

***Medial Collateral Ligament release in  
Open Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy,  
How & How much***

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# Open Wedge high Tibial Osteotomy

- Is more accurate, has the
- Advantage of using a medial approach,
- Eliminates the need for a fibular osteotomy with the risk of peroneal nerve damage and fibular pseudarthrosis

E. M. Nelissen & E. J. van Langelaan &  
R. G. H. H. Nelissen 2008

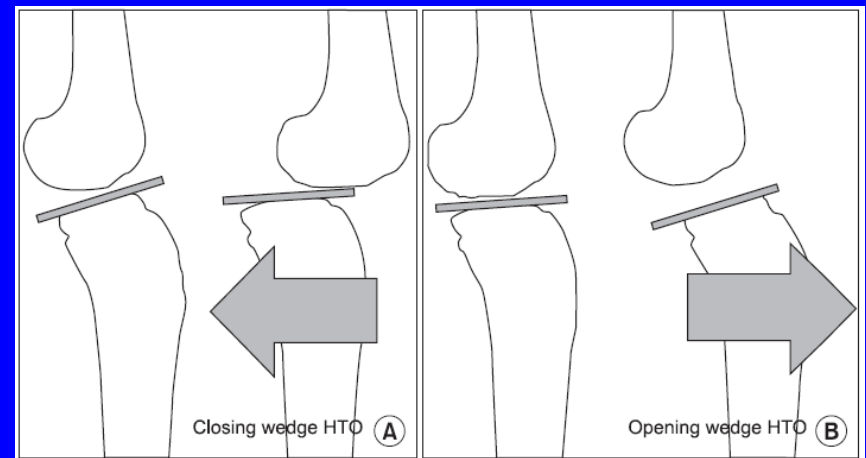
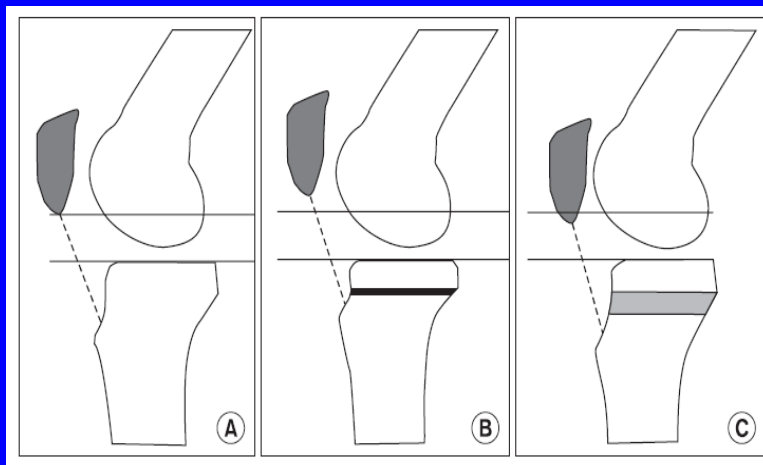
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## High Tibial Osteotomy

Dong Chul Lee, MD and Seong Joon Byun, MD  
Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Yeungnam University College of Medicine, Daegu, Korea

- Associated with high nonunion rates,
- long period of weight-bearing restriction,
- and leg lengthening.
- Other disadvantages include harvest site morbidity,
- loss of correction due to unstable fixation,
- and increase in posterior tibial slope due to anterior position of the metal plate.

# Posterior Tibial Slope and Patellar Height after HTO



# Dietrich Pape et al. 2005

- Partial release of the superficial medial collateral ligament for open-wedge high tibial osteotomy
- A human cadaver study evaluating medial joint opening by stress radiography
- Any release could affect med, joint laxity
- When valgus stress applied

- Clinically however, post-surgical valgus instability following HTO with partial MCL release is an uncommon complication.
- open-wedge procedure can re-tension an intact MCL by the width of the base of the wedge..

- This re-tentioning effect is uncertain in :
- Small wedge sizes
- Preexisting medial compartment laxity &
- In the presence of a partially detached MCL.

- a partial release of the superficial MCL for HTO does not play a crucial role in stabilizing valgus forces in the human knee.
- effect of partial versus complete release of the superficial MCL to determine medial knee laxity
- represented by the amount of medial joint opening (MJO) under valgus stress in this human cadaver study



- In ten knee pairs,
- the superficial and deep MCL were sectioned in sequence
- abduction force of 15 kp
- superficial and deep MCL were sectioned
- the superficial MCL was completely sectioned
- Group 1&2
- sectioning of the superficial MCL was restricted to the anterior border to

- MJO within knee pairs were statistically evaluated.
- Stress radiography did not reveal any significant differences in increments of MJO between knee pair specimens with complete versus partial release of the superficial MCL.
- We disproved our hypothesis and concluded that the anterior fibers of the superficial MCL do play a crucial role in maintaining valgus stability in this biomechanical setting.

# Conclusion:

- Therefore, the release of the superficial MCL for open-wedge HTO should be kept to a minimum to decrease the potential of late valgus instability

- **Does Superficial Medial Collateral Ligament Release in Open-Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy for Varus Osteoarthritic Knees Increase Valgus Laxity?**
- Seung-Suk Seo, Chang-Wan Kim, Jin-Hyuk Seo, Do-Hun Kim, Chang-Rack Lee
- *American Journal of Sports Medicine* 2016, 44 (4): 908-15
- 26823451

- : To evaluate the changes in medial laxity of the knee joint as related to the complete release of the sMCL through serial valgus stress radiographs in patients who underwent OWHTO.

- of 48 patients (54 knees)
- who received OWHTO
- followed for more than a year
- and for whom serial valgus stress radiography data were available
- were retrospectively reviewed.
- To assess the medial laxity of knee joint

urgery before release of the sMCL under anesthesia, after the well as 3, 6, and 12 months after surgery. Serially measured MJOs were a

- The MJO was measured before surgery,
- during surgery before release of the sMCL under anesthesia,
- after the well as 3, 6, and 12 months after surgery.
- Serially measured MJOs were analyzed to evaluate the changes of medial laxity.

# Results:

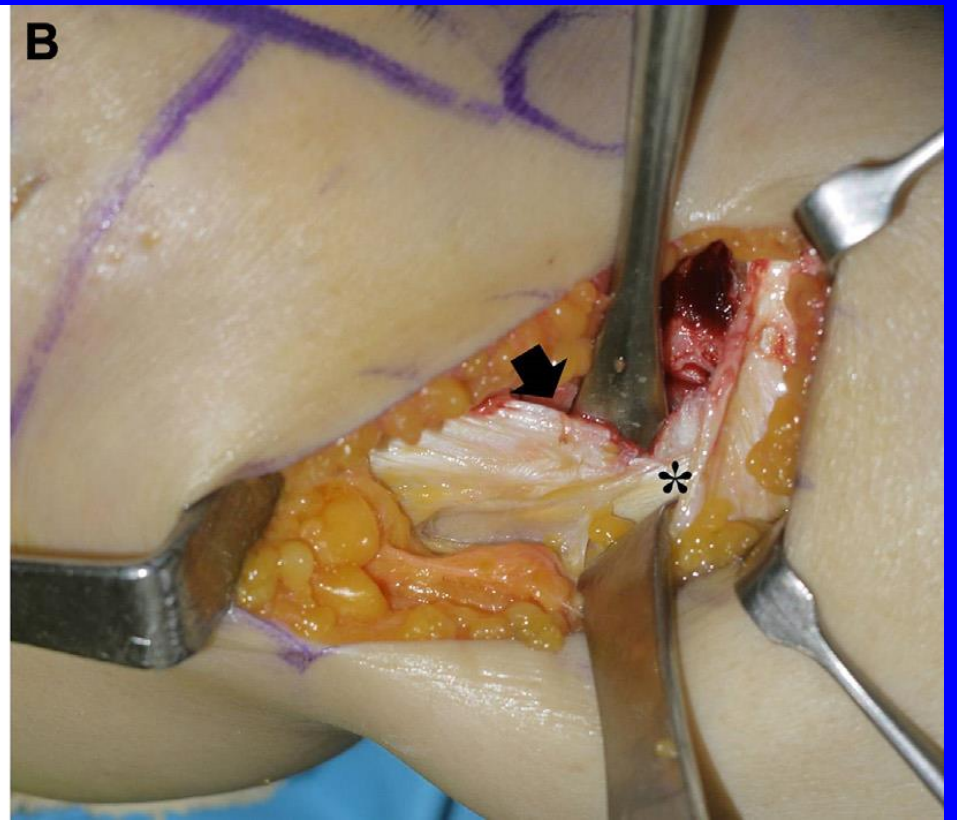
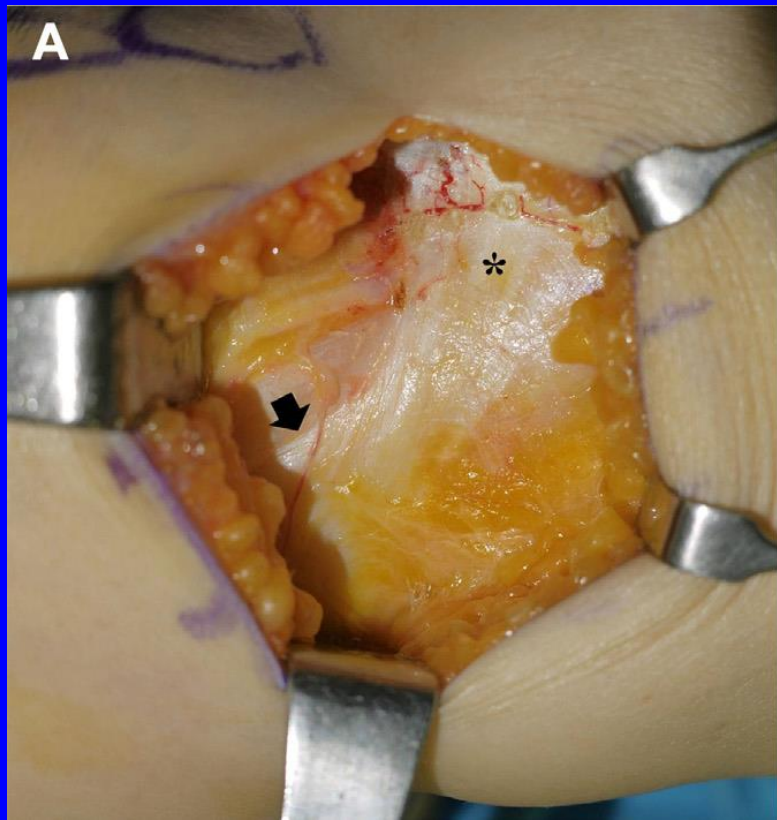
- : The MJO significantly increased after the release of the sMCL
- The MJO measured after fixing with the TomoFix plate following the opening of the osteotomy site was significantly decreased
- compared with that measured after the release of the sMCL and was not significantly different from the MJO measured before release of the sMCL.



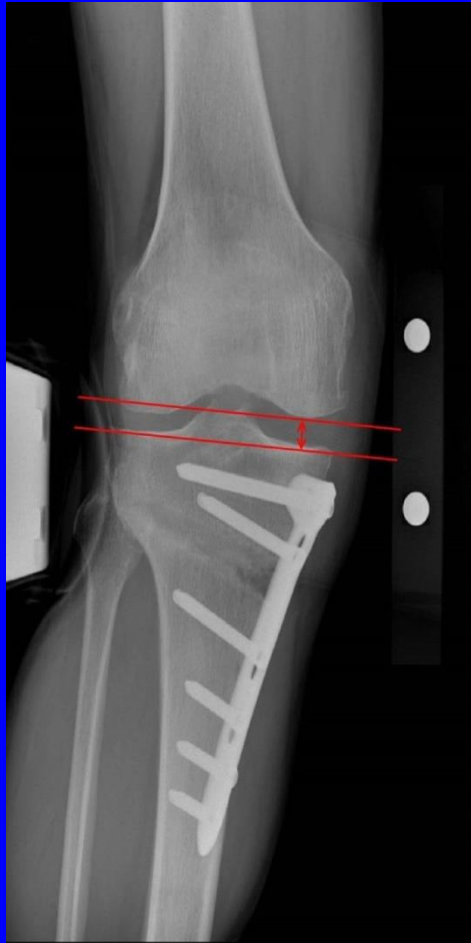
- No significant difference was observed among MJOs that were measured 3, 6, and 12 months after surgery. Comparison of MJOs before and after surgery also showed no significant differences

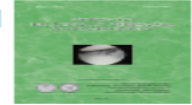
# Conclusion:

- : Complete release of the sMCL during OWHTO increases the MJO.
- However, the MJO decreased to the level before sMCL release after fixing with the TomoFix plate following the opening of the osteotomy site.
- Medial laxity induced by the complete release of the sMCL can be recovered by opening the osteotomy site.









Original Article

## The Effects of Valgus Medial Opening Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy on Articular Cartilage Pressure of the Knee: A Biomechanical Study

Jens Dominik Agneskirchner M.D. <sup>a</sup>,  , Christof Hurschler Ph.D. <sup>b</sup>, Christiane D. Wrann D.V.M. <sup>a</sup>, Philipp Lobenhoffer M.D. <sup>a</sup>

**Purpose:** The objective of this study was to quantify the effect of different loading axes and of a valgus opening wedge high tibial osteotomy (HTO) on tibiofemoral cartilage pressure.

# Campbell's Operative Orthopaedics

## 2017 p. 501

- Medial open wedge osteotomy
- is more precise, more exact correction
- Tricortical autograft iliac crest
- Rigid plate fixation
- If leg is shorter
- In patients with lax MCL+ - ACL deficient

# Cambpell's Operative Orth.

- In chronic grade III posterolateral corner instability + varus
- Arthur et al. MOWHTO as initial treatment
- 21 patients, 2/3 did not require 2<sup>nd</sup> stage lig. reconstruction
- LaPrade et al. : open wedge proximal tibial osteotomy decreased varus & external rotation laxity in posterolateral corner-deficient knees due to tightening of the sMCL

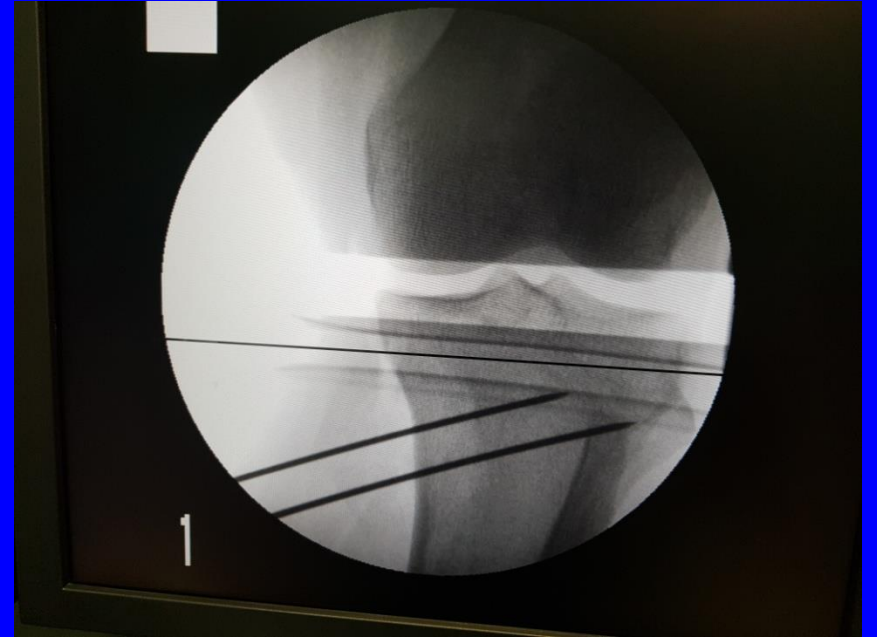


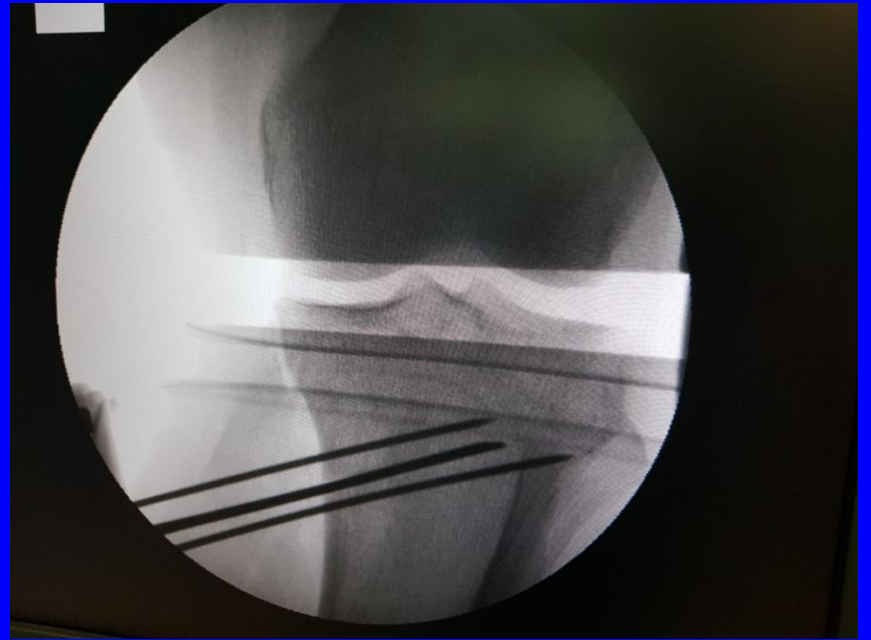
# Coventry UTO



# MOWHTO technique

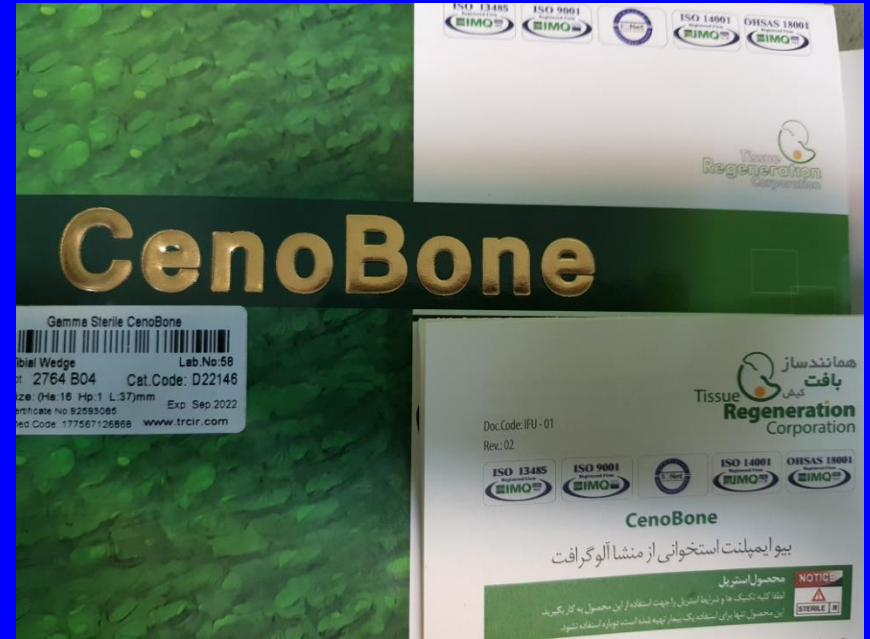


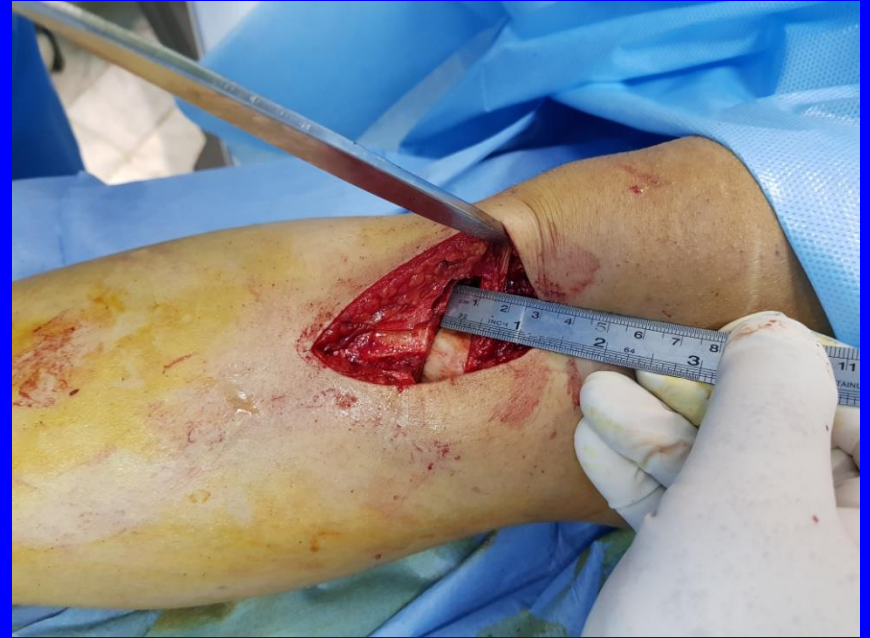




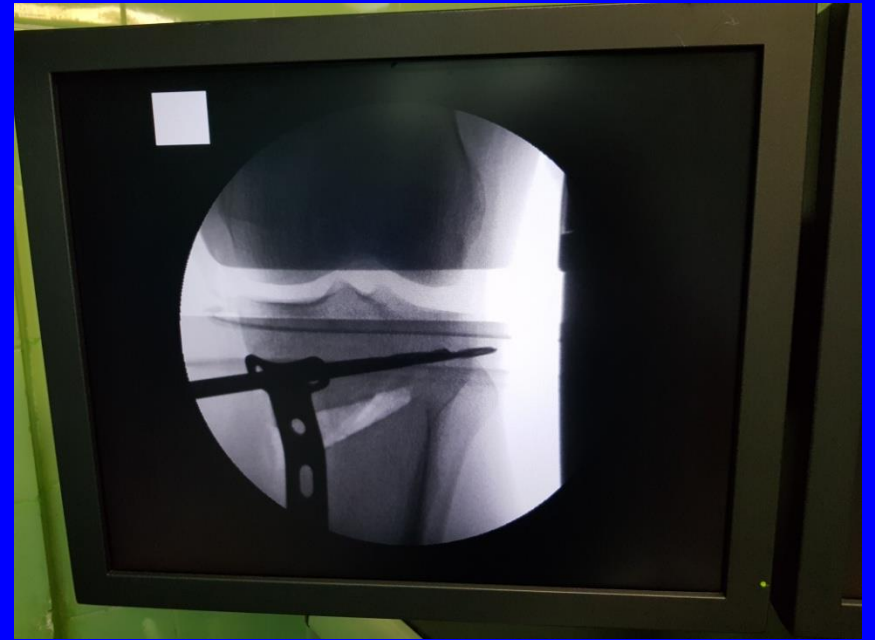
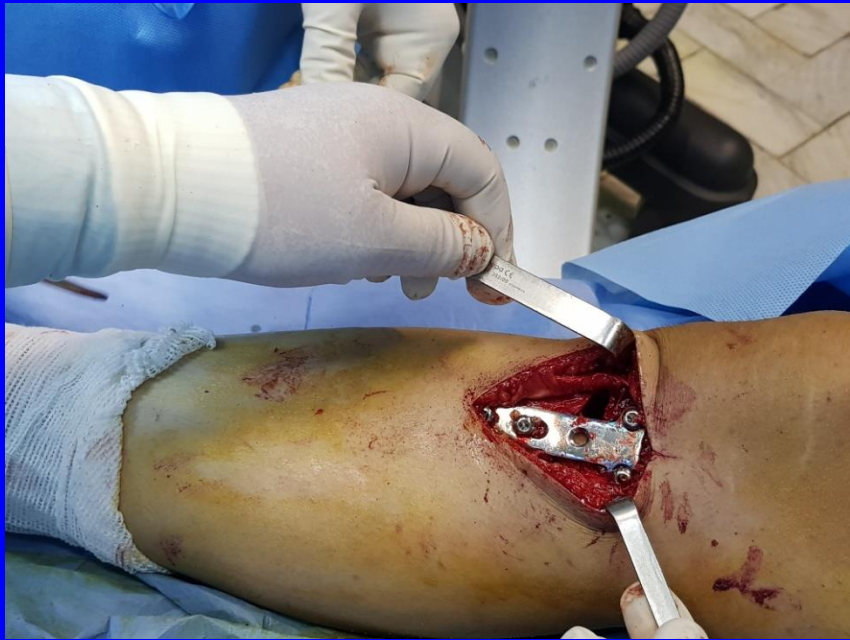




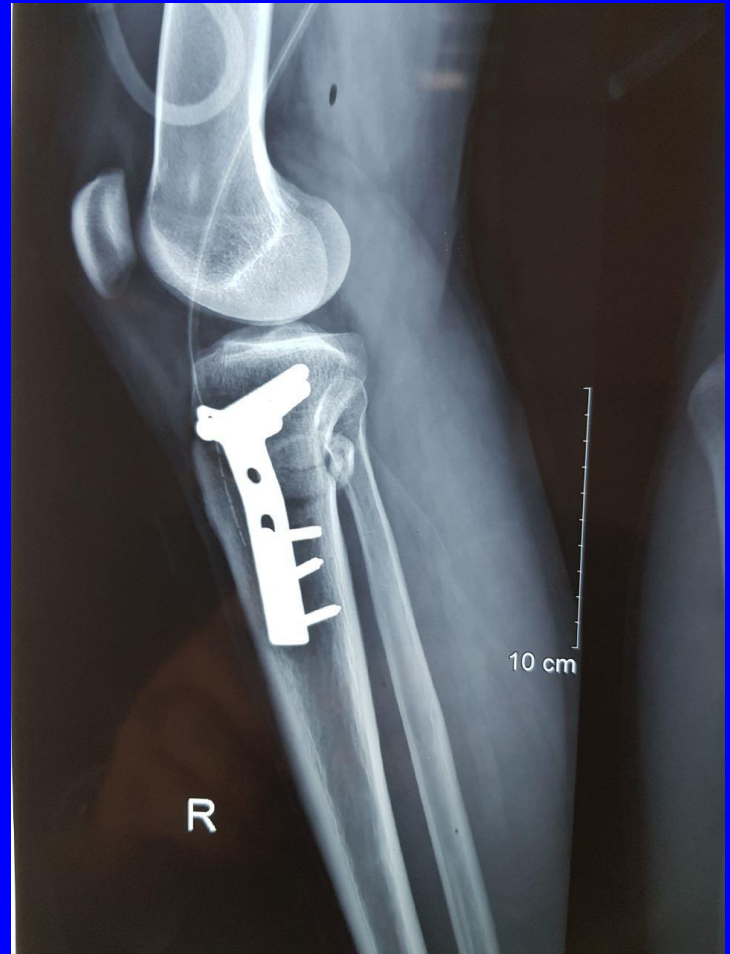
















# Complications & pitfalls











