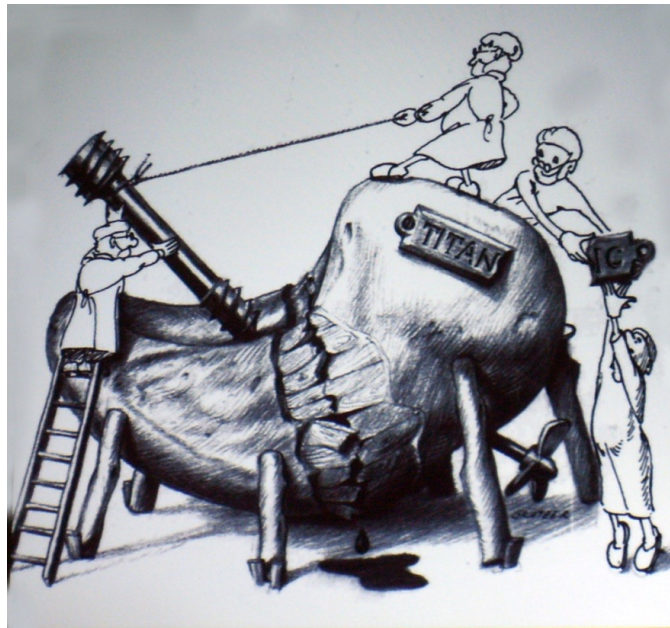


SCAPHOID FRACTURES AND NONUNION: WHEN IT'S TOO LATE...



MATTEO FERRERO

HAND SURGERY – TRAUMA CENTER C.T.O.
TURIN - ITALY



EPIDEMIOLOGY OF SCAPHOID FRACTURES

60% of carpal bone fractures

33% undiagnosed in ER

Men 82% - 10/30 y.a.

Most frequently fractured carpal bone

ABOUT 10% FAIL HEALING DESPITE PROPER
IMMOBILIZATION



CHARACTERISTICS THAT
PREDISPOSE TO NONUNION

**Ortop Clin
2020**

Scaphoid Reconstruction

Cristian S. Borges, MD^{a,b,*}, Paulo H. Ruschel, MD^{a,b},
Milton B. Pignataro, MD^{a,b}

Orthop Clin N Am 51 (2020) 65–76
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocl.2019.08.010>
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Anatomy

Mainly intraarticular (wrist stability and biomechanical function)
80% is covered by cartilage on articular surface

Radius

Trapezium

Triquetrum

Capitate

Lunate

A) Radial

B) Dorsal

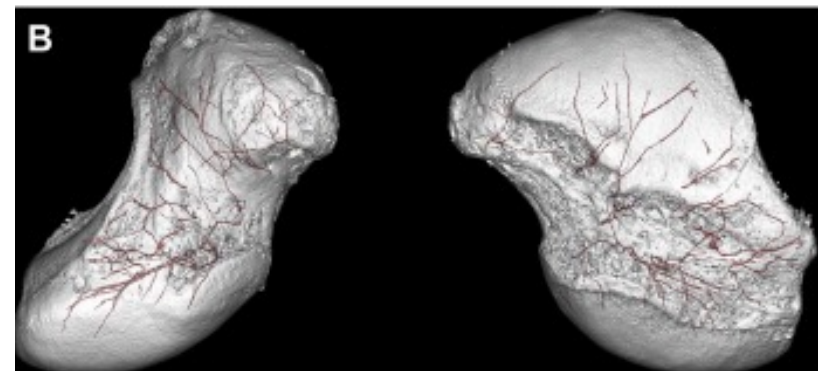
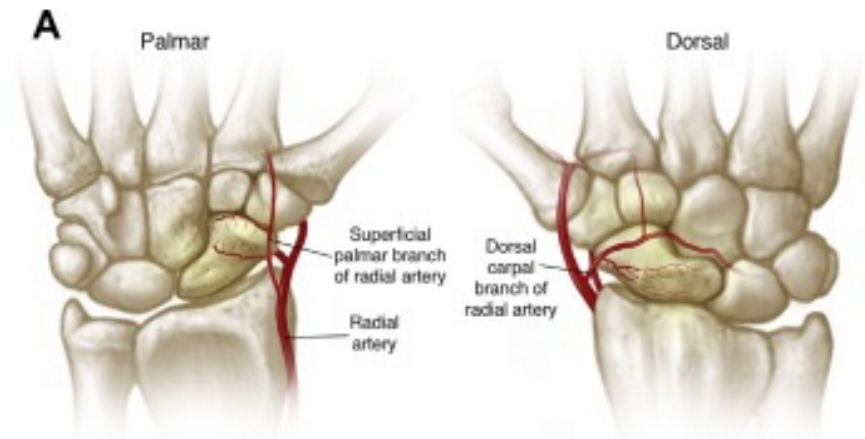
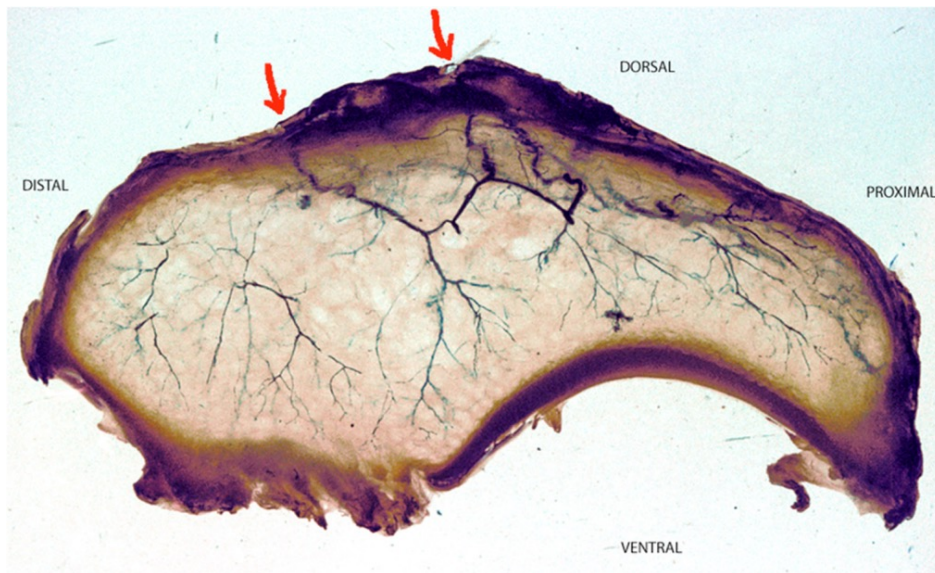
C) Volar

D) Ulnar



Anatomy

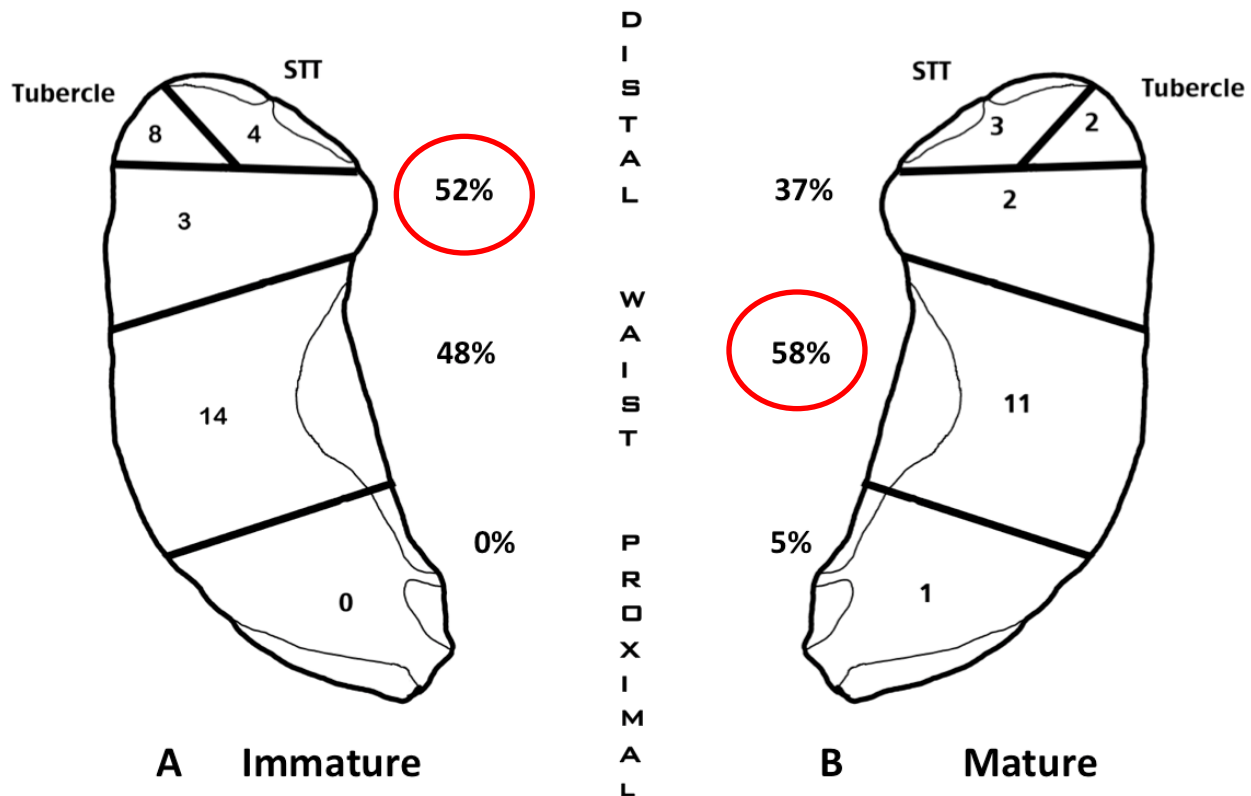
Small surface area for vascular inflow
2 branches of radial artery (dorsal, proximal)
Tubercle (1/3 distale) - Dorsal (1/3 medium, proximal)



Epidemiology scaphoid fractures

Pattern scaphoid fracture teenagers vs adults
(in children are less common only 3%)

Jorgsholm, Acta Orthopaedica 2016



TO AVOID WASTING TIME...

Xrays

10-15% unrecognized → until 25% of FN

Immobilization by splint or cast → 2 weeks control

ALTHOUGH OFTEN THE FIRST NEGATIVE RX

Second line investigation is debated:

Xrays (again after 2 weeks): 91% SN - 99% SP

CT: 85-95% SN - 86-95% SP

MRI: 97.7 % SN - 99% SP

J Bone Joint Surg Br, 2012

Kirkeby, J Hand Surg Br, 2013

→ **Undergo immediate CT (O MRI) if young pt with clinical findings
(without time delay of 2-3 weeks...)**

Sabbagh, J Hand Clin, 2019 **MAYO CLINIC**

Clinical Scaphoid Fractures - Imaging TC MRI

CT > MRI degree of displacement

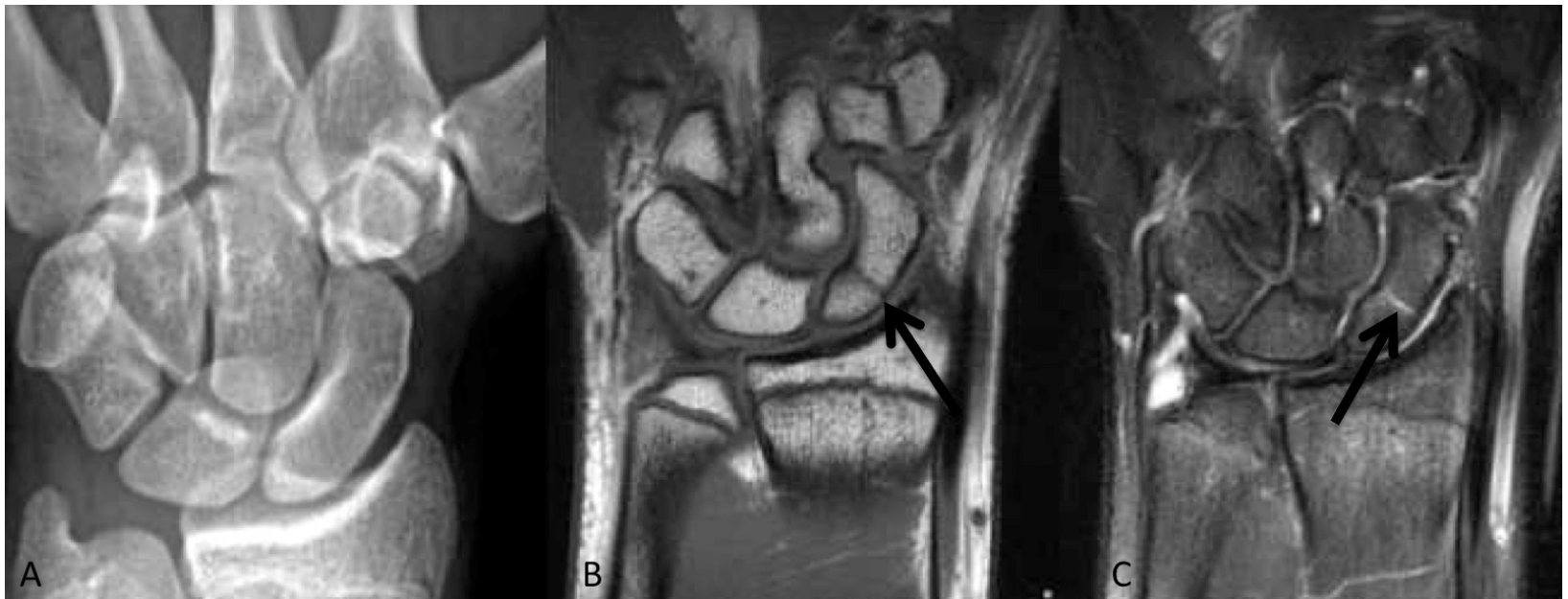
MRI > CT unrecognized or misdiagnosed fractures

MRI Gold standard second line study (coexisting lesions)

✓ American College of Radiology. Appropriateness Criteria.

Acute Hand and Wrist Trauma. 2013

✓ UK NICE guidelines. 2016



Classification

Anatomy (type)

Stable vs unstable

History (Acute vs delayed - union vs non-union)

Herbert, JBJS B 1984

Type A : Stable acute fractures



A1

Fracture of tubercle



A1

Incomplete fracture through waist

Type B : Unstable acute fractures



B1

Distal oblique fracture



B2

Complete fracture of waist



B3

Proximal pole fracture



B4

Trans-scaphoid perilunate fracture-dislocation of carpus

Type C : Delayed union



C

Delayed union

Type D : Established nonunion



D1

Fibrous union



D2

Pseudarthrosis

Scaphoid Fractures - Distal pole

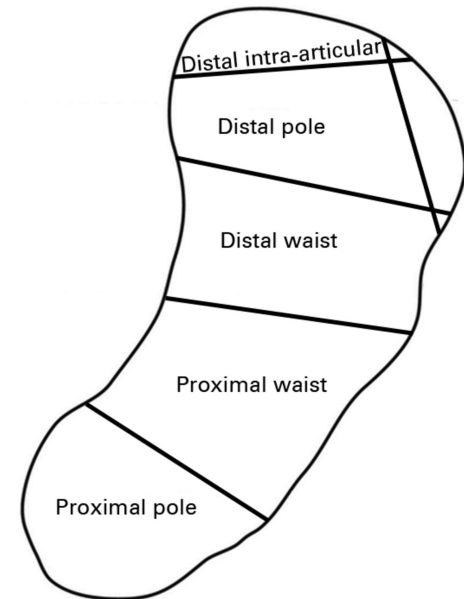
Most of these fractures are treated non-operatively in a cast for 4-6 weeks with good short term results. Long-term outcome studies for this specific type of fracture are not available (FESSH, 2017)

Scaphoid Fractures - Proximal pole

The relative risk of non-union in proximal pole scaphoid fractures compared to fractures of the waist of the scaphoid is 7.5, although 2/3 of these fractures will still unite in a cast.

There is no evidence to support early fixation of proximal pole fractures at present (FESSH, 2017)

Surgical treatment could be favored. Union rate after surgical treatment is around 66% (Singh, 2011)



CLASSIFICATION nonunion

Ortop Clin
2020

Scaphoid Reconstruction

Cristian S. Borges, MD^{a,b,*}, Paulo H. Ruschel, MD^{a,b},
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Treatment classification system for Scaphoid nonunions		
Grade	Category	Characteristics of Scaphoid Nonunions
I	Delayed presentation	Scaphoid fractures with delayed presentation (4–8 wk)
II	Fibrous nonunion	Intact cartilaginous envelope, minimal fracture line at nonunion interface, no cyst or sclerosis
III	Minimal sclerosis	Bone resorption at nonunion interface <1 mm with minimal sclerosis
IV	Cyst formation and sclerosis	Bone resorption at nonunion interface <5 mm, cyst formation, and maintained scaphoid alignment
V	Cyst formation and sclerosis	Bone resorption at nonunion interface >5 mm and <10 mm, cyst formation, and maintained scaphoid alignment
VI	Pseudoarthrosis	Separate bone fracture fragments with profound bone resorption at nonunion interface. Gross fragment motion and deformity is often present.
Subtypes	Category	Associated Characteristics
a	Proximal pole nonunion	The proximal pole has a tenuous blood supply and a mechanical disadvantage that places it at greater risk of delayed or failed union.
b	Avascular necrosis	Scaphoid nonunion with avascular necrosis confirmed by MRI or intraoperative lack of punctate bleeding. The fracture must heal and revitalize.
c	Ligamentous injury	Injury suggested by static and dynamic imaging of the carpal bones or arthroscopic, direct observation.
d	Deformity	Scaphoid deformity must be corrected. This requires a bicortical structural bone graft and rigid fixation.

Summary

THE ABILITY TO DISTINGUISH UNSTABLE FROM STABLE FRACTURES IS ESSENTIAL, BECAUSE IT DETERMINES WHO NEEDS SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

Diagnosis and Management of Acute Scaphoid Fractures

M. Diya Sabbagh, MBBS^{a,b}, Mohamed Morsy, MB, BCh^{b,c},
Steven L. Moran, MD^{a,*}



HAND CLIN
2019
(Mayo Clinic)

HERBERT B2 (distal to the apex of dorsal ridge) ARE MORE LIKELY TO PROCEED TO COLLAPSE AND HUMPBACK DEFORMITY

(loss ligamentous stability of distal fragment)

*OKA, Moritomo «Current management of scaphoid nonunion based on the biomechanical study» **J Wrist Surg 2017**;7(2): 94-100*

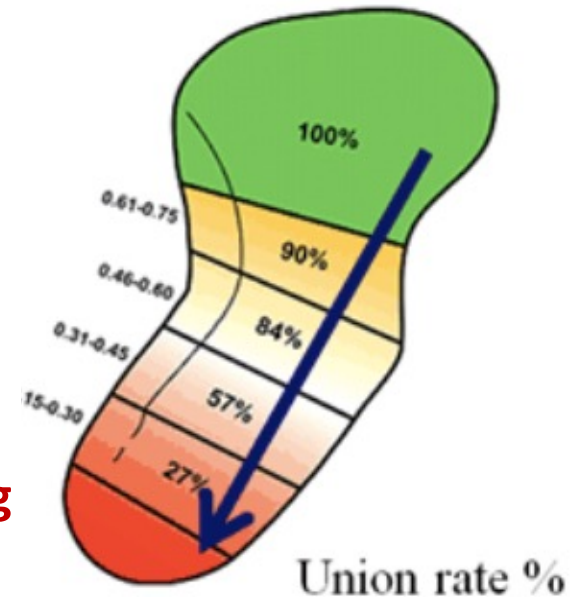
Scaphoid Fractures - Healing process

Union is a process rather than a single event at a specific time in the natural history of healing

Partial union of the scaphoid is common (up to 40%) and with bridging trabeculae across more than 25% of the cross-section of the scaphoid, it progresses to full union without the need for further plaster immobilization.

Nonunion is the absence of radiographic signs of healing at 12 weeks and a clear gap on a CT scan

Nondisplaced fractures of the waist can heal in 8 weeks in 90% of the cases



Scaphoid Fractures - Nonunion

1. Radiographs taken at only three months after fracture cannot differentiate reliably between union and nonunion.
2. Union is a process rather than an event and follow-up for a minimum of six months is required.
3. Some patients are discharged prematurely in the belief that the fracture has united but when they return complaining of pain and with abnormal radiographs the fracture had never united.

Radiographic signs of union of scaphoid fractures. Dias, JBJS B, 1988

**Follow up for fracture in treatment:
xRays 6 weeks , 3 and 6 months with CT if there's doubt of
non consolidation**

WHEN IS NOT TOO LATE?

Actually, it's not just a matter of time... but also the type
of fracture/PSA



- Less than 1 year after the traumatic event,
- minimally displaced fragments (<1 mm),
- minimal bone resorption (<2 mm),
- minimal sclerosis, no vascular necrosis NO deformities



PERCUTANEOUS OR BONE GRAFTED SCREW IN
ARS



After a few years of the trauma? SNAC presence?

OFTEN LATE DIAGNOSIS

In some cases healing is achieved anyway...

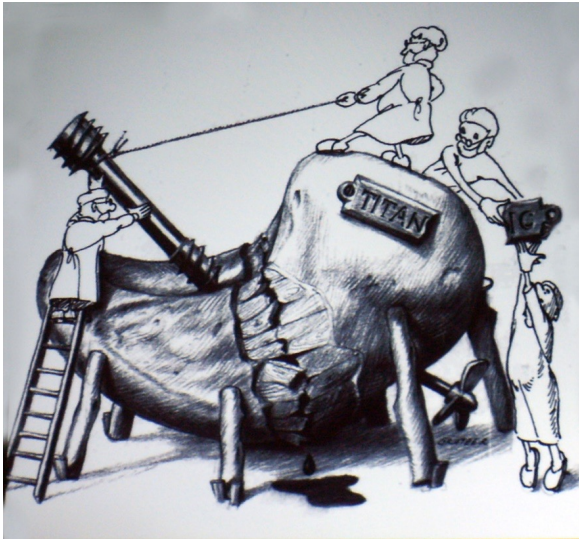


... In other... SNAC WRIST

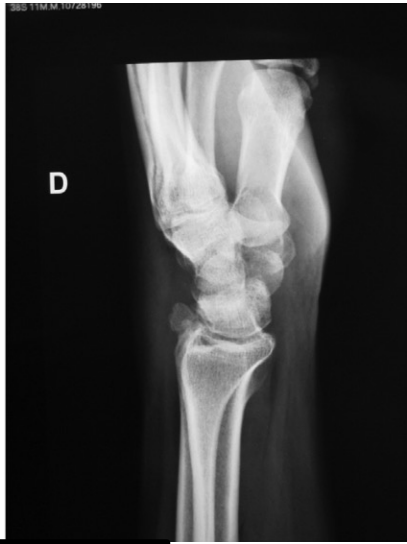
SCAPHOID
NONUNION
ADVANCED
COLLAPSE



WHEN PSA OF SCAPHOID WITH
AVASCULAR NECROSIS OF THE PROXIMAL POLE
THAT CAN NO LONGER BE SAVED...



BEFORE CLASSICAL PALLIATIVE TECHNIQUES



Scaphoid Reconstruction

Cristian S. Borges, MD^{a,b,*}, Paulo H. Ruschel, MD^{a,b},
Milton B. Pignataro, MD^{a,b}

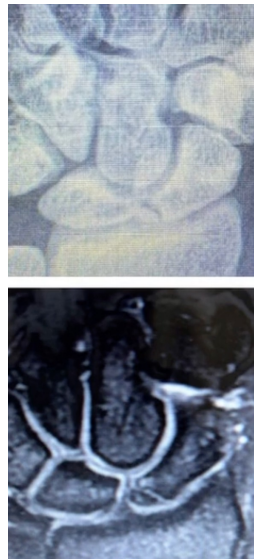
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RESECTION OF THE DISTAL POLE OF THE SCAPHOID IS A GOOD OPTION (> 5 YEARS) OR AFTER A FAILED SCAPHOID PROCEDURE IN SELECTED PATIENTS (WITHOUT SNAC)
RISK OF DISI TENDENCY

Or resection of the proximal pole



WITH FRC ANCHOVY
COURTESY DR BORELLI

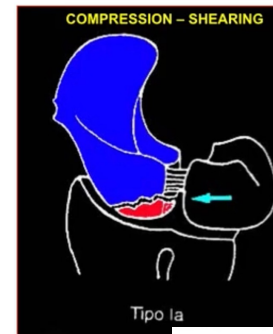


Rev.Ort.Traum.
1998

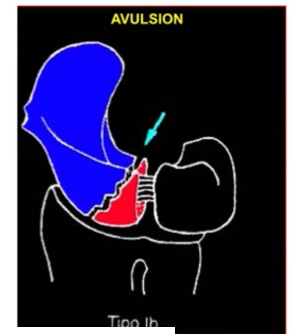
tratamiento

FRACTURES OF THE PROXIMAL POLE OF THE SCAPHOID. CLASSIFICATION AND TREATMENT

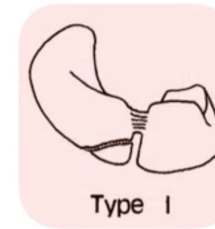
M. García-Elias Cos



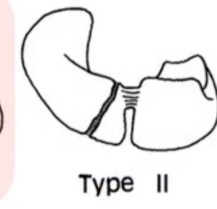
Tipo Ia



Tipo Ib



Type I



Type II

Garcia-Elias, 1998

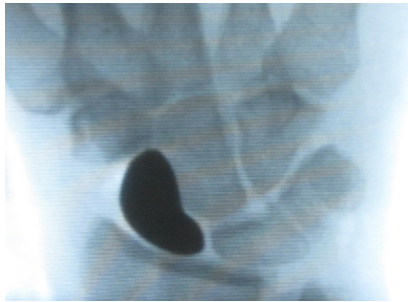
TOTAL PROSTHESIS

HAND (2011) 6:179-184
DOI 10.1007/s11552-010-9315-3

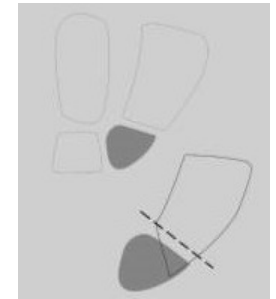
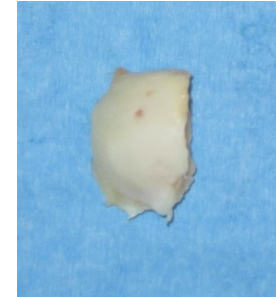
SURGERY ARTICLES

The total scaphoid titanium arthroplasty: A 15-year experience

Ombretta Spingardi · Mario Igor Rossello



PARTIAL PROSTHESIS



TITANIUM OR
PEEK

ADAPTIVE PROXIMAL SCAPHOID IMPLANT APSI

PROSTHETIC IMPLANT DYNAMIC INTERPOSITION SPACER IN
PYROCARBON



CONCEPT OF INTERPOSITION WITHOUT FIXATION

INDICATIONS

- SCAPHOID PROXIMAL POLE FRACTURES (small fragment)
- PSA WITH PROXIMAL POLE AVASCULAR NECROSIS
- SNAC OR SLAC WRIST
- AFTER THE FAILURES OF OTHER SURGICAL TREATMENTS
- RARE CASES OF PREISER'S DISEASE (idiopathic osteonecrosis of the scaphoid... 150 cases worldwide)

Maladie de Preiser traitée par résection partielle du scaphoïde sous arthroscopie et implant en pyrocarbone, résultats préliminaires : à propos d'un cas, et revue de la littérature

Arthroscopic treatment for Preiser's disease by partial resection of the scaphoid and pyrocarbone's implant, preliminary results: A case report and literature review

B. Rousseau^{*}, X. Delpit, T. Bauer, P. Hardy

Service d'orthopédie traumatologie, Hôpital Ambroise Paré, groupement hospitalier universitaire Ouest, 9, avenue Charles de Gaulle, 97100 Boulogne-Billancourt, France


Reçu le 17 novembre 2010 ; reçu sous la forme révisée 6 avril 2011 ; accepté le 12 avril 2011



OUR EXPERIENCE

Surgery Article

Prosthetic Replacement of the Scaphoid Proximal Pole: Should It Be the Future?

Matteo Ferrero¹, Enrico Carità², Francesco Giacalone¹, Julien Teodori³, Alberto Donadelli², Mara Laterza² , Massimo Corain⁴, and Bruno Battiston¹



HAND
2022, Vol. 17(5) 899–904
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DOI: 10.1177/1558944720974120
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HAND 2022

76 pz (1999-2017)
3 fallimenti
2 artroscopici



ENCOURAGING RESULTS

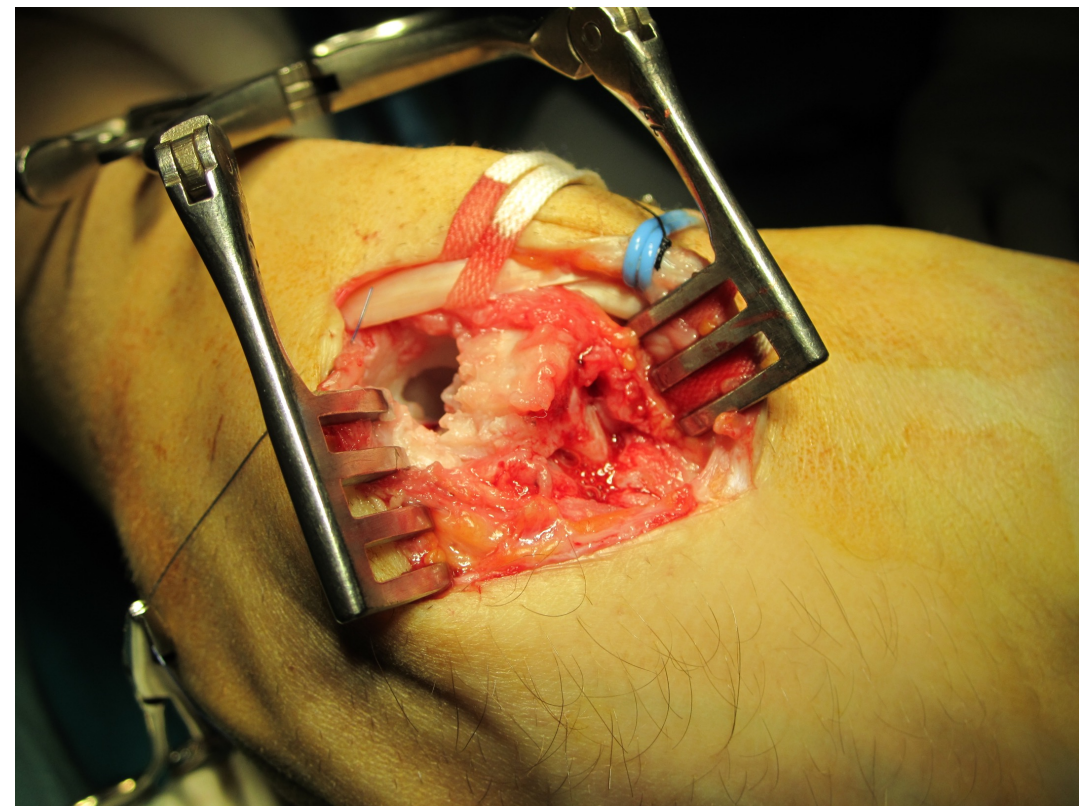
OVERLAPPING WITH THOSE OF LITERATURE

Case 1

B.S. 22 y.o. in 2011
male

2010



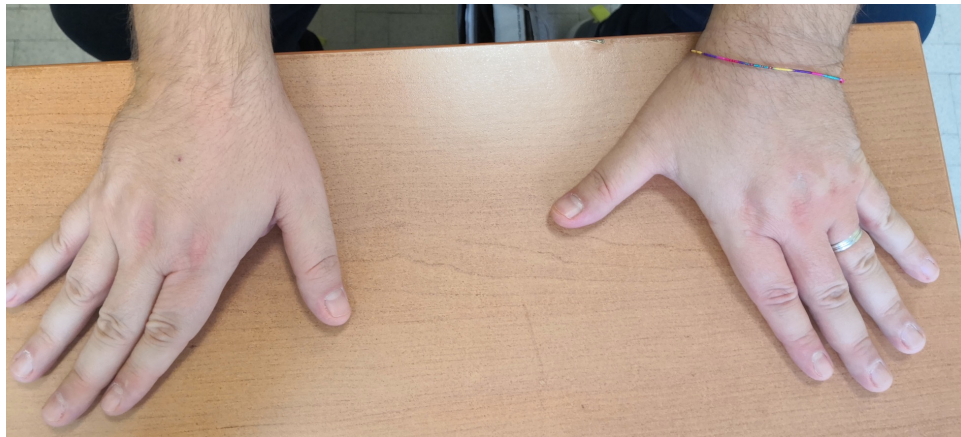


Rx Control

Follow Up at 19.10.23 (12 years after)

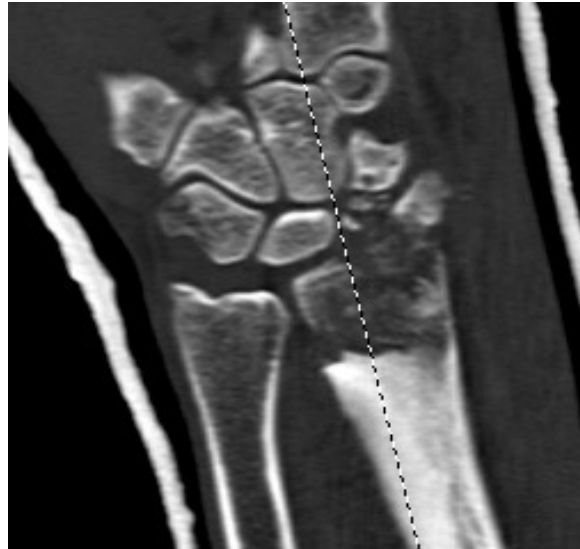
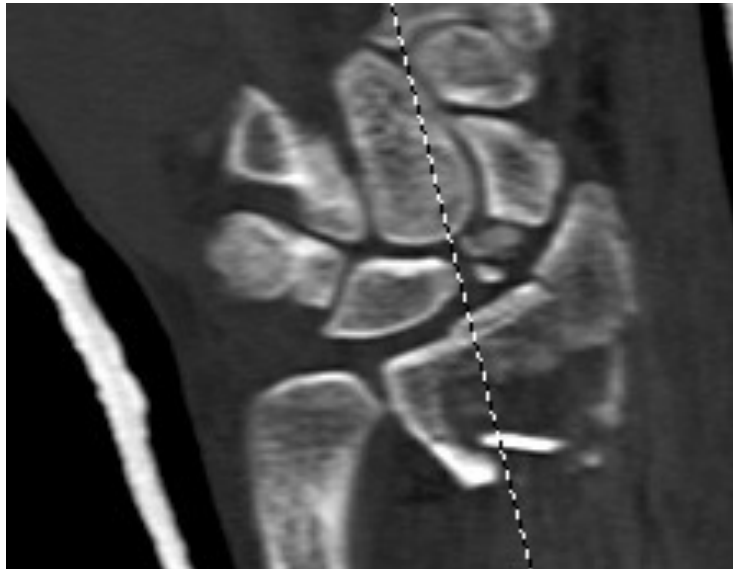


Patient very happy and satisfied!!



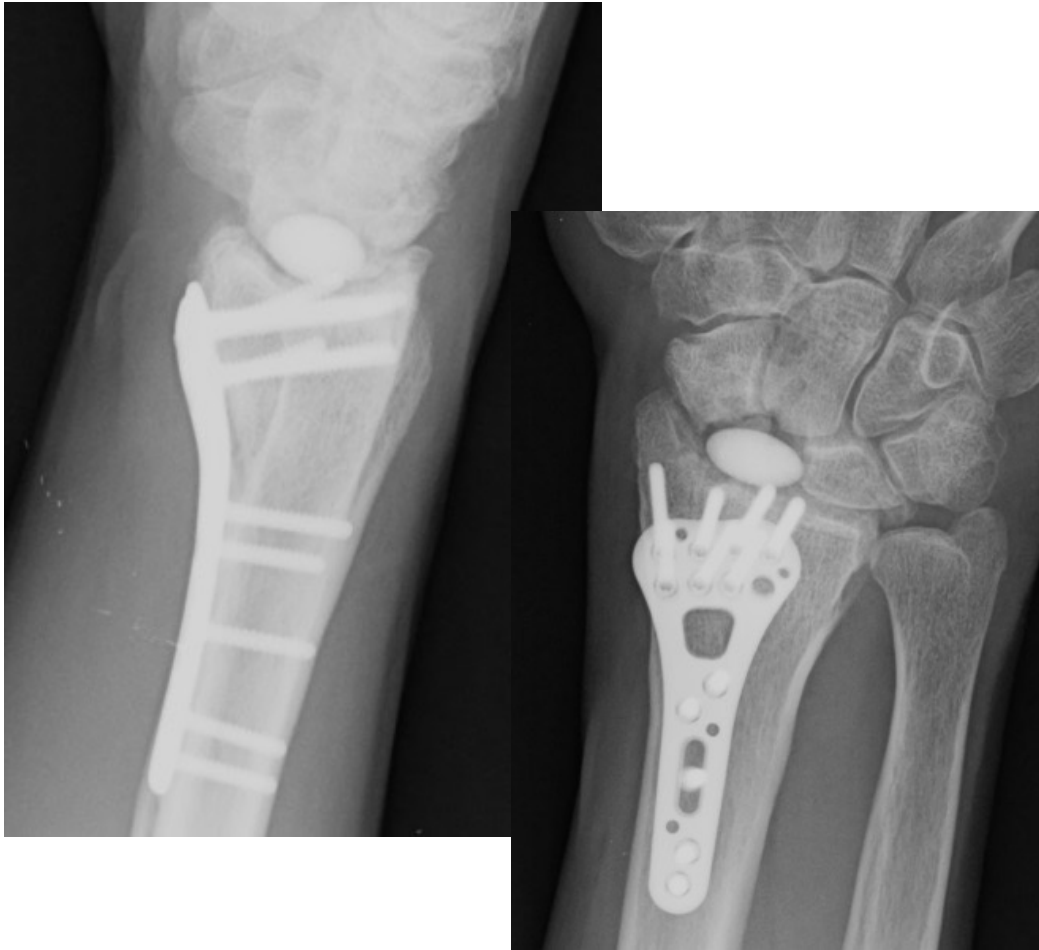
Case 2

B.D. 64 y.o. male



TOO FRACTURED RATHER THAN TOO LATE!!

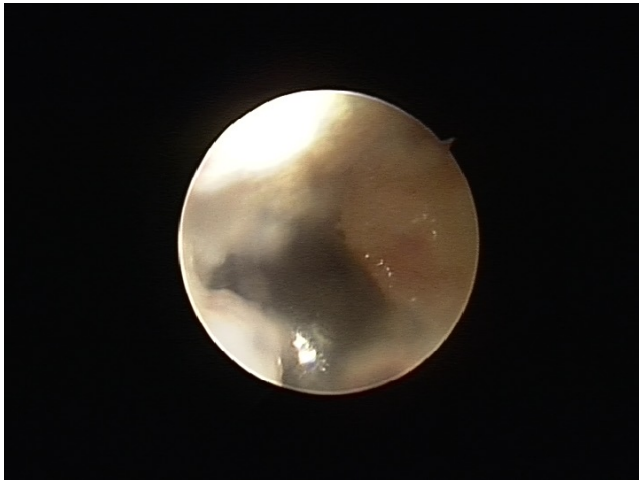
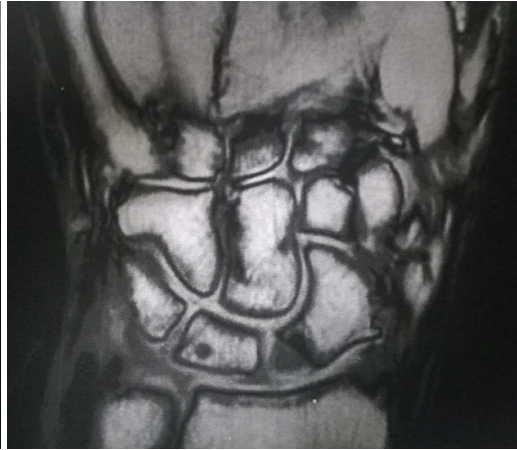
Follow-up at 2 years



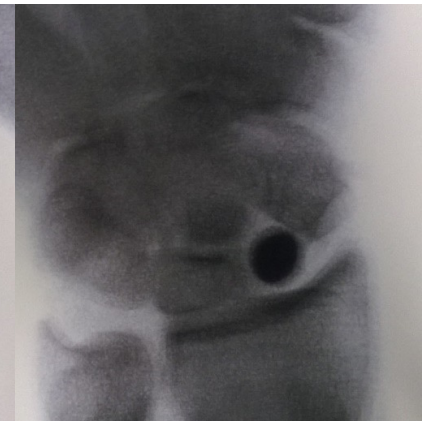
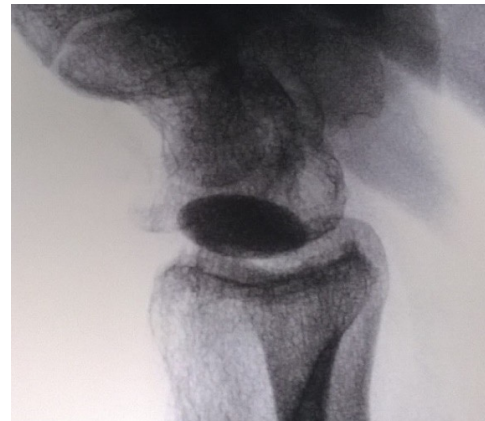
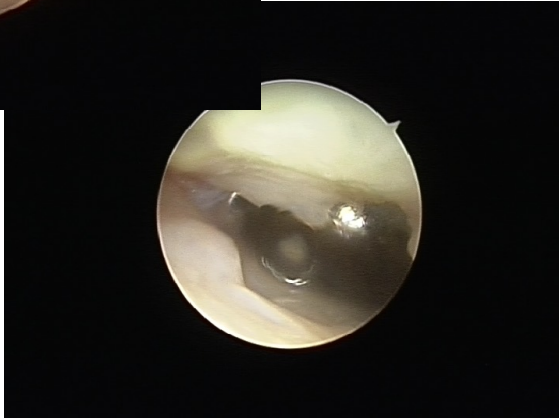
Patient
satisfied

Case 3

T.D. 40 y.o. male in 2016



ARTHROSCOPIC PROXIMAL POLE
RESECTION AND ARTHROSCOPIC
IMPLANTATION OF APSI SPACER



FOLLOW UP 19.10.2023 (7 years after)



Patient very satisfied



CONCLUSIONS

- Dynamic spacer that restores the variable geometry of the carpus and maintains the correct alignment of the first carpal row
- adaptability of the implant prevents arthritic evolution of the wrist and decreases the risk of dislocation
- Reduced immobilization times
- Rapid functional and strength recovery

CONCLUSIONS

- Minimally invasive procedure
- Possibility of performing it by arthroscopy (Mathoulin)
- Further palliative treatments can be performed
- Also possible in the case of arthritis of the radial surface

Mosillo G, Basso MA, Balato G, et al. Adaptive proximal scaphoid implant (APSI): a systematic review of the literature. *Orthopedic Reviews*. 2021;14(1).
[doi:10.52965/001c.30721](https://doi.org/10.52965/001c.30721)

General

Adaptive proximal scaphoid implant (APSI): a systematic review of the literature

Giuseppe Mosillo¹, Morena Anna Basso¹, Giovanni Balato¹, Alessio Bernasconi¹, Antonio Coviello², Federico Tamborini³, Andrea Poggetti¹, Francesco Smeraglia¹

¹ Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, "Federico II" University, Via S. Pansini 5, bd. 12, 80131, Naples, Italy, ² Department of Anesthesia, "Federico II" University, Via S. Pansini 5, bd. 12, 80131, Naples, Italy, ³ Hand and Reconstructive Microsurgery Unit, Azienda Ospedaliera Careggi, Florence, Italy, ⁴ Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, University of Insubria, Varese, Italy

Keywords: SNAC, scaphoid, pyrocarbon, implant, wrist

<https://doi.org/10.52965/001c.30721>

Orthopedic Reviews

Vol. 14, Issue 1, 2022

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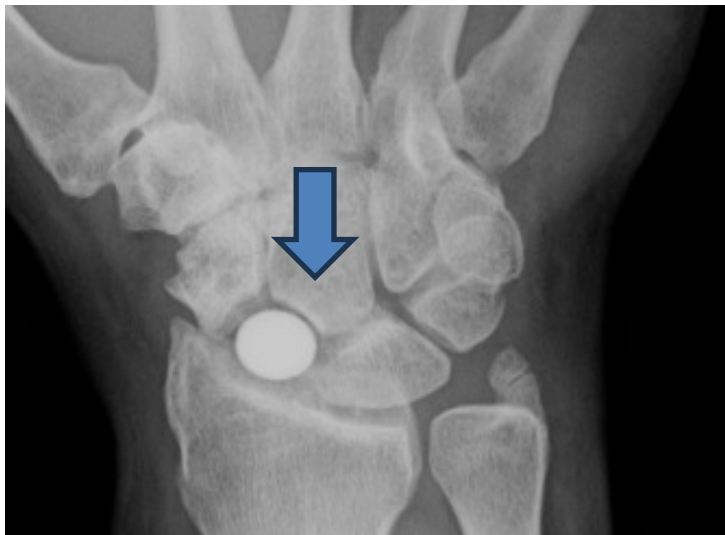
Orthopedic Reviews

Vol. 14, Issue 1, 2022

mobilization has a rate 5.1% (8/156). In conclusion the APSI implant is a reliable alternative for the treatment of SNAC wrist and SLAC wrist.

DISCUSSION

- Duration? NO WEAR AND TEAR...
 - Effects on nearby bones over time?
 - manual workers? YES According to the literature...
 - in older patients to avoid more invasive interventions?
 - In very young patients it is an alternative to resection or reconstruction (femoral condyle?) ... But what to do if radial chondropathy?
- NEED ARTHROSCOPY!!



"NOTCHING" OF THE CAPITATE
(MATHOULIN 6 OUT OF 15 CASES
BUT ... ASYMPTOMATIC)

IT'S IMPORTANT TO
UNDERSTAND WHEN IT'S TOO
LATE... AVOID AGGRESSIVE
THERAPY!!

**THANK
YOU!!!**

