# A brief review of the Aging Knee

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# **Types of Injuries**

- Acute Muscle Injuries:
  - Contusions
  - Strains
  - Lacerations
- Overuse Injuries
  - Tendinosis
  - Stress Fractures



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# Muscle Strains (Stretch induced muscle injury)

- Indirect injury to muscle
- Most common action is sudden deceleration or acceleration
- (?) due to decreased flexibility of the sarcomere at this level.



# Muscle Strains (Stretch induced muscle injury)

Most commonly in muscles that:

- (a) cross 2 joints and
- (b) have a relatively high content of fast twitch muscle fibers

(e.g.) hamstrings, rectus femoris, medial head of the gastrocnemius muscle.

(c) muscles that have dual innervation (e.g.) adductor magnus, upper ext. muscles

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0363-5465/88/1602-0123\$02.00/0 THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SPORTS MEDICINE, Vol. 16, No. 2 © 1988 American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine

AJSM, 1988

# The role of warmup in muscular injury prevention\*

MARC R. SAFRAN, MD, WILLIAM E. GARRETT JR, M ANTHONY V. SEABER,† RICHARD R. GLISSON, AND BETH M. RIBBE

> From the Duke University Medical Center, Orthopaedic Research Labo Durham, North

- Greater length change before failure
- More tension before failure
- Requires more force to failure
- Relative increase in elasticity



# Muscle Strains (Stretch induced muscle injury)

- Predisposition to muscle strain
  - strength imbalance
  - decreased flexibility
  - fatigue / overuse / inadequate recovery
  - immobilization
  - previous injury
  - inadequate warm-up
  - faulty technique / biomechanics

Muscle Strains (Stretch induced muscle injury)

- Protective effects against muscle strains:
- Muscle strengthening
  - especially eccentric
  - muscle stretching and flexibility
  - warm up



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# Muscle Strains (Stretch induced muscle injury)

- Use of NSAIDs is controversial.
- Early studies suggested that NSAIDs might delay muscle regeneration in a strain injury.
- More recent studies show no detriment due to NSAID use, however there was also no help in improving the clinical course of this injury.
- Use of NSAIDs for pain management only is recommended.

Overuse Injuries bone/tendon/cartilage?

- Overuse injury: a repetitive submaximal/subclinical trauma that over-exceeds tissue's clinical responsiveness pain/ movement dysfunction.
- Altered neuromotor control is often associated
- Restoration of neuromuscular control is the main treatment goal: muscle strengthening /improved body movements

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# **Tendonitis / Tendinosis**

Landmark publication by Kraushaar and Nirschl (1999).

- electron microscopy sections of human lateral epicondyle tendons clinically identified as *tendinitis*
- demonstrated that there was a conspicuous absence of cells associated with inflammation *"tendinitis"* (a term implying inflammation)

 successfully demonstrated that the underlying pathology, instead, represented a chronic degenerative condition referred to as *"tendinosis"*

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# **Tendinopathies**

- Current explanation is protein synthesis.... Production (repair) cannot keep up with degradation
- Results in negative balance ('abusive' training)

# **Tendinopathies**

- Tendon core has only limited renewal capacity.
- Graduated strength training, along with gentle stretch, best treatment for tendinopathies.
- Robust evidence the eccentric training has (+) effect on regional tendinopathies, esp. patella and achilles tendon.



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# Cartilage



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# Cartilage

- smooth, white material that lines our joints (like the shiny end of a chicken bone)
- present in every joint, thicker in our large joints
- avascular (without a blood supply)
- minimal ability to repair itself w/ similar type tissue



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# Cartilage

- The tissue we know the least about
   When is loading favorable / destructive
- Acute exercise can alter cartilage thickness (water)
- Loaded area become compressed, overall volume does not change much. Likely shifting of water





# Cartilage

- Cartilage undergoes atrophy (thinning) under reduced loading conditions (postoperative immobilization and paraplegia).
- Cartilage under increased loading (as encountered by elite athletes) is not associated with increased average cartilage thickness.
- Findings in twins. suggest a strong genetic contribution to cartilage morphology / health.

Eckstein F.; et al.; J Anat, 2006

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# **Focal Cartilage Defects**

- Microfracture
- Osteochondral Autograft Transfer (OATs)
- Matrix Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation–MACI;
- Osteochondral Allograft Transplantation–OCA

Limited publications concerning return to athletic endeavors.



# Chondral Injury Lesions > 2cm<sup>2</sup>



# **Regenerative Rx.**

- Emerging theories in regenerative medicine specific treatments including:
  - prolotherapy
  - platelet rich plasma (PRP)
  - autologous mesenchymal stems cells (MSCs)
  - alpha 2 macroglobin
  - human tissue derived allograft products.

Mulvaney, et al., Endurance and Sports Medicne,2018



# **Regenerative Rx.**

- Tendon: clinical trials most robust in the literature
- Cartilage : clinical trials 1° on Osteoarthritis
- Muscle: spotty use in the literature
- Chronic Disease: most common applications
- Acute Injuries: investigational at this time



# Meniscus Tear Imaging

- Xrays:
  - joint space
- MRI
  - 90% accurate
    - False + in children rely on physical exam
    - False + in asymptomatic patients
      - 36% at age 45

**Meniscus Tear** 

MRI Classification





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## **Meniscus Tears**







## Meniscectomy – Total

- Avoid if possible!
- Contact area reduced by 75%
- Peak load increased by 235%
- ACL graft force increases 33-50%
- Post-meniscectomy arthritis





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# **Meniscectomy – Partial**

- Retains some meniscal function
- Prevents peak concentration of forces
- Even small rim may provide some A-P stability Preserve as much meniscus as possible



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# **Bone Edema**





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# Cartilage Wear / Arthritis



# **Physical exam**

#### Alignment

- > Correctible vs fixed
- Range of Motion
  - Flexion contracture
  - Reduced flexion

#### Stability

> 'pseudolaxity'







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# X-rays : Weight bearing



- Alignment
- Joint space narrowing
- Osteophytes : Bone Spurs









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# **Arthritis on Xrays**





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# **Stages of cartilage wear**

Grade 0: No OA	Grade 1: Doubtful OA	Grade 2: Mild OA	Grade 3: Moderate OA	Grade 4: Severe OA
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# Cartilage: normal to 'wear'







### **Bare Bone**











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# **Managing the Arthritic Knee**

- Anti-inflammatory medications (orals)
- Glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate
- Activity modification
- Assistive devices for walking (cane/walking sticks)
- Physical therapy/ strength training. (esp. CORE)
- Cortisone injections into the knee joint (how many??)
- Viscosupplementation injections (rooster comb)
- Weight loss (20 %)

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# When Surgery Is Recommended

- Pain or stiffness\* that limits everyday activities walking, climbing stairs, getting in & out of chairs
- Pain at rest, either day or night
- Chronic knee swelling w/ no improvement (non-op)
- Knee deformity a bowed leg or knock knees
- Failure to substantially improve with other treatments
- Loss of knee motion\* that restricts stair climbing.

# PAIN !!! Limited Motion Limited Activities

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# **Surgical Optimization (MHFV)**

	<u>Optimized</u>	<b>Discussion</b>
<ul> <li>Hemoglobin</li> </ul>	>12.0	≤12.0
Hemoglobin A1	c <8.0	≥8.0
• BMI	18.5-45.0	<18.5-≥45.0

(opioid use, smoking cessation, ETOH)

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# **Risks of the procedure**

- Early
  - •Bleeding
  - Infection
  - •Blood clots in the legs or lungs
- Late
  - •Loosening or wearing out of the prosthesis
  - Fracture
  - •Continued pain or stiffness (115° knee motion)
  - Infections

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# **Setting Expectations**

- Pain reduction
- Improvement in activities of daily living
- Some improvement in motion (extension more than flexion)
- Realistic activities : unlimited walking, swimming, golf, driving, light hiking, biking, ballroom dancing, and other low-impact sports.
- most surgeons advise against high-impact activities: running, jogging, jumping, or other high-impact sports

## Does not give you back your youth !

# Hip vs Knee

- A hip replacement is a much less painful operation. People are on crutches for a while, and then their hips feel nearly normal.
- It takes six months to a year to recover from total knee surgery, and even then, the knee just doesn't feel normal.

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# Knee & Hip Replacement a growing crisis in Health Care

- @ 790,000 total knee replacements and 450,000 hip replacements are performed annually in the U.S.
- Surgical population is getting younger
- Patients are pushing the envelop of activities and



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## **Total Knees by the numbers:**

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## **Total Knees by the numbers:**





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#### For Revision TKA:

- infection
- aseptic loosening
- unexplained pain

#### For Revision THA:

• periprosthetic fracture

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Infection

Compared to primary Total Joints, Revision surgeries:

- increased rates of complications
- longer length of hospital stay
- prolonged surgical time
- higher blood loss w/ increased need for transfusion
- higher rates of prosthetic joint infections

# **Revision Rates**

- Knee: ten-year survival rate 95.6%.
  - Age 46-50: 22.4%
  - decreased linearly with increasing age to
  - Age 90-95: 1.15%
  - Young males, aged 46 -50 years (25.2%).
- Hip revisions:
  - 21% were re-revised within 15 years
  - 22% of second revisions were revised w/in 7yrs.
  - 22% of third revisions revised within 3 years.



# **Projected Revision Rates**

- By 2040:
  - rTHAs were projected to be 43,514 and
  - rTKAs were projected to be 115,147
- By 2060:
  - rTHAs was projected to be 61,764
  - rTKAs were projected to be 286,740

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# **Projected Revision Rates**





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# THANK YOU





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