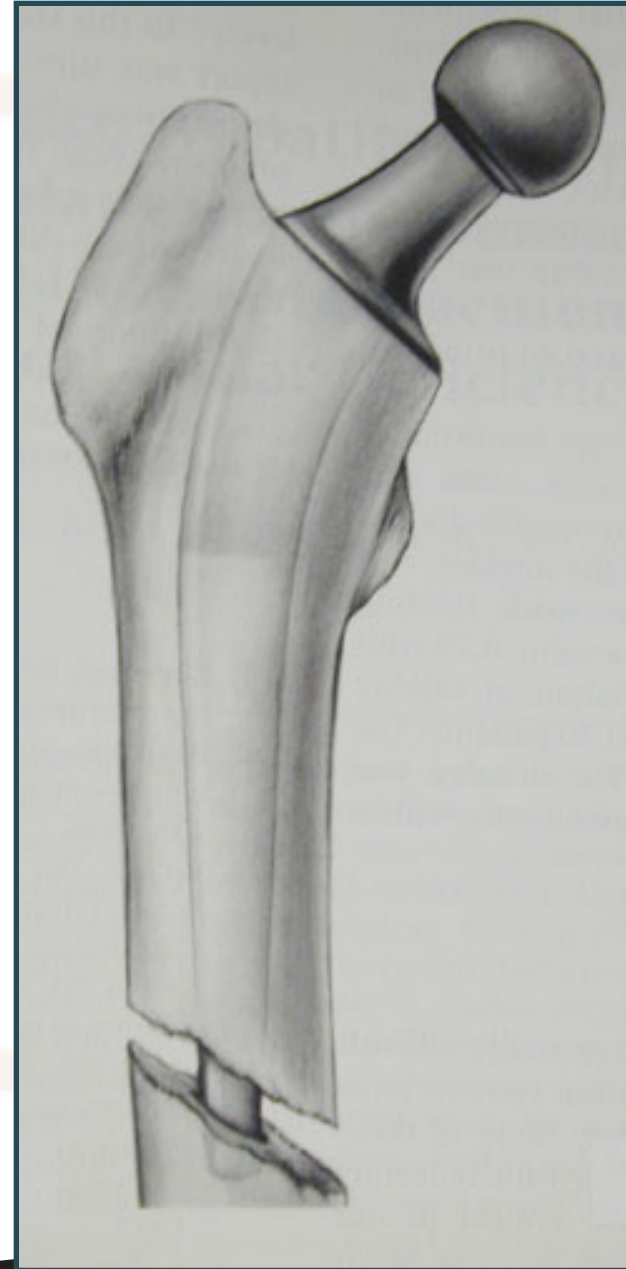
Vancouver Classification

- Type A
 - Trochanteric
- Type B
 - Shaft Fracture around stem
 - B1 - implant stable
 - B2 - implant unstable
 - B3 - implant unstable / bone deficiency
- Type C
 - Shaft Fracture below stem



Type B1

- “Around” the prosthesis
- Stem is well fixed
- Uncommon



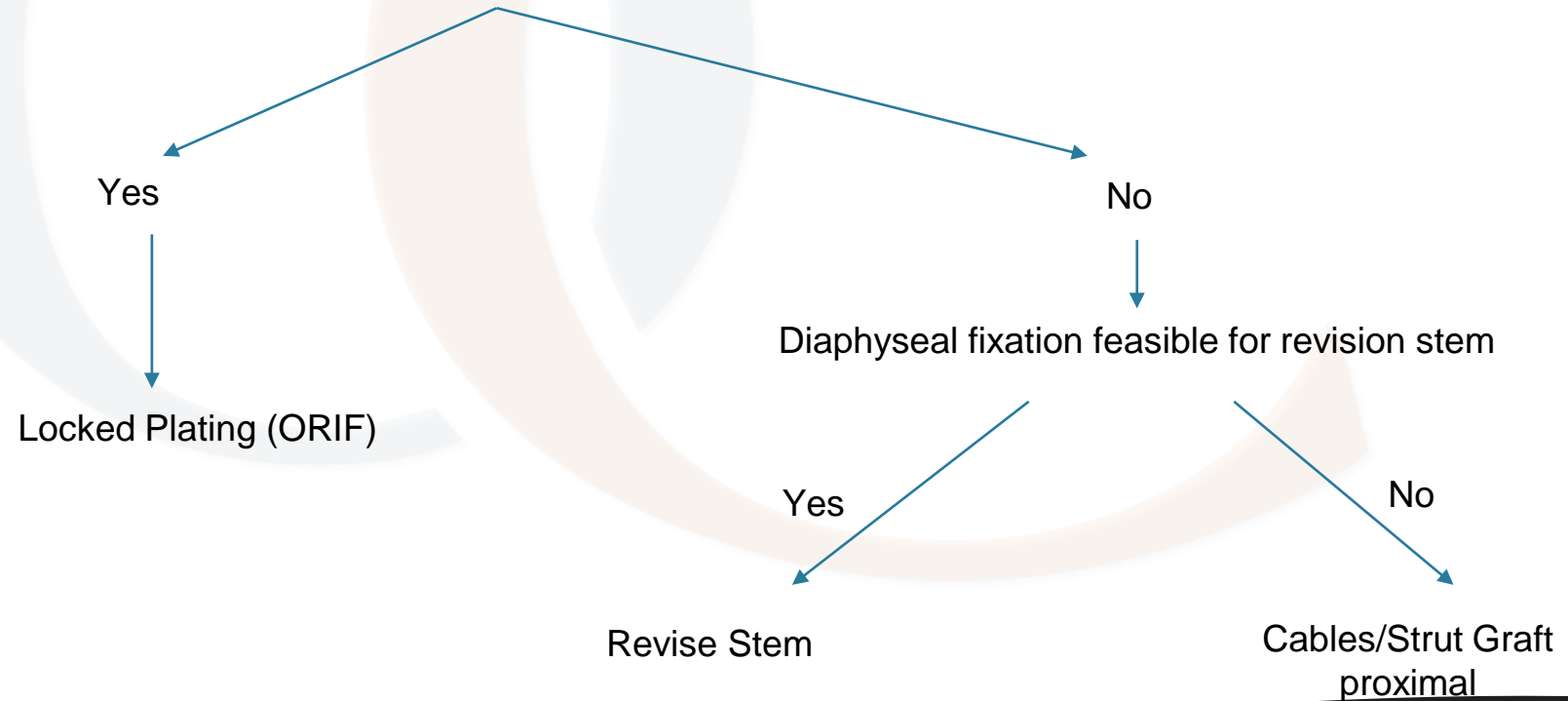
Type B1- Management

- Question 1:
 - Is the femoral component stable? (B1 vs. B2)
 - Review old XR if available
 - Has the stem moved?
 - Evaluate implant – bone interface
 - Evaluate implant-cement interface



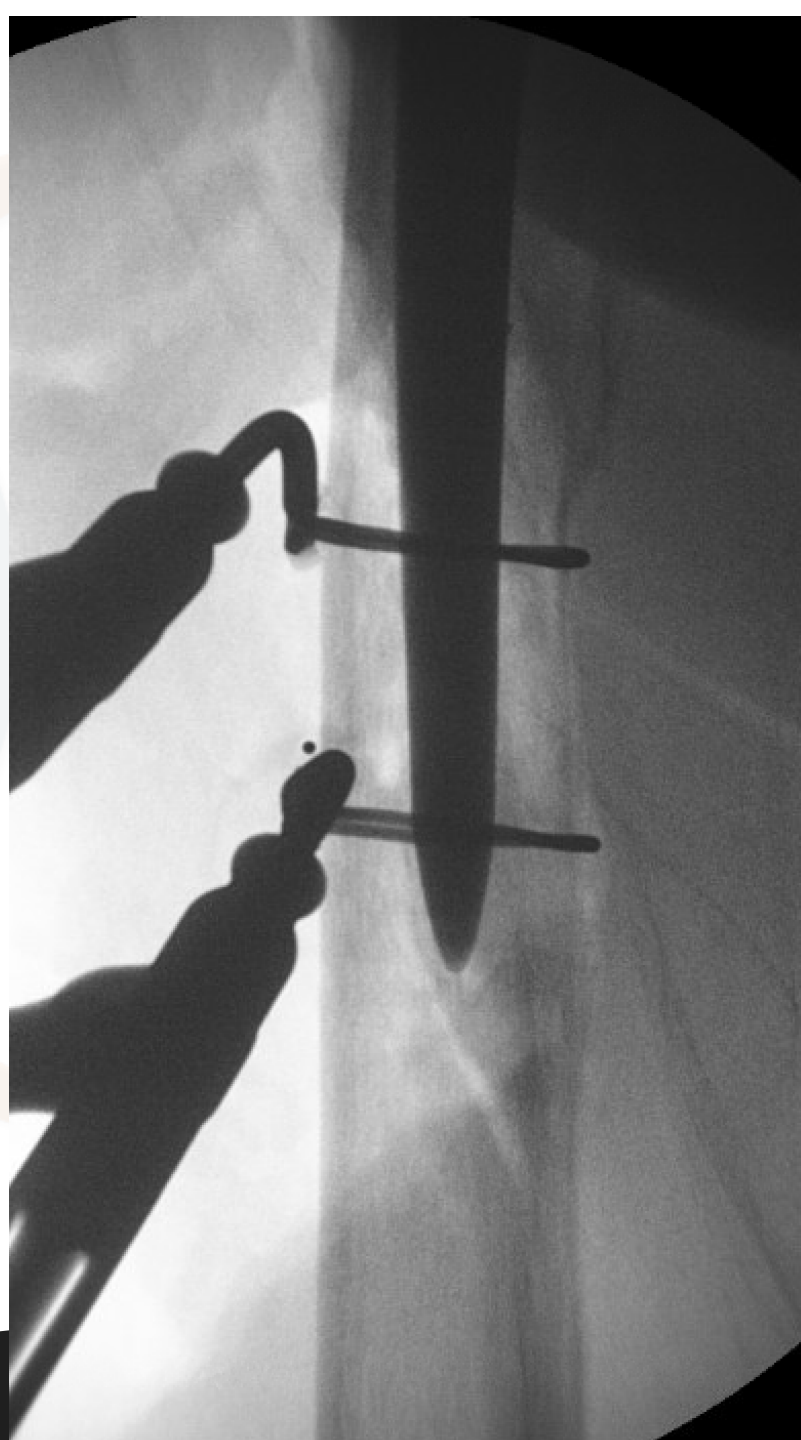
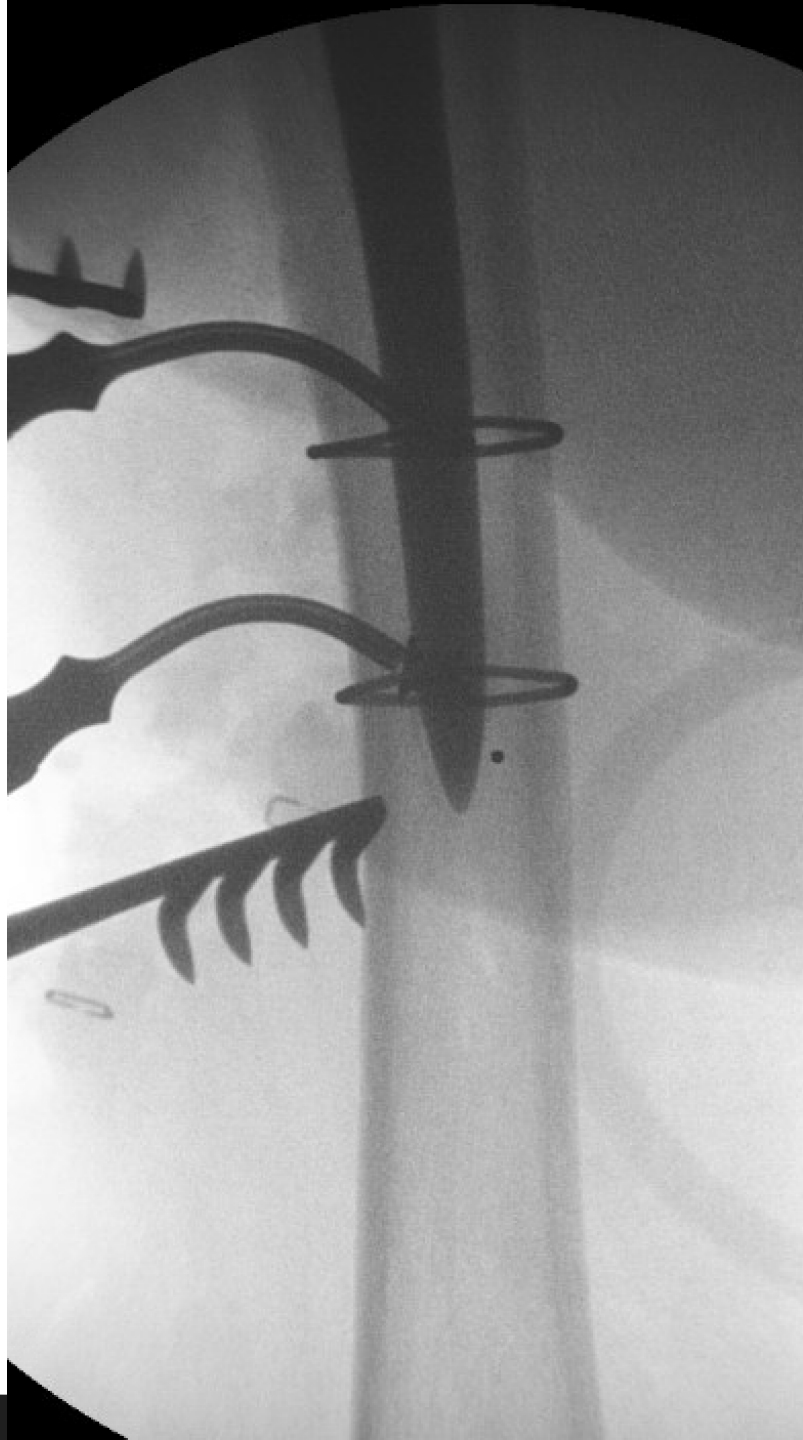
Type B1- Management

- Question 2:
 - Can I obtain proximal screw fixation?



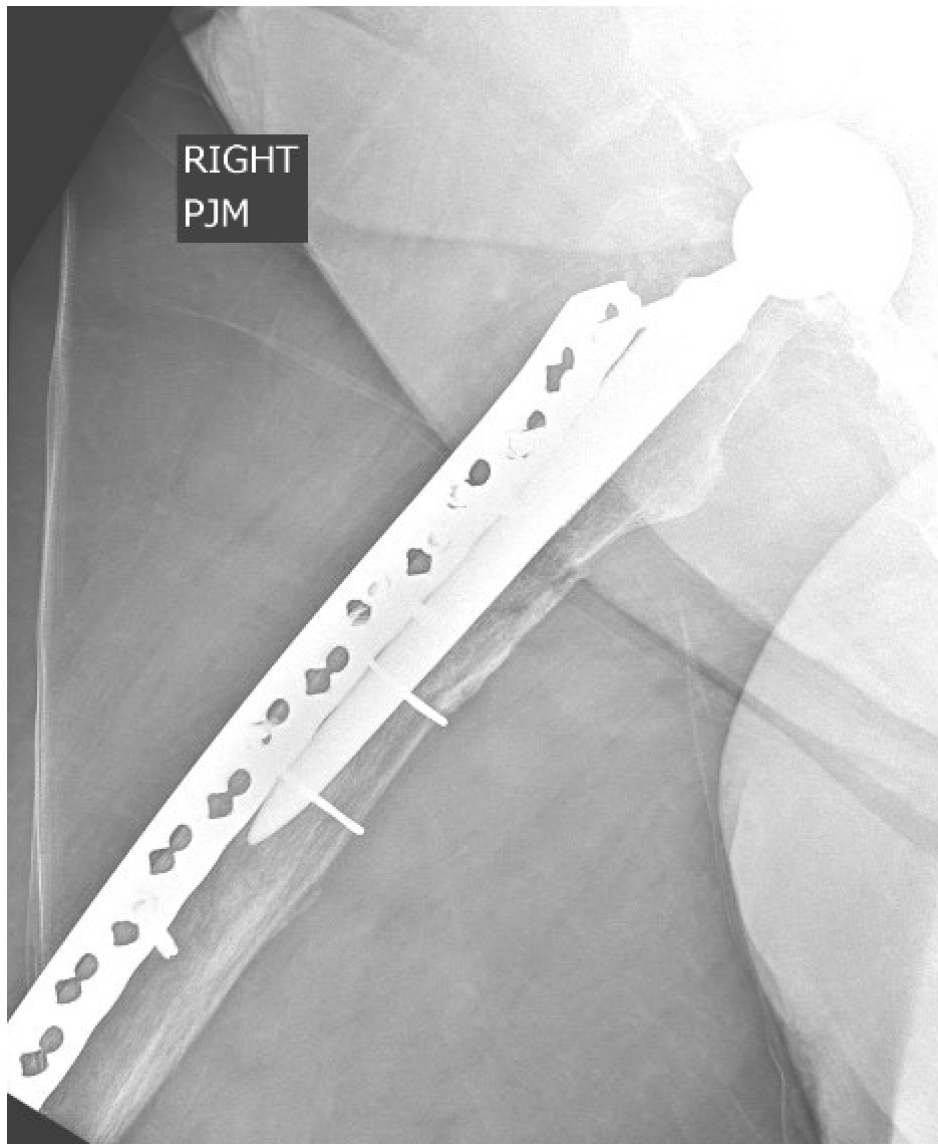
Case Example





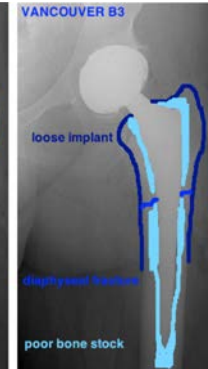
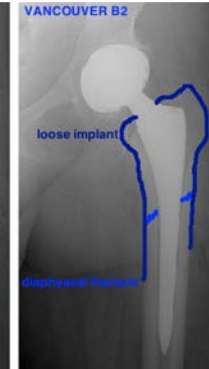






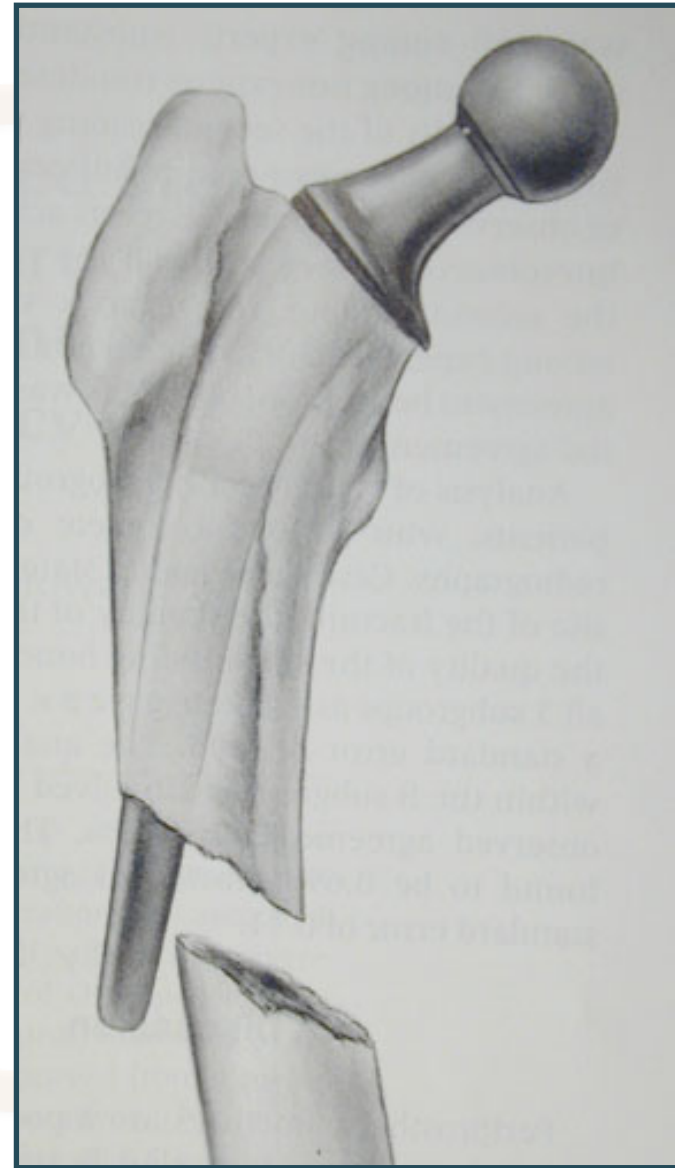
Vancouver Classification

- Type A
 - Trochanteric
- Type B
 - Shaft Fracture around stem
 - B1 - implant stable
 - B2 - implant unstable
 - B3 - implant unstable / bone deficiency
- Type C
 - Shaft Fracture below stem



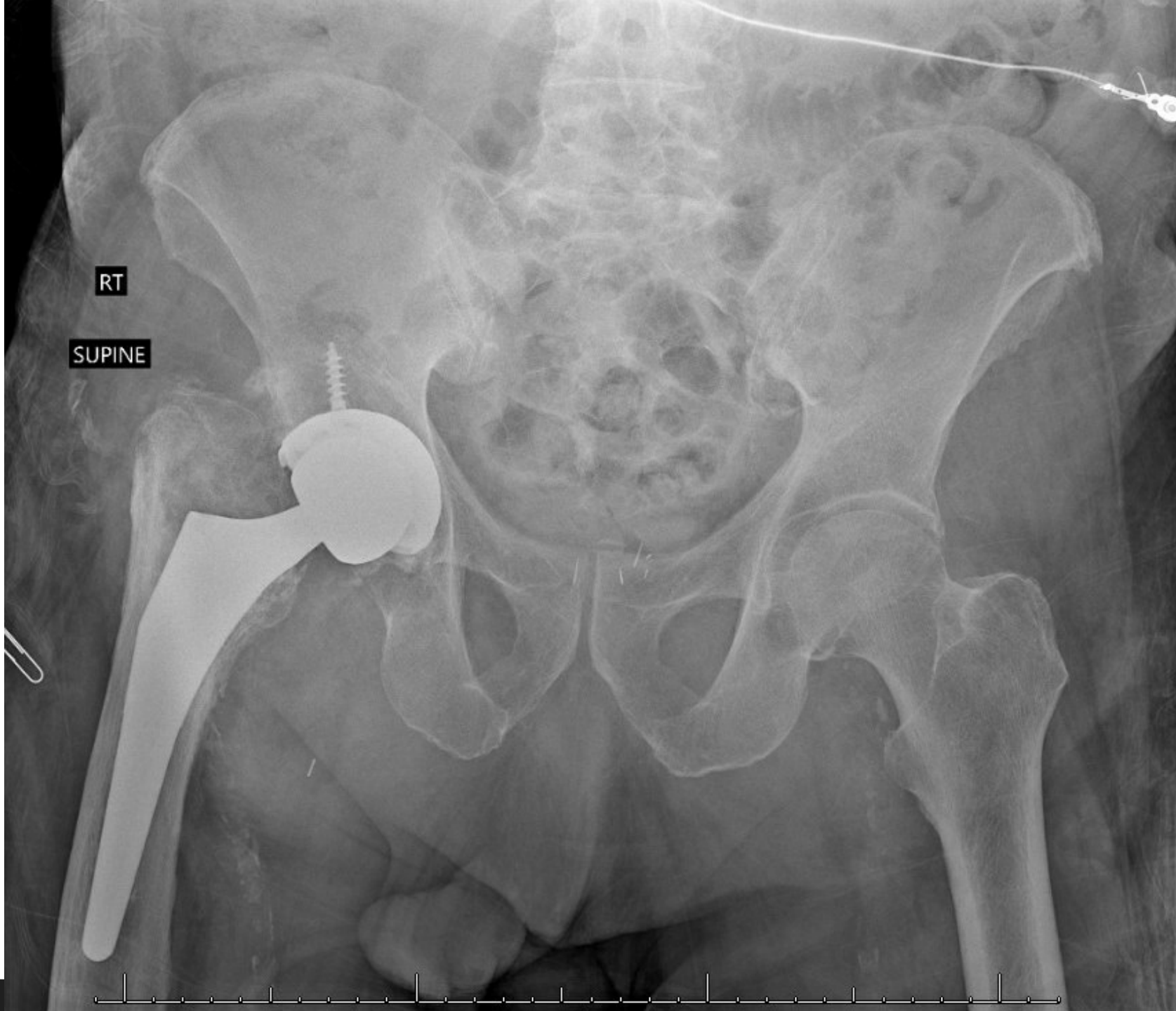
Type B2

- “Around” the prosthesis
- Stem is loose
- Most common



B2 Principles

- Loose femoral stem
- Work through fracture for stem removal
- Cables or unicortical plate fixation
- Obtain diaphyseal fixation
- Stem must bypass fracture by $>2X$ diaphyseal diameter

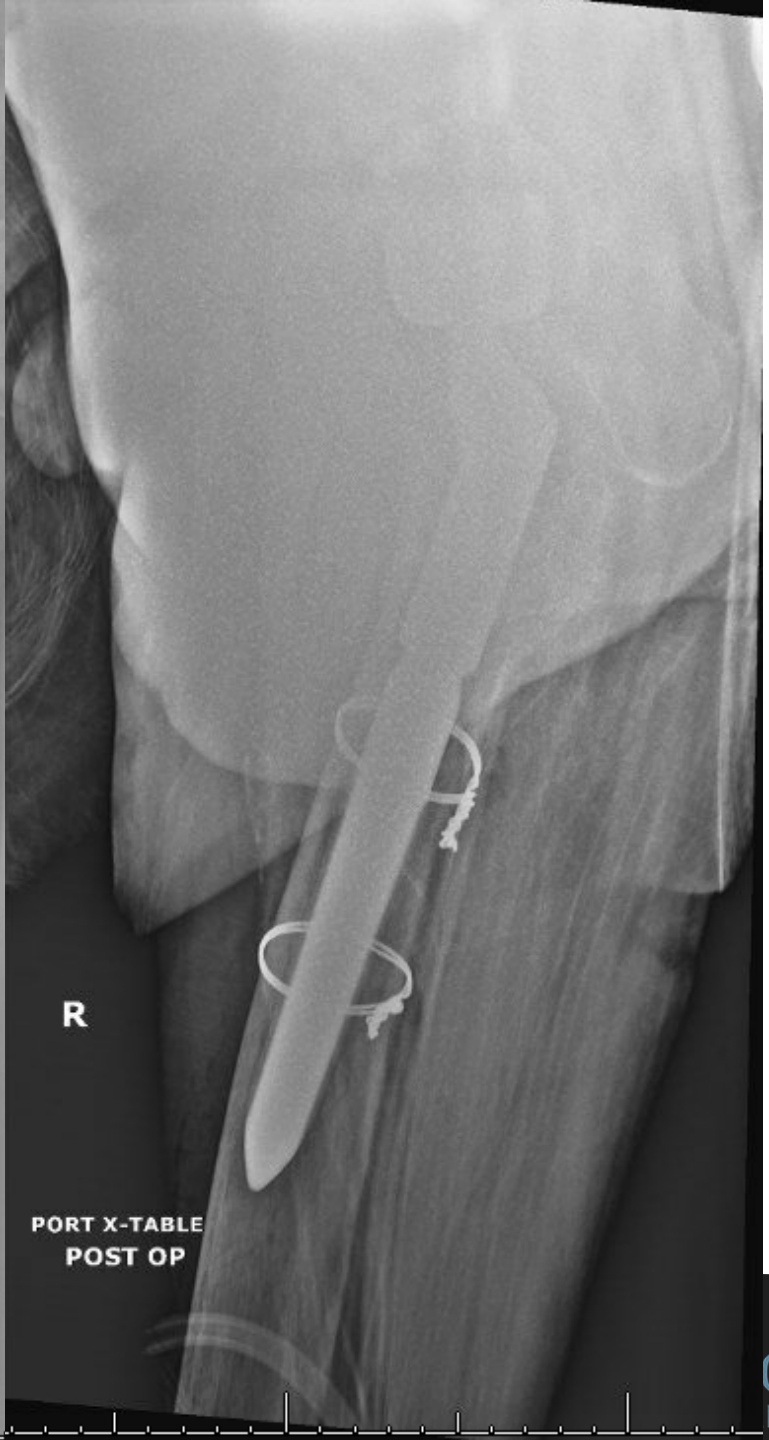


RT

SUPINE



upine
ST OP

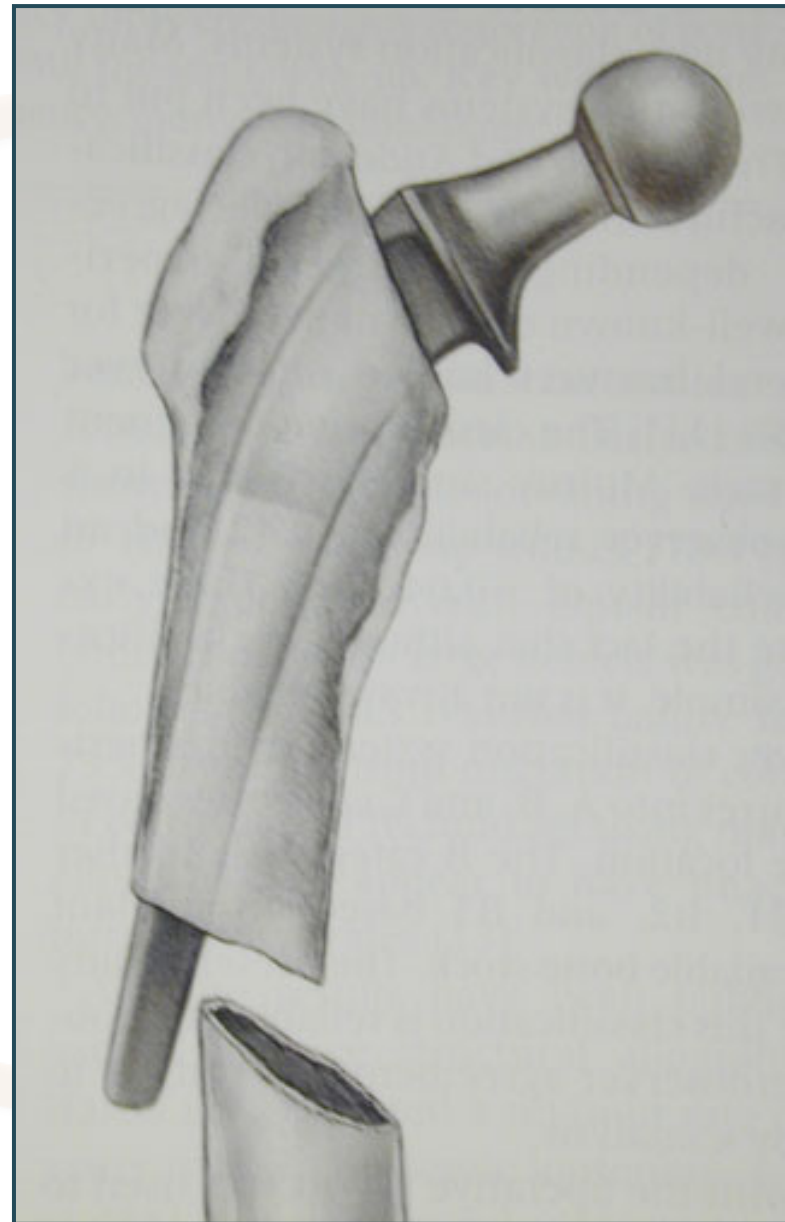


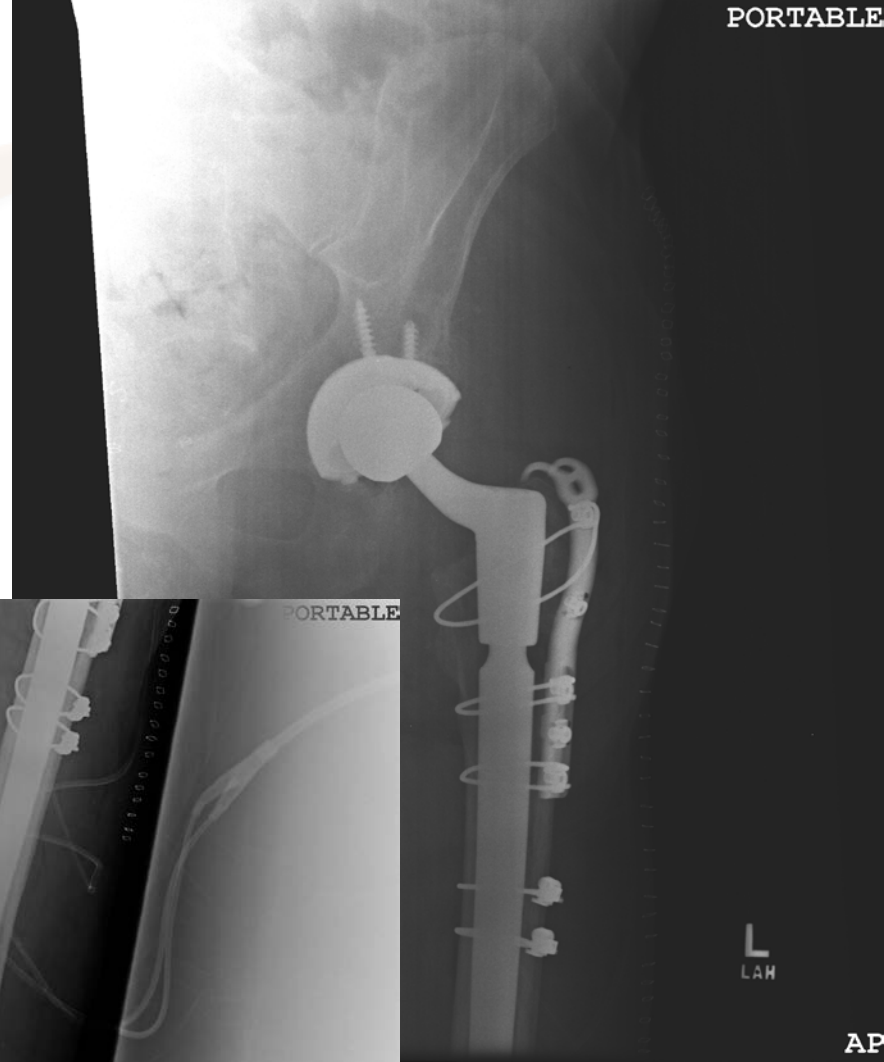
R

PORT X-TABLE
POST OP

Type B3

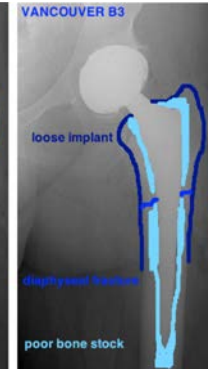
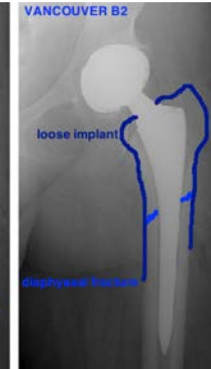
- “Around” the prosthesis
- Stem is loose
- Poor bone stock





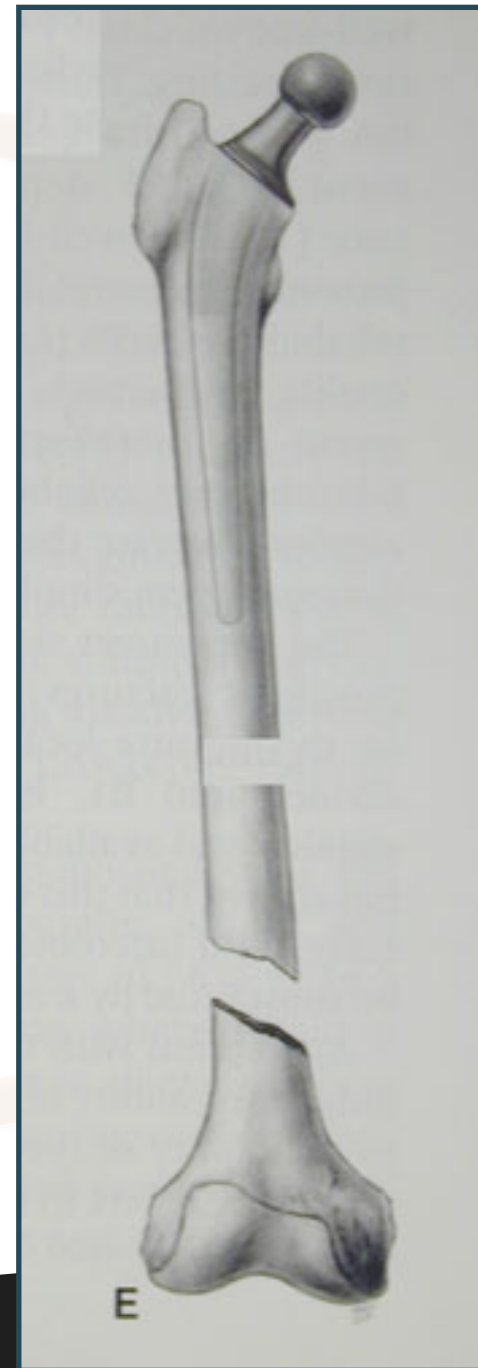
Vancouver Classification

- Type A
 - Trochanteric
- Type B
 - Shaft Fracture around stem
 - B1 - implant stable
 - B2 - implant unstable
 - B3 - implant unstable / bone deficiency
- Type C
 - Shaft Fracture below stem



Type C

- Distal to the prosthesis
- Fracture treated in “isolation”



Reproduced from Brady et al, Orthop Clinics 1999

Type C

- Stem is stable / fx distal
- Span entire femur (overlap femoral stem)
- Locking plate construct
- Preserve vascularity - screws better than cables



RT
X TABLE

CPUSA
BERGER
5/25/15
RHR
ACC 178/472

Teck Lymn











(09:31)

Vascular Supply



PRESERVE VASCULAR SUPPLY

Priorities

- Fracture Union
- Stable Joint Replacement
- Return to Function

Summary

- Periprosthetic hip fractures are challenging
- Frequency is increasing
- Have an organized approach to treatment
- Must establish stability of implant
- PRESERVATION OF VASCULARITY IS PARAMOUNT

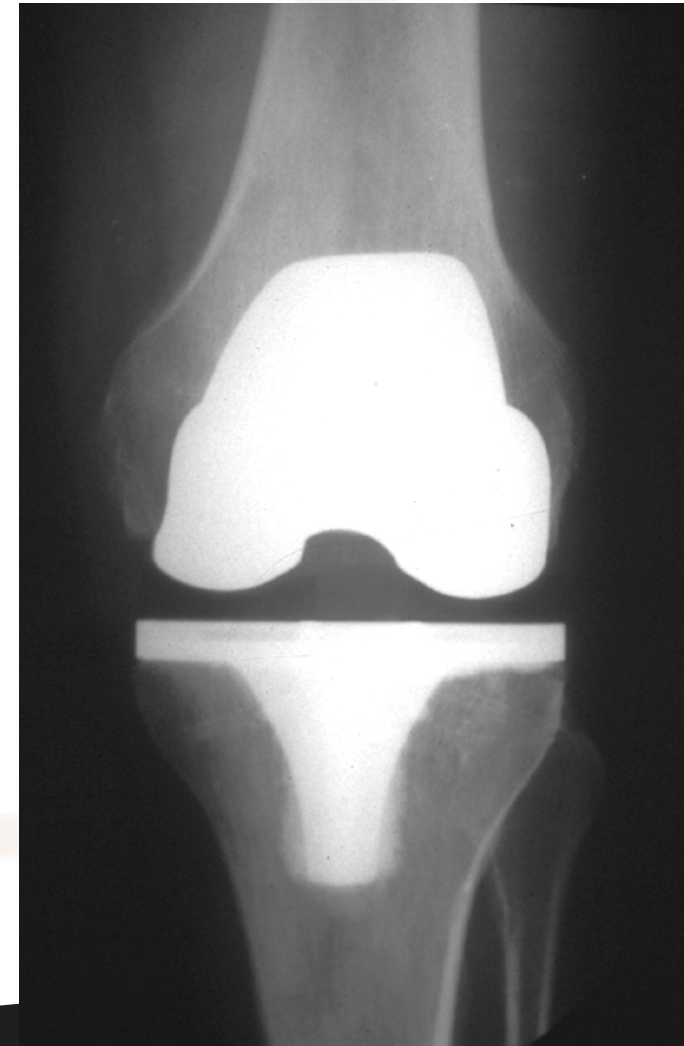
Periprosthetic Fractures of the Knee



Scope

- # TKA's increasing exponentially
- Approximately 300,000 TKA's done annually
- Volume of TKA will double by the year 2030

• *AAOS
Projection*



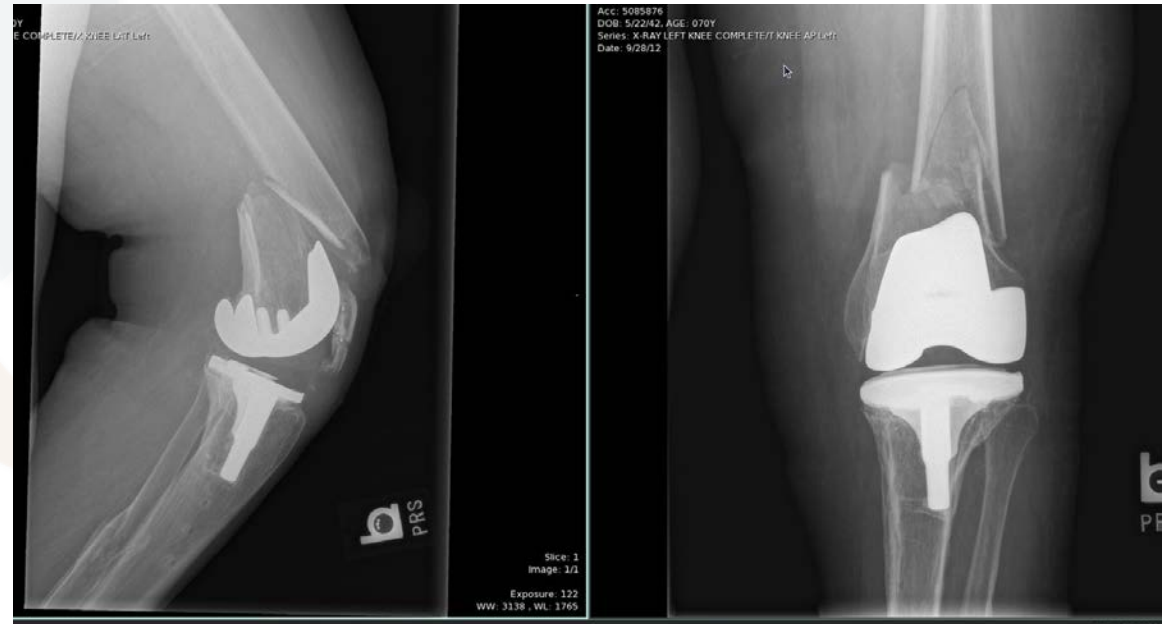
Scope

- Prevalence of periprosthetic knee fractures → 2.8%
 - Mayo Clinic Registry – 19,810 primary and revision TKA
 - 2.3% following primary TKA
 - 6.3% following revision TKA



Scope

- 2.8% prevalence in a procedure performed 300,000 times annually
 - 300,000 X 3% 9,000/year
- Growing elderly population
- Osteoporosis



TKA Periprosthetic Fracture

- Periprosthetic Femur fractures
- Periprosthetic Tibial fractures
- Patella fractures

TKA Periprosthetic Fracture

- **Periprosthetic Femur fractures**
- Periprosthetic Tibial fractures
- Patella fractures

Risk Factors

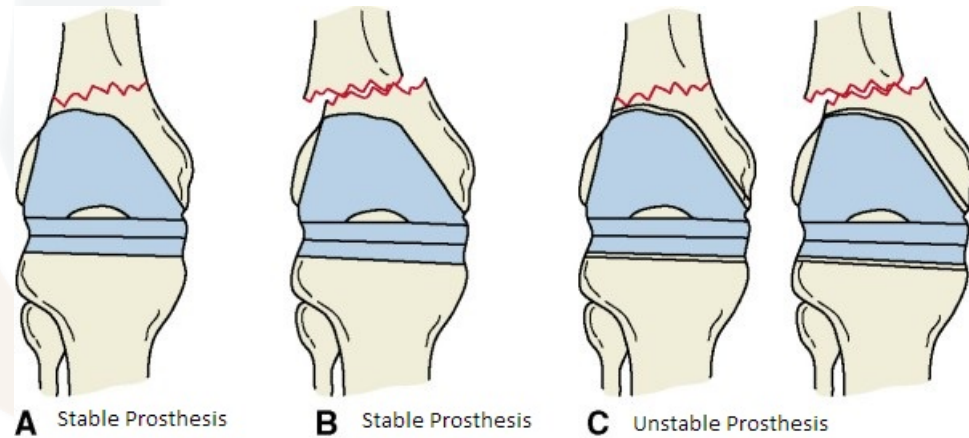
Risk Factors:

- Intraoperative Iatrogenic (Anterior Notching, etc..)
- Osteoporosis
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Neurologic Impairment
- Osteolysis



Classification

- Type 1
 - Nondisplaced fracture
 - Prosthesis intact
- Type 2
 - Displaced Fracture
 - Prosthesis intact
- Type 3
 - Displaced or Nondisplaced
 - Prosthesis Loose



Goals of Treatment

- Fracture Union
- Maintain alignment
- Rapid mobilization
- Early ROM



Management

3 questions that will affect management:

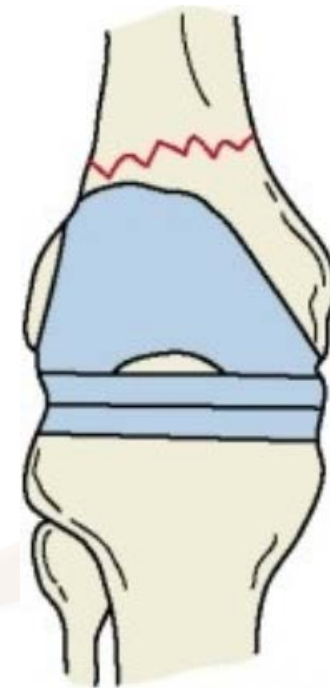
1. Is the Prosthesis Stable ?
2. Is the Fracture Displaced ?
3. Is the Bone Stock adequate for fixation?

Question #1: Is the femoral component stable?



Type 1 (Nondisplaced Fractures)

- Rare
- Nonoperative
 - Type I fx only, medically infirm, elderly
 - Immobilization with Brace or cast
 - Protect NWB with crutches/walker
 - Close frequent follow-up
 - Early intervention if unstable/malalignment



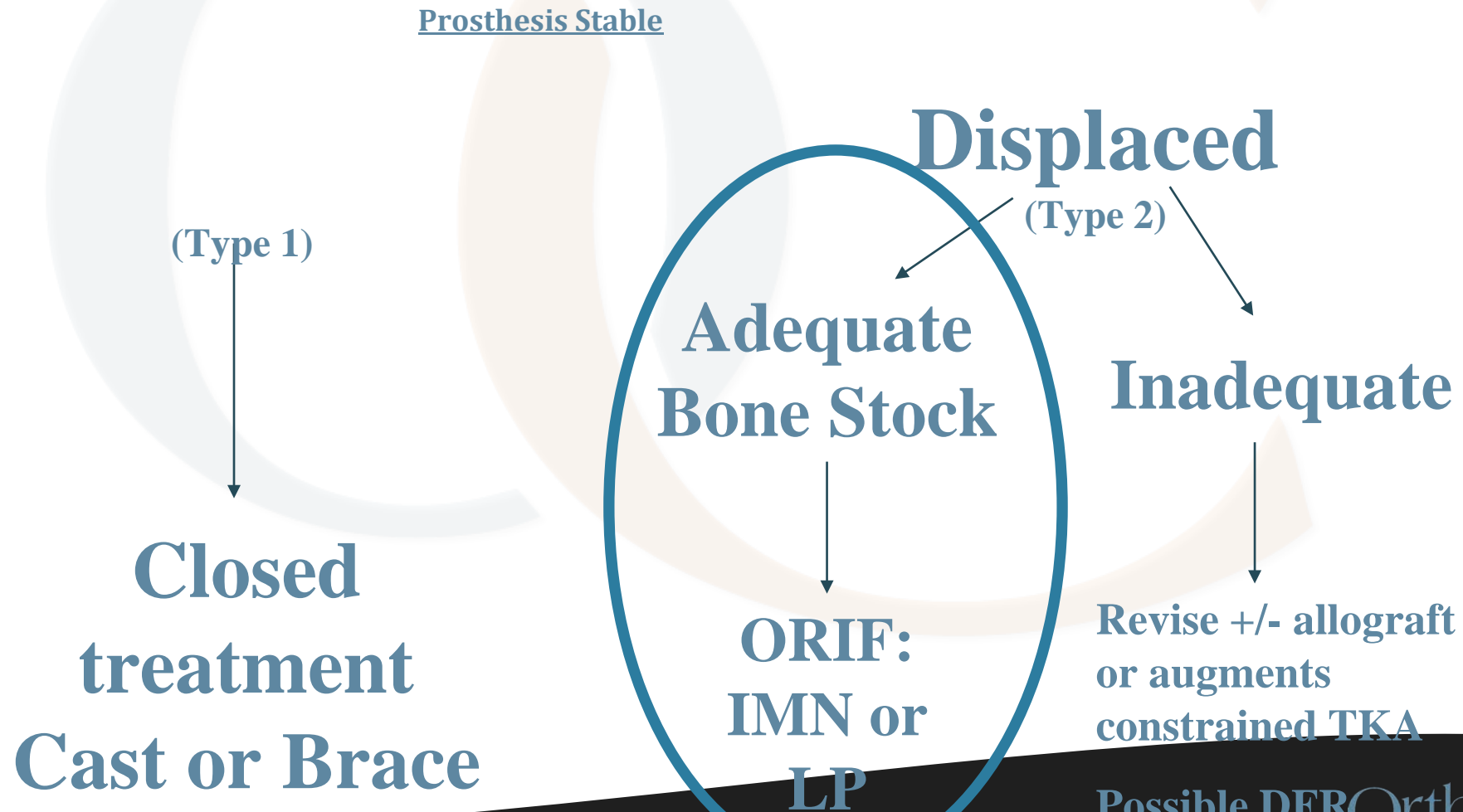
A Stable Prosthesis

Type 1

Results: Nonoperative Treatment

- 195 combined cases in literature
- Union rate 65-100%
- Patient satisfaction 67-83%
- Risks/complications of bed rest & immobility
 - Chen et al, J Arthroplasty 1994

Type 2: Displaced Fracture/Implant Stable

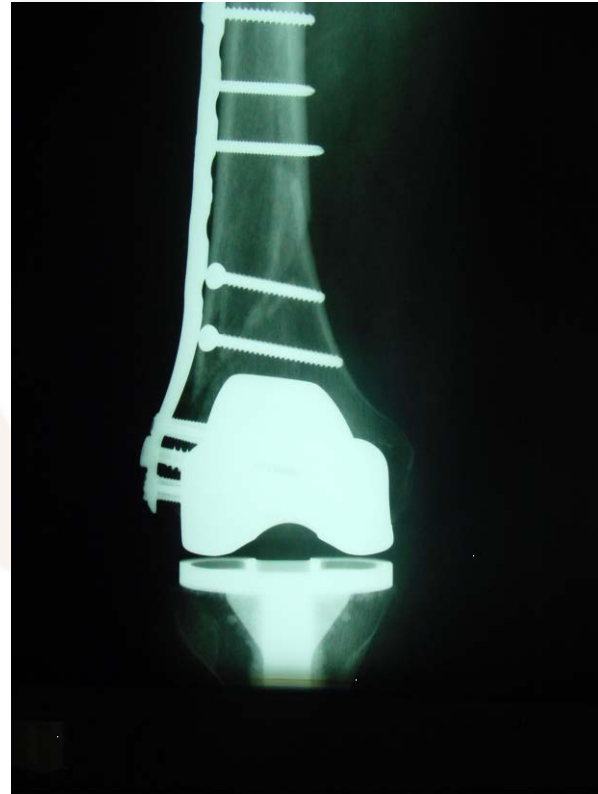


Type 2: Displaced Fracture/Implant Stable

Internal Fixation

What should I use?

- Plate/screws
- IM nail
- Locked plates
- Nail + plate



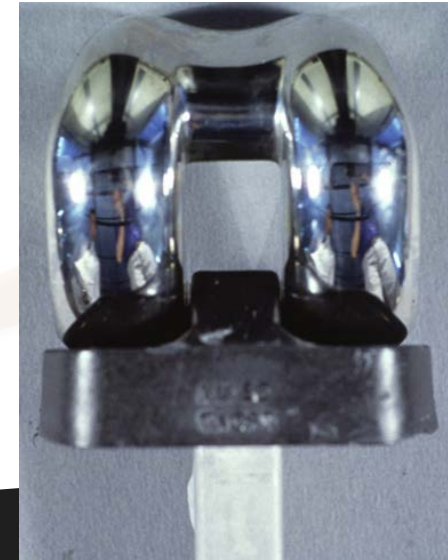
Retrograde IM Nails

Advantages:

- Soft tissue friendly
- Minimally invasive

Challenges:

- Marginal distal fixation (modern implants improving)
- PS Box
- Canal diameter considerations



Retrograde IM Nails

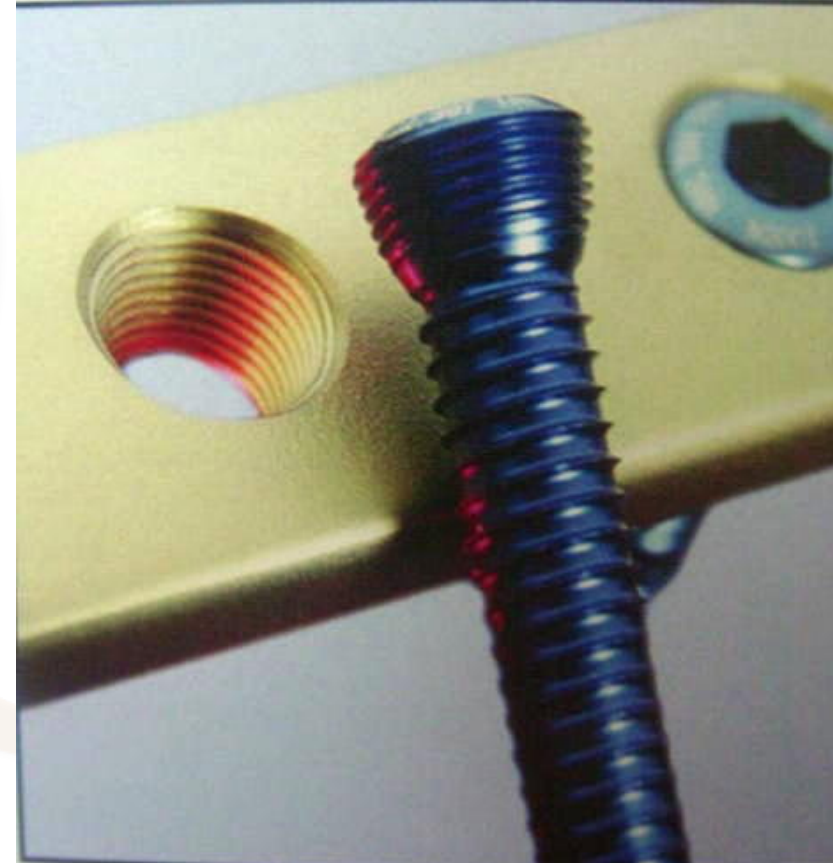
Current Indications:

- Fractures above CR design or Open Box PS
- Sufficient distal bone to allow minimum of 2.5 locking screws
- Gliatis et al at JOT 2005
 - 10 of 10 unions at 3 months
 - One malunion



Locked Condylar Plates

- Fixed angle device
 - Stability in Coronal Plane
- Increased pull out strength
- Distal convergence of screws in condyle
- Hybrid Fixation
- Percutaneous Technique

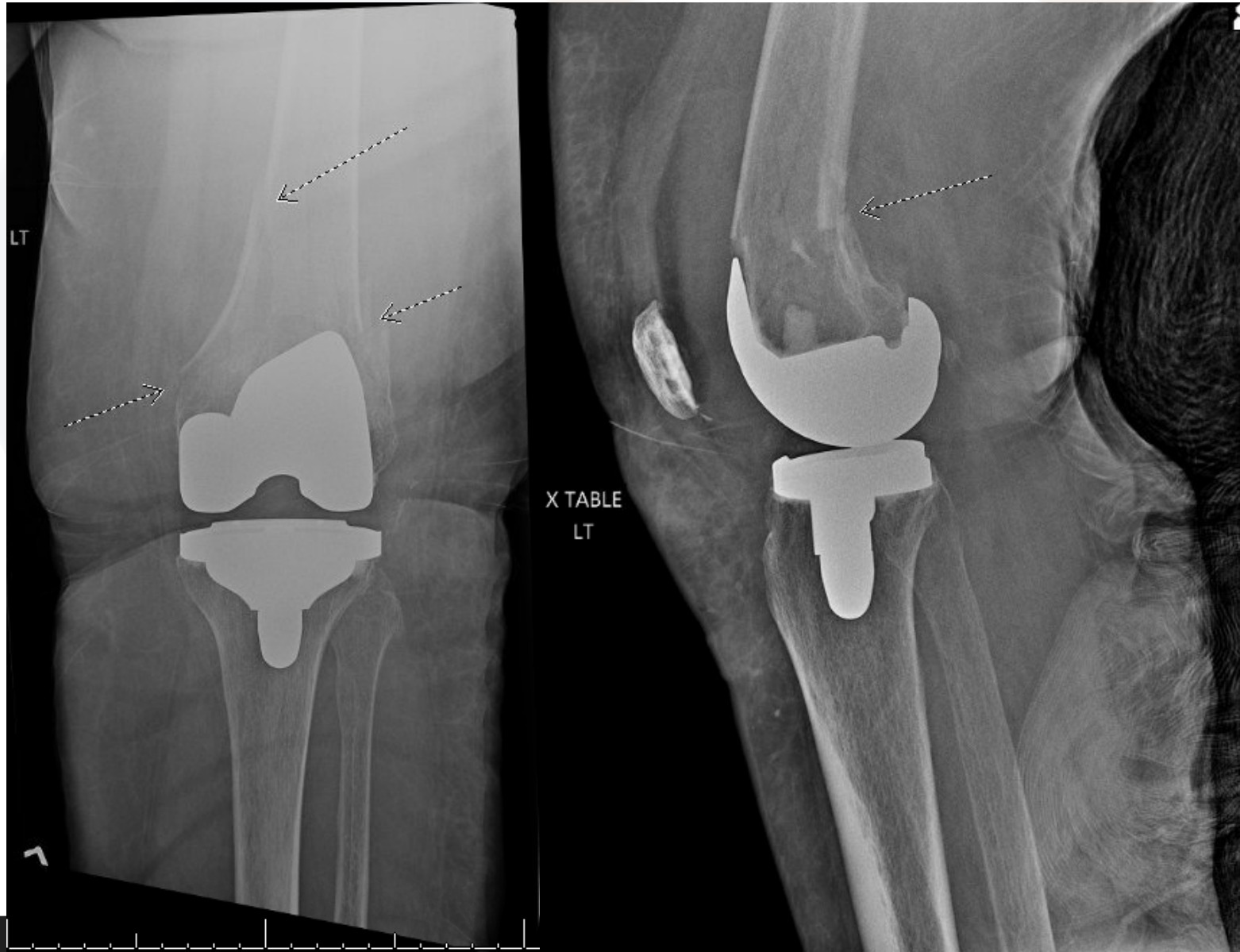


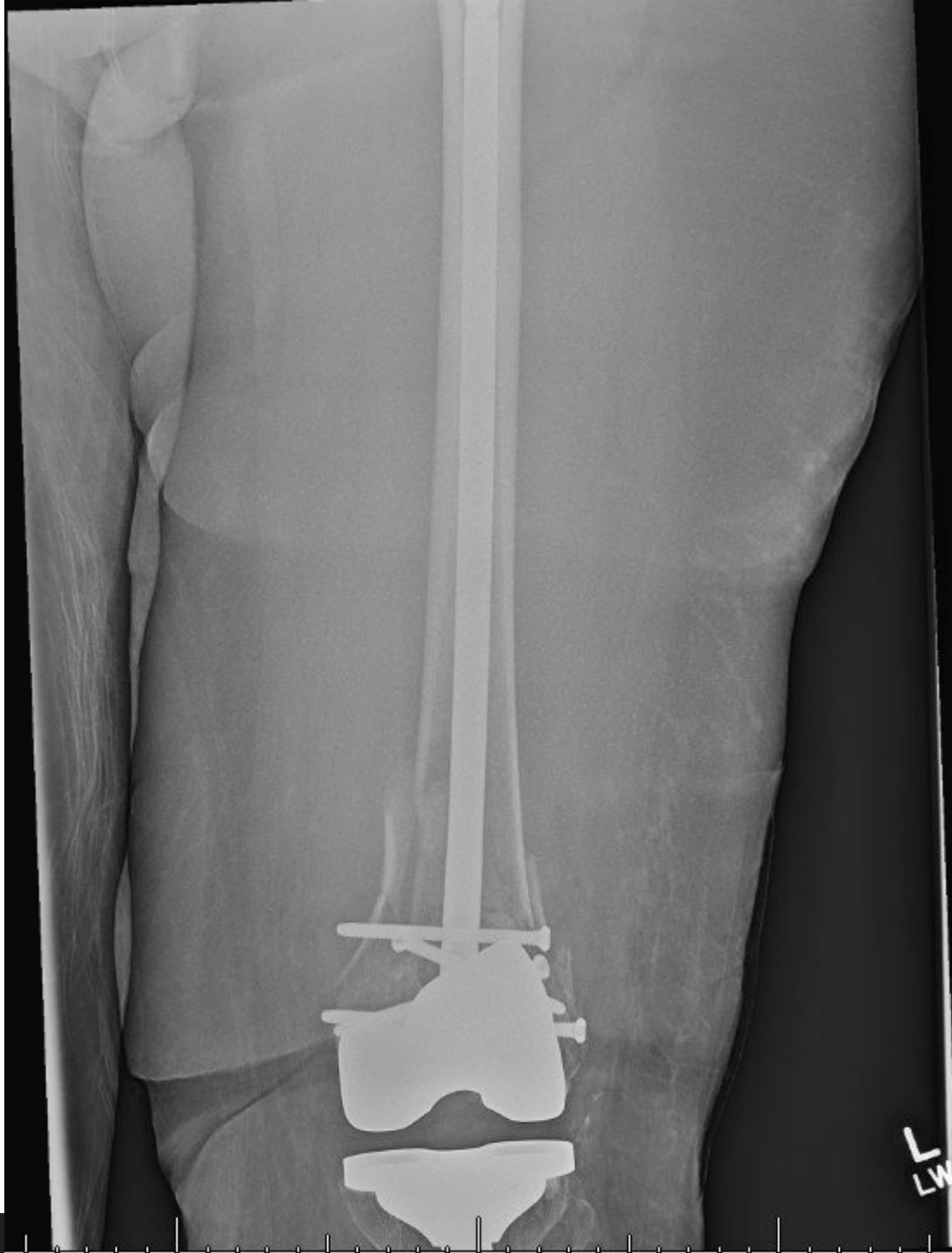
Locked Condylar Plating

- Locked condylar plating
 - Kregor et al, Injury, 2001
 - Fracture Union in 97%
 - 1 revision TKA



Case Example







LT
X-TABLE





L
SPL

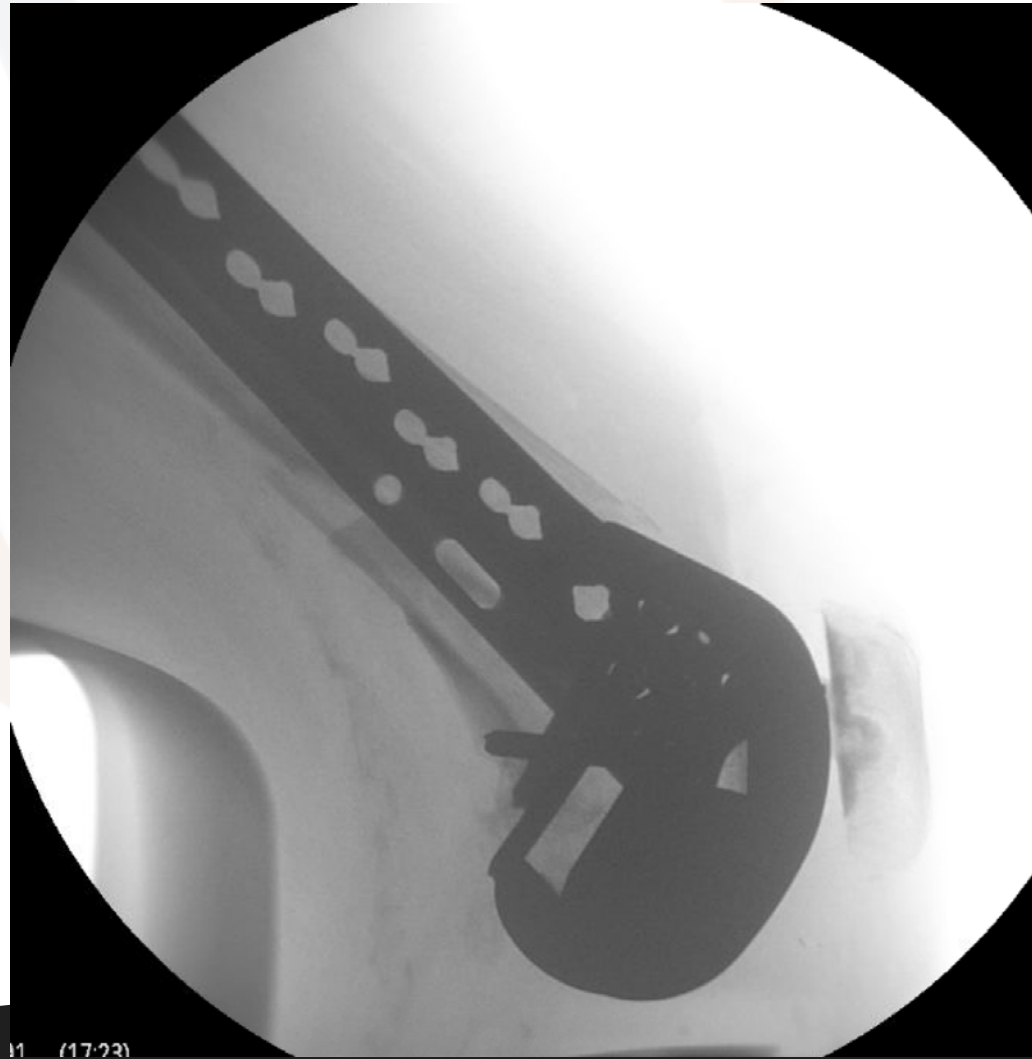


L
SPL

Case Example



Case Example



11 (17-23)

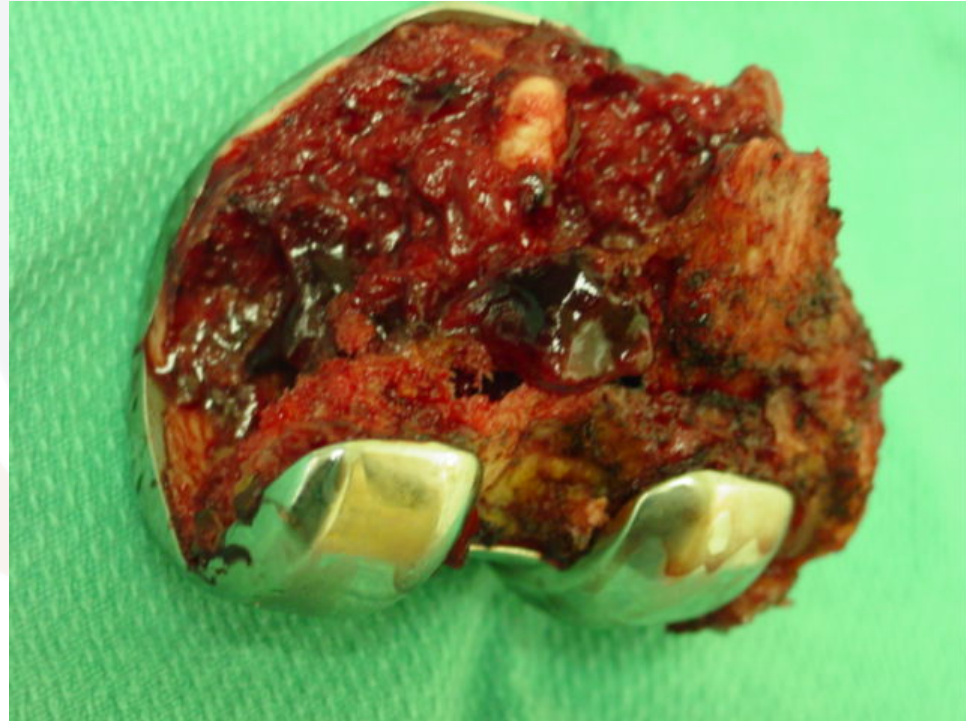
Revision TKA

- Type 2
 - Inadequate distal bone
- Type 3
 - Loose Component



Revision Options

- Long stem Revision Component with Fracture Augmentation
- Allograft Prosthetic Composite
- Distal Femoral Replacement



Long Stem Revision

Indications:

- Adequate bone stock with grossly loose component.
- Require Long Cemented vs Cementless Stems
- Use of augments or allografts



Long Stem Revision

- McLaren et al. CORR 1994
24 of 25 satisfactory results in long stemmed revision
- Kress et al: JOA 1993
100% union at 6 months
- Culp et al: CORR 1984
Revision for acute fractures
earlier mobilization
better ROM
better functional outcome

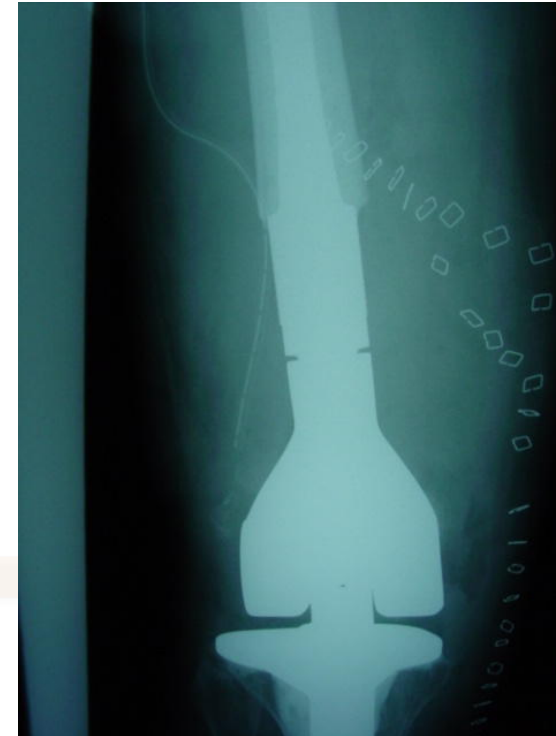
Distal Femoral Replacement

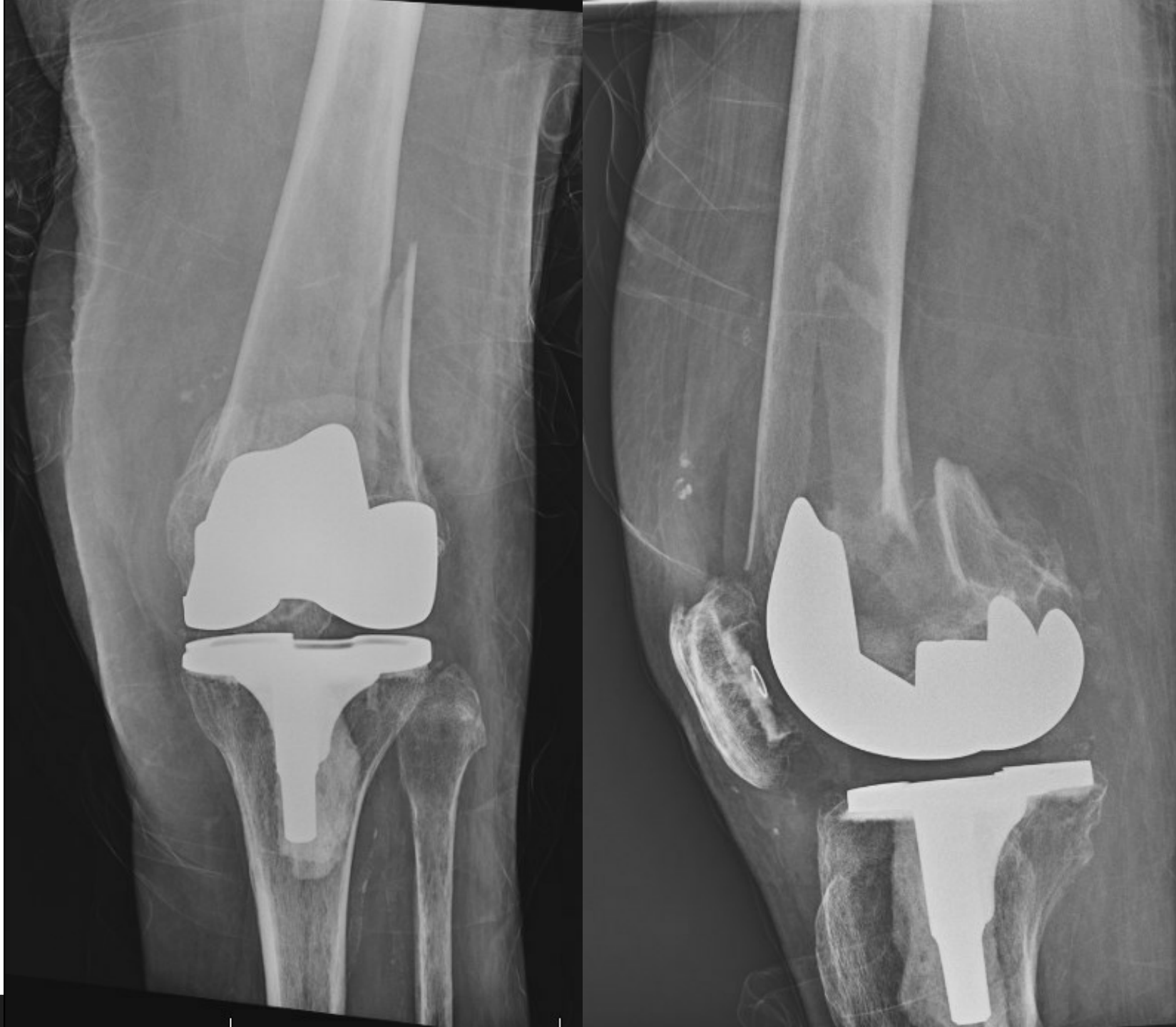
- Primary treatment for many type II and III
- Salvage of failed ORIF
- Elderly patients with poor bone stock

Davilia et al JOT 2001

Freedman et al JOT 1995

- Early ambulation
- avg 99dg ROM
- All had extensor lag







L

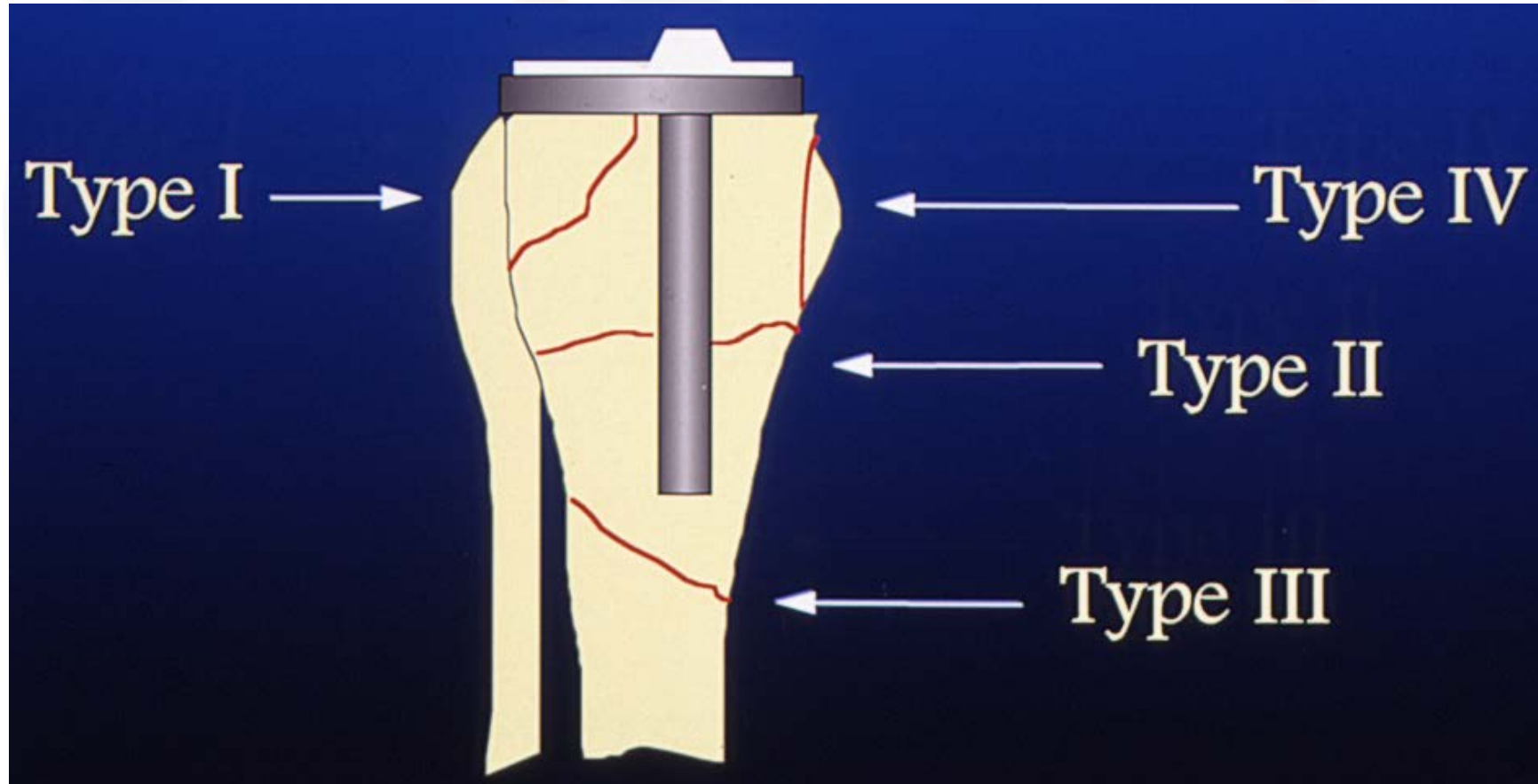
Right Supine

PACU

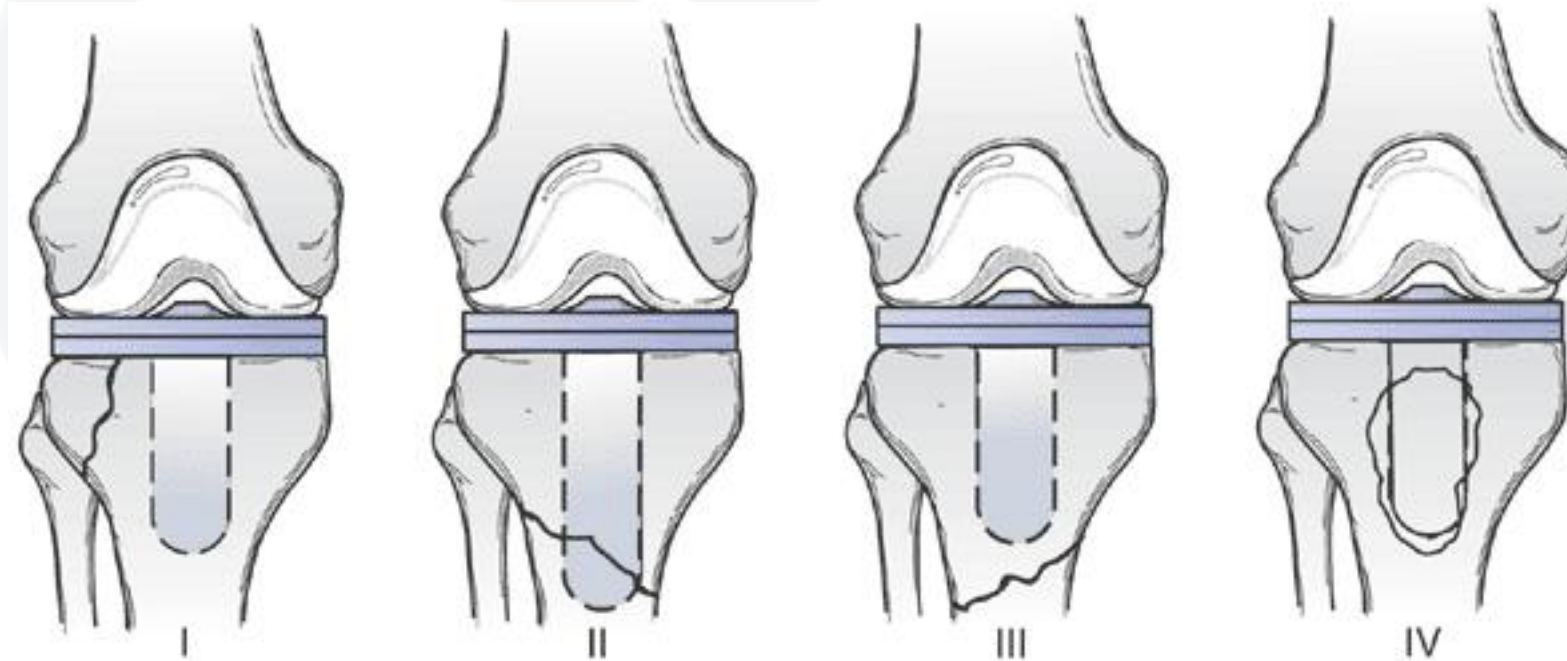
TKA Periprosthetic Fracture

- Periprosthetic Femur fractures
- **Periprosthetic Tibial fractures**
- Patella fractures

Periprosthetic Tibial fractures



Periprosthetic Tibial fractures

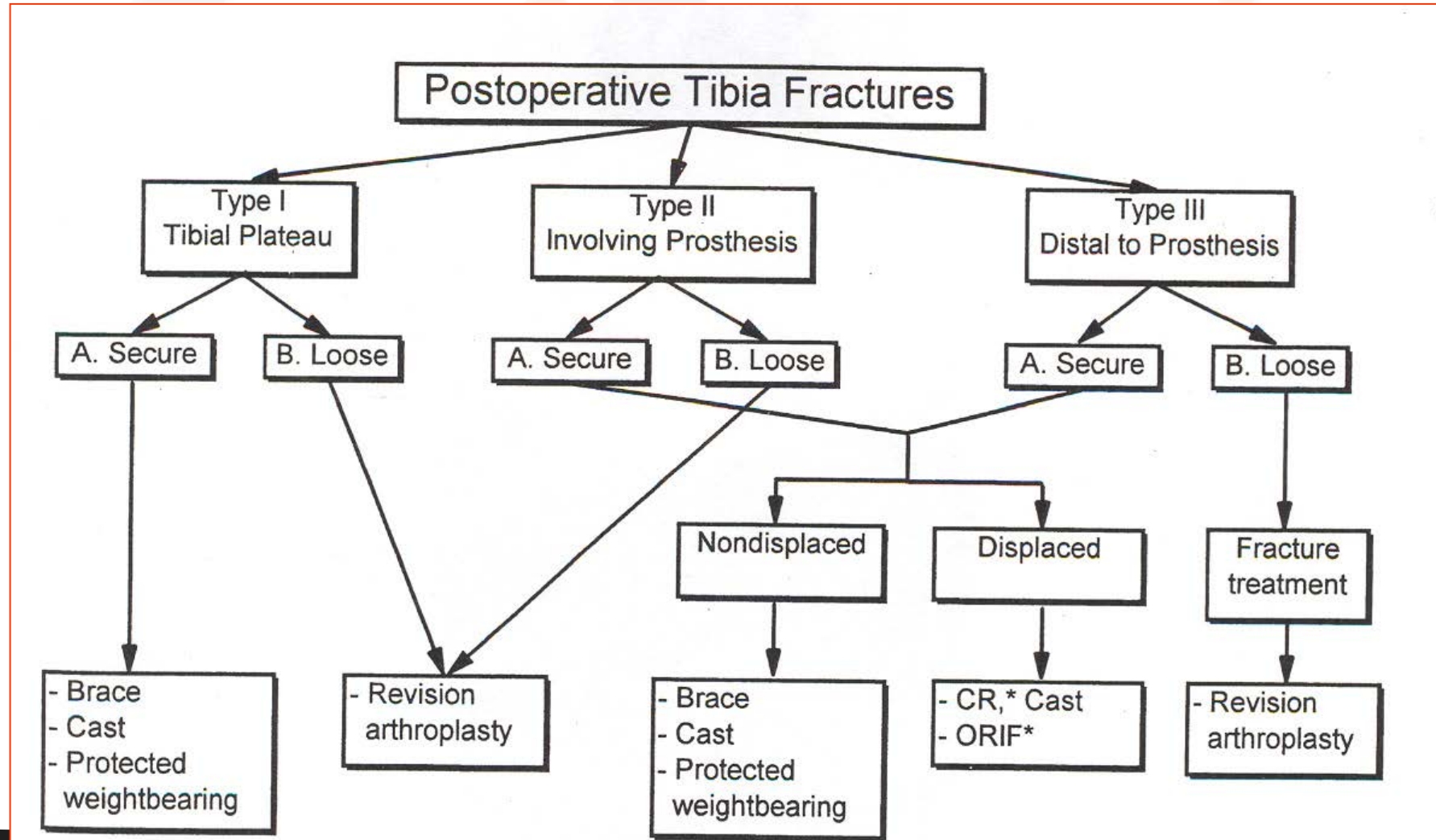


Periprosthetic Tibial Fractures

Classification

- Subtype A: Implant well fixed
 - Subtype B: Implant loose
 - Subtype C: Intraoperative
- Felix et al, CORR 345:113-134, 1997

Periprosthetic Tibial Fractures



Periprosthetic Tibial Fractures

Recommendations

- Loose Implant
 - Revise
- Stable Implant/Non-displaced
 - Conservative
- Stable Implant/Displaced
 - ORIF/IMN





AP



RT



RT

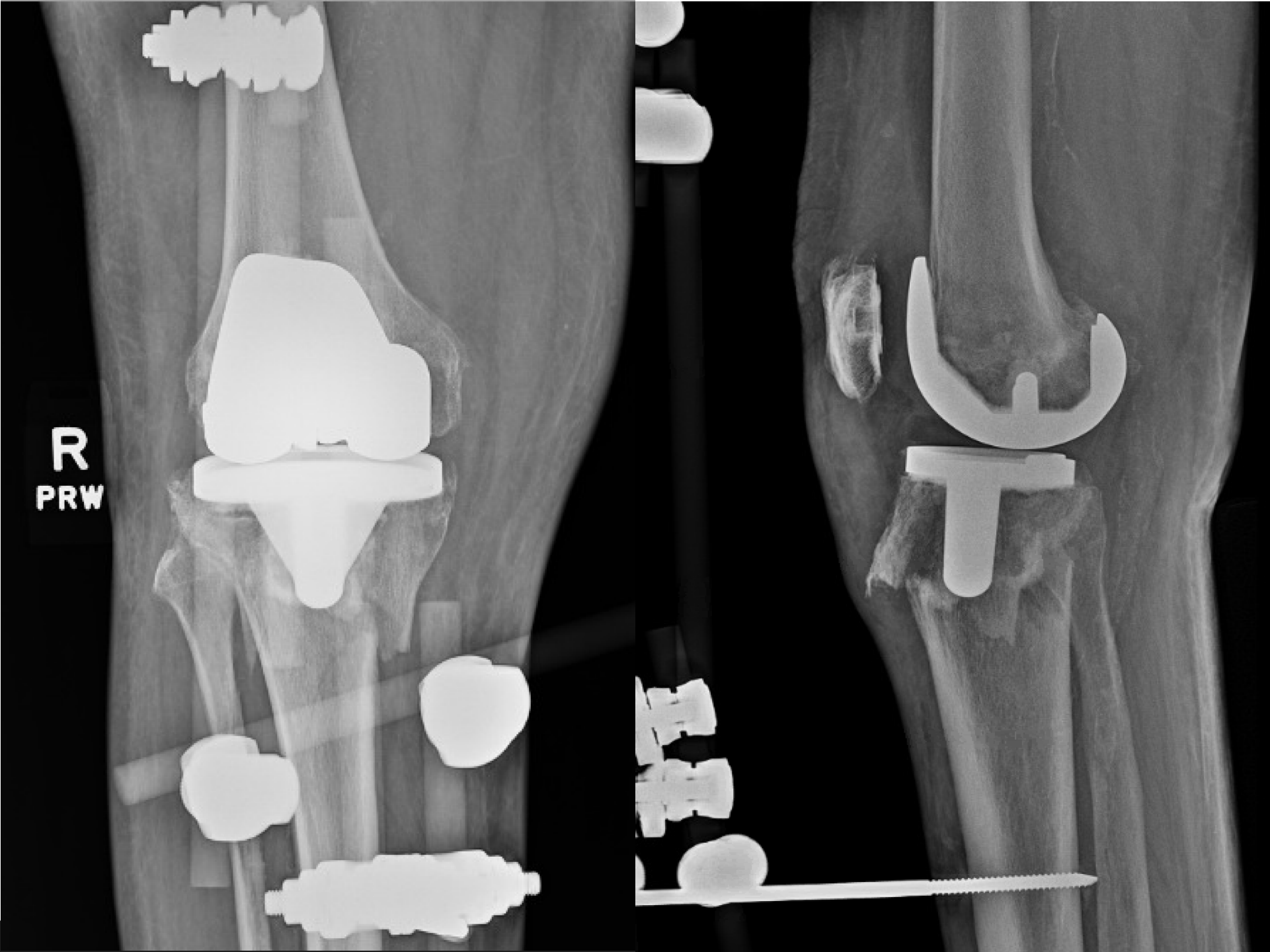


RT

X-TABLE



R
PRW

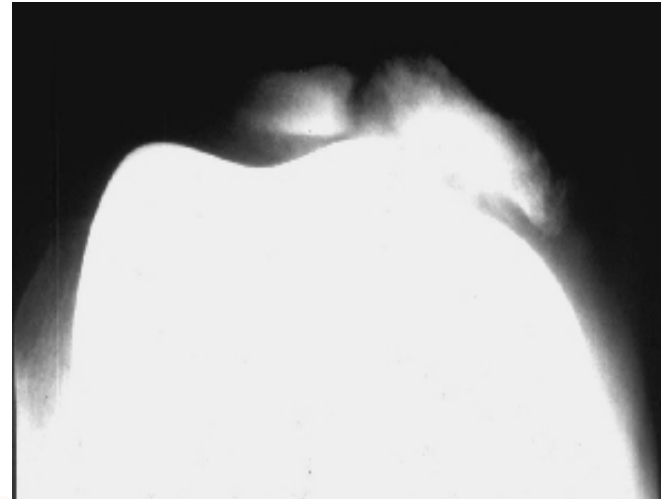


TKA Periprosthetic Fracture

- Periprosthetic Femur fractures
- Periprosthetic Tibial fractures
- **Patella fractures**

Patella Fractures

- Predisposing Technical Factors
 - Excessive resection
 - Large central hole
 - Overstuffing the PF joint
 - Malalignment
 - Lateral geniculate sacrifice during lateral release



Patella Fractures

Management Principal:

The extensor
mechanism is the key!

Patella Fractures

Type I → stable implant
→ intact extensor mechanism

Treatment → immobilization
→ 37/38 satisfied

Ortiguera/Berry

JBJS, 2002

Patella Fractures

Type II → disrupted extensor mechanism
→ +/- stable implant

Treatment → operative
→ 50% complication rate
42% reoperation rate

Ortiguera/Berry

JBJS, 2002

Extensor Mechanism Disruption

Mayo series

- Abdel, Hanssen
 - 65 of 77 functioning well at average 4 years
 - Complication of extensor lag average of **26 degrees**



Summary Knee

- Frequency Increasing
- Supracondylar Fractures with well fixed components: Locked Condylar Plate vs IM Nail vs. Nail+Plate
- Loose Components = Revision TKA
- Stable = conservative vs. ORIF
- Patella Fractures: Extensor Mechanism is Key
 - Operative intervention historically has yielded poor results

Summary

- Goals
 - Fracture Union
 - Maintain alignment
 - Rapid mobilization
 - Early ROM



Summary

- Treatment must be individualized
 - Location of Fracture
 - Stability of the Component
 - Bone quality
 - Patient capabilities/needs

Thanks to Bryan Springer, Walt Beaver, and Josef Jolissaint

