

Acute Arterial Disease

Mitchell H. Goldman MD

ACUTE ARTERIAL OCCLUSION

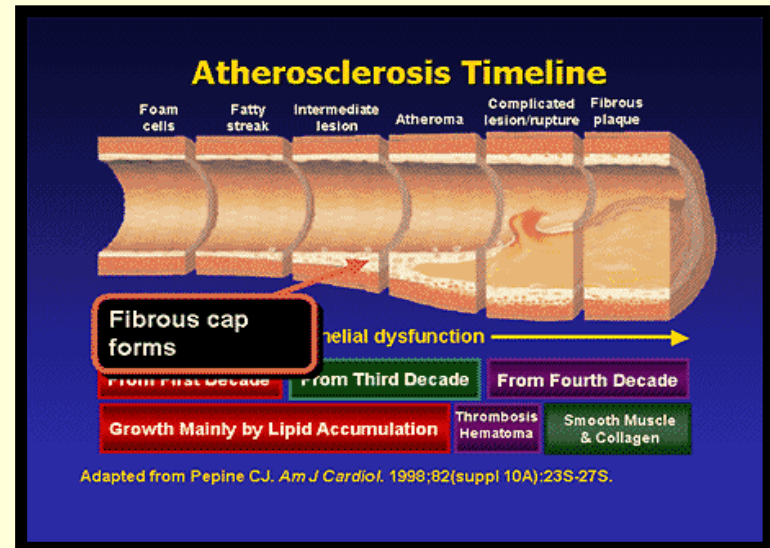
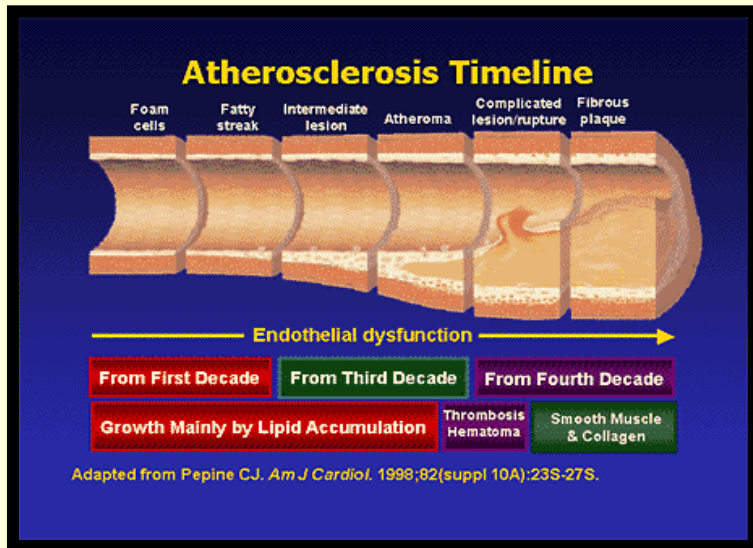
“ The operation was a success but the patient died”

- High Morbidity and Mortality
 - Emergent operations in high risk patients
 - 20% mortality reported (Dale, JVS 1984)
 - Endovascular approaches may lower peri-procedural mortality while preserving outcomes

Etiology of Arterial Occlusion

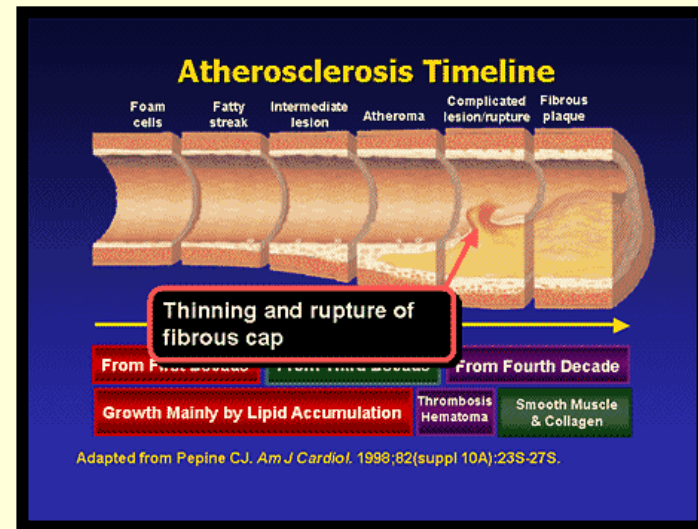
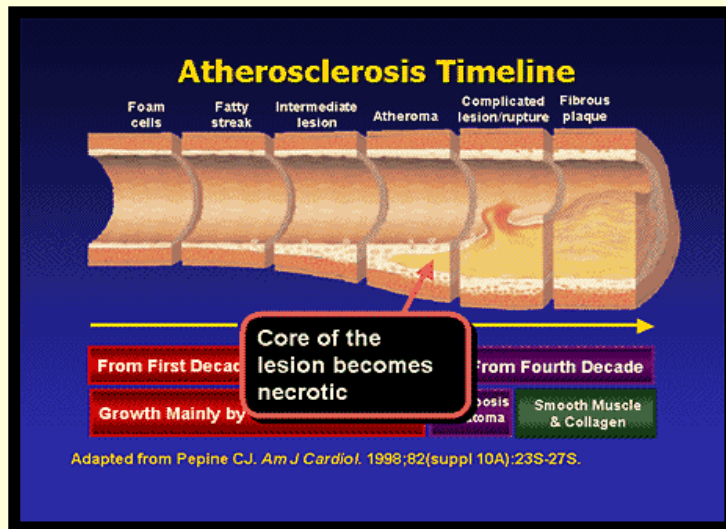
- **Overview**
 - Atherosclerosis
 - Thrombotic occlusion
 - Embolic occlusion
 - Trauma
 - Treatment Options

Evolution of Atherosclerosis



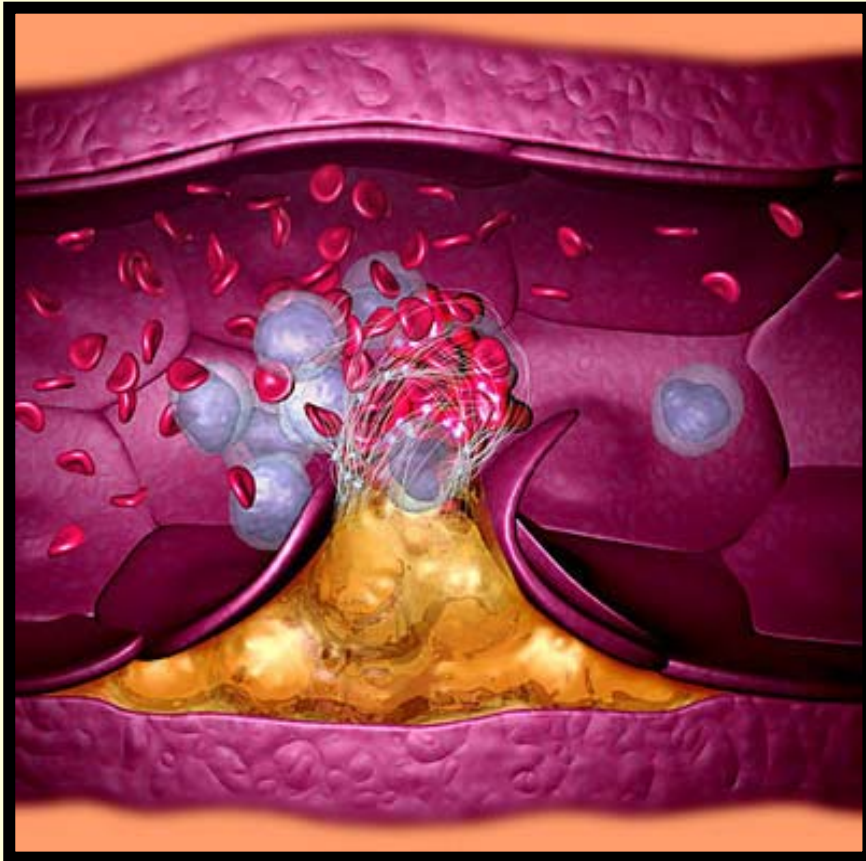
- Areas of low wall shear stress
- Increased endothelial permeability
- Sub-endothelial lipid and macrophage accumulation
- Foam cells
- Formation of Fatty Streak
- Fibrin deposition and stabilizing fibrous cap

Evolution of Atherosclerosis



- Necrosis
- Inflammatory environment
- Destabilization of fibrous cap

Evolution of Atherosclerosis



Rupture of Fibrous Cap

- Pro-thrombotic core Exposed to lumen
- **Acute thrombosis**
- **Embolization** of plaque materials and thrombus

Thromboembolism

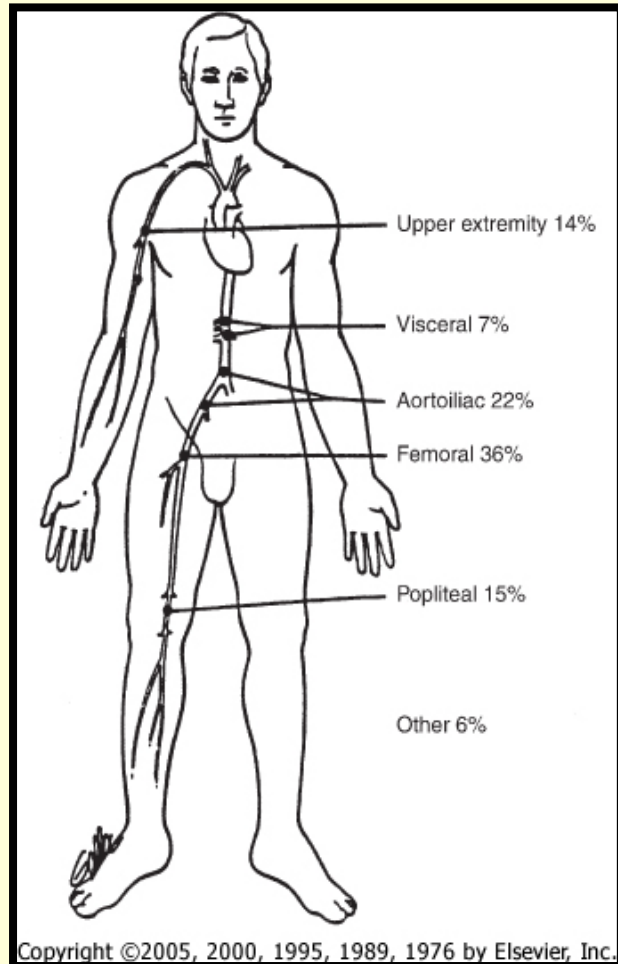
- Embolus- greek “embolos” means *projectile*
- Mortality of 10-25%
- Mean age increasing – 70 years
 - Rheumatic disease to atherosclerotic disease
- Classified by size or content
 - Macroemboli and microemboli
 - Thrombus, fibrinoplatelet clumps, cholesterol

Macroemboli



- **Cardiac Emboli**
 - Heart source 80-90% of thrombus macroemboli
 - MI, A.fib, Mitral valve, Valvular prosthesis
 - Multiple emboli 10% cases
 - TEE
 - Views left atrial appendage, valves, aortic root
 - not highly sensitive

Thromboembolism



- 75% of emboli involve axial limb vasculature
- Femoral and Popliteal
 - >50% of emboli
- Branch sites
- Areas of stenosis

Thromboembolism

Non-cardiac sources

- Aneurysmal (popliteal > abdominal)
- Paradoxical
 - Follows PE with PFO
- TOS
- Cryptogenic –5-10%
- Atheroemboli (artery to artery)

Atheromatous Embolization

- Shaggy Aorta
 - Thoracic or abdominal
- Spontaneous
- Iatrogenic
 - 45% of all atheroemboli
- “Blue toe syndrome”
 - Sudden
 - Painful
 - cyanotic
 - ***palpable pulses***
- livedo reticularis

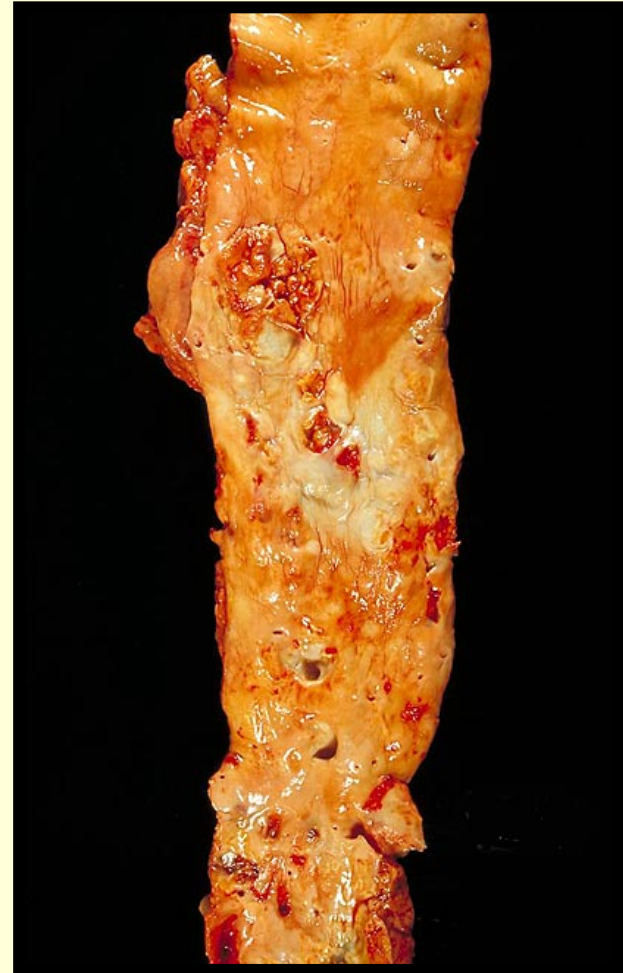


Blue Toe Syndrome



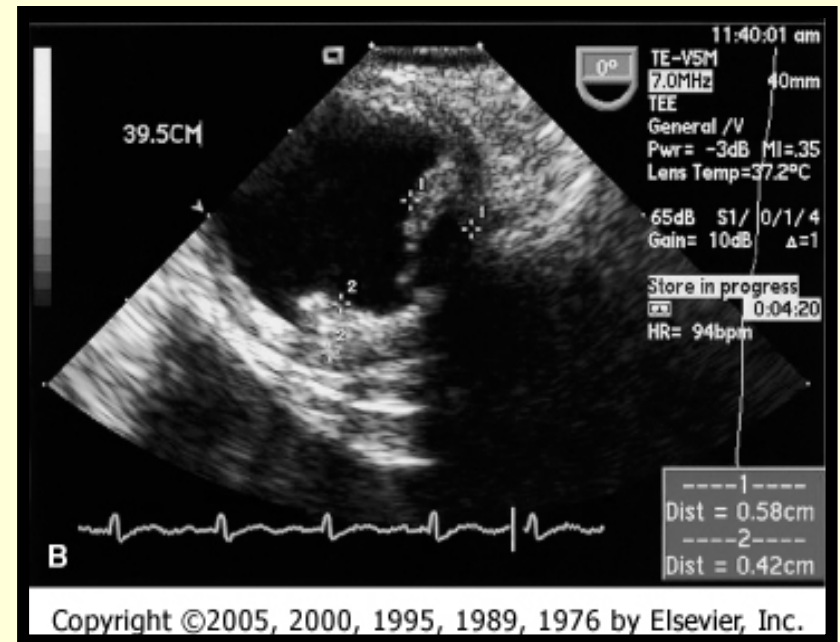
Atheromatous Embolization

- Risk factors: PVD, HTN, elderly, CAD, recent arterial manipulation
- Emboli consist of thrombus, platelet fibrin material or cholesterol crystals
- Lodge in arteries 100–200 micron diameter



Atheromatous Embolization

- Affect variety of end organs
 - extremities, pelvis ,GI, kidney, brain
- Work-up:
 - TEE ascending aorta, CT Angio, Angiography
- Laboratory: CRP elevated, eosinophilia
- Warfarin may destabilize fibrin cap and trigger emboli.



Atheromatous Embolization

- Reported incidence of 0.5-1.5% following catheter manipulation
 - Advance/remove catheters over guidewire
 - Brachial access? – controversial
- Limited Sx – Anti-coagulation/ observation
- Temporal delay up to 8 weeks before renal symptoms

Atheromatous Embolization

Therapy

- Prevention and supportive care
 - Statins, prostacyclin analogs (iloprost), ASA, Plavix
- Elimination of embolic source and reestablishing blood flow to heal lesions
- Surgical options: endarterectomy or resection and graft placement
 - Abdominal Aorta – Aorta-bi-fem bypass
 - Ligation of external iliac and extra-anatomic bypass if high risk
- Endovascular therapy
 - Angioplasty & stenting - higher rate of recurrence
 - Athrectomy – no data

Acute Thrombosis

- Graft thrombosis (80%)
 - intimal hyperplasia at distal anastomosis (prosthetic)
 - Retained valve cusp
 - Stenosis at previous site of injury
- Native artery
 - Intra-plaque hemorrhage
 - Hypovolemia
 - Cardiac failure
 - hypercoagulable state
 - Trauma
 - Arteritis, popliteal entrapment, adventitial cystic disease

Acute Thrombosis

- Heparin Induced Thrombosis
 - White Clot Syndrome
 - Heparin dependent IgG anti-body against platelet factor 4
 - 3-10 days following heparin contact
 - Dx: thrombosis with $> 50\%$ decrease in Platelet count
 - Tx: Direct thrombin inhibitors: Agatroban & Hirudin
 - Avoid all heparin products
 - Morbidity and Mortality: 7.4-61% and 1.1-23%

Other causes of Thrombosis

- Anti-thrombin III Deficiency
- Protein C & S Deficiency
- Factor V Leiden
- Prothrombin 20210 Polymorphism
- Hyper-homocystinemia
- Lupus Anti-coagulant (anti phospho-lipid syndrome)

“The Cold Leg”

- Clinical Diagnosis
 - Avoid Delay
 - **Anti-coagulate immediately**
 - Pulse exam
 - 6 P’s (pain, pallor, pulselessness, **parathesias**, **paralysis**, poiklothermia)
- Acute –vs- Acute on chronic
 - Collateral circulation preserves tissue
 - Traditional 4-6 hr rule may not apply
- The Two P’s-paralysis and paresthesia

Diagnostic Evaluation

SVS/ISCVS Classification

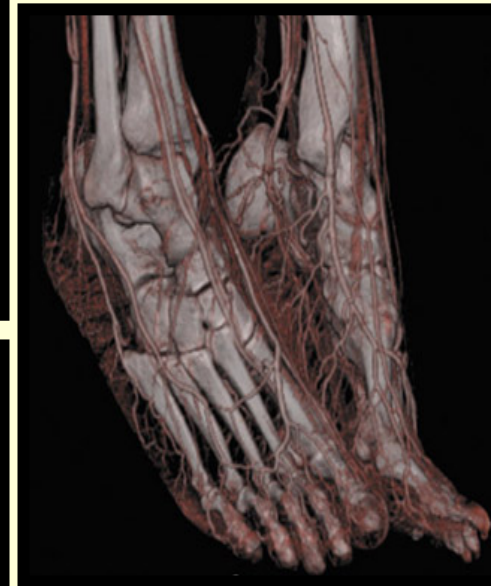
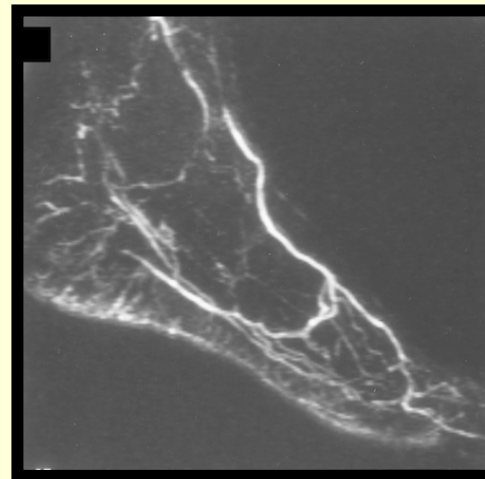
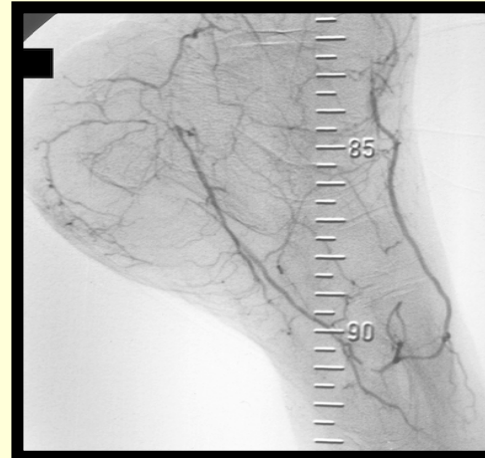
- “Rutherford Criteria”
- **Class I: Viable**
 - Pain, No paralysis or sensory loss
- **Class 2: Threatened but salvageable**
 - 2A: some sensory loss, No paralysis > No immediate threat
 - 2B: Sensory and Motor loss > needs immediate treatment
- **Class 3: Non-viable**
 - Profound neurologic deficit, absent capillary flow, skin marbling, absent arterial & venous signal

Therapeutic Options

- Class 1 or 2A
 - Anti-coagulation, angiography and elective revascularization
- Class 2B
 - Early angiographic evaluation and intervention
 - Exception: suspected common femoral emboli
- Class 3
 - Amputation

Diagnostic Evaluation

- Modalities
 - Non-invasive:
 - Segmental pressure drop of 30mmhg
 - Waveforms
 - CTA / MRA : avoid nephrotoxicity
 - Center dependent
 - Wave of the future?
 - Contrast Angiography
 - Gold Standard



Thrombotic –vs- Embolic

- **Thrombotic**

- History
 - Claudication, PVD
 - Bypass graft
- Physical
 - Hair loss, shiny skin
 - Bi-lateral Dz
- Angiographic
 - Diffuse disease
 - mid vessel occlusion
- PVD confuses diagnosis

- **Embolic**

- History
 - Cardiac events
 - Acute onset
 - Hx of emboli
- Physical
 - Normal contralateral exam
 - A.fib
- Angiographic
 - meniscus Cut-off in normal vessel
 - Bifurcations affected

Determination of etiology possible in 85% of cases

Treatment Options

- Multiple options available
 - Conventional surgery
 - embolectomy
 - endarterectomy
 - revascularization
 - Thrombolytic therapy
 - Percutaneous mechanical thrombectomy
- Native vessel thrombosis often require more elaborate operations

The Six P's

- Pain
- Poikylothermia (Polar)
- Pallor
- Pulseless
- Paresthesia*
- Paralysis*

The Important Two P's

- Indicate **impending tissue loss** and the need to revascularize now; not in six to eight hours
- **Paresthesia**-loss of nerve function; in the foot the peroneal nerve between 1st and 2nd toe
- **Paralysis**-loss of nerve and muscular function

Treatment Fundamentals

- Early recognition and anti-coagulation
 - Minimizes distal propagation and recurrent emboli
- Modality of Tx depends on:
 - Presumed etiology
 - Location/morphology of lesion
 - Viability of extremity
 - Physiologic state of patient
 - Available vein conduit for bypass grafting

Treatment : Thrombosis

Separate graft thrombosis into early and Late groups

Early thrombosis

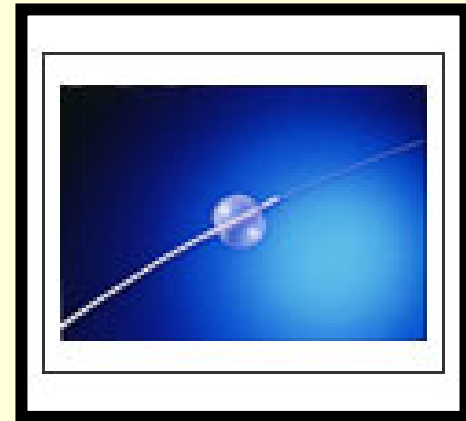
- Technical defect
- Repairable
- Avoid lytic Tx
 - 14 days vein
 - 30 days graft
- Explore both anastomosis
- On-table Angio
 - Twists, knicks, stenosis

Late thrombosis

- Duration & degree of ischemia
- Lytic Therapy (class 1-2a)
 - Good 1st approach
 - Unmasks lesion (valve/stenosis)
 - F/u endo or open repair
- Open surgery (2b)
 - Thrombectomy/patch
 - Re-bypass

Embolectomy

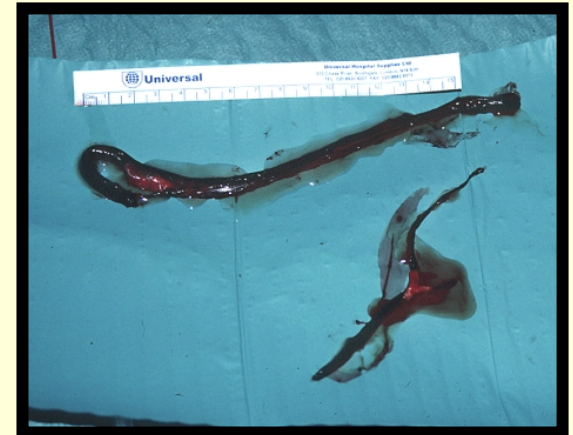
- Fogarty embolectomy catheter
 - Introduced 1961
- Adherent clot catheter
- Graft thrombectomy catheter
- Thru-lumen catheter
 - Selective placement over wire
 - Administer: lytics, contrast



Embolectomy

Surgical Therapy

- Iliac and femoral embolectomy
 - Common femoral approach
 - Transverse arteriotomy proximal profunda origin
 - Collateral circulation may increase backbleeding
 - Examine thrombus



Embolectomy

- Popliteal embolectomy
 - 49% success rate from femoral approach
 - Blind passage selects peroneal 90%
 - may expose tibial-peroneal trunk & guide catheter
 - Indirectly cannulate distal vessels
- Distal embolectomy
 - Retrograde/antegrade via ankle incisions
 - Frequent Rethrombosis
 - Thrombolytic Tx viable alternative

Embolectomy

- Completion angiography
 - 35% incidence of retained thrombus
 - IVUS more sensitive than angio
- Failure requires
 - Thrombolytic therapy
 - revascularization

Thrombolytic Therapy

Advantages

- Opens collaterals & microcirculation
- Avoids sudden reperfusion
- Reveals underlying stenosis
- Prevent endothelial damage from balloons

Risks

- Hemorrhage
- Stroke
- Renal failure
- Distal emboli transiently worsen ischemia

Surgery –vs- Thrombolysis

- STILE Trial
- Surgery vs Thrombolytics for Ischemia of Lower Extremity
 - 393 pts with non-embolic occlusion
 - Surgery vs r-TPA or r-UK
- Thrombolytics : improved amputation free survival and shorter hospital stay (0-14 days)
- Surgery: revascularization more effective for ischemia of > 14 days duration

Ann Surg 1994, 220:251

Surgery –vs- Thrombolysis

TOPAS Trial

- 2 phase
- 544 patients
- r-UK vs Surgery
- Need for surgery
Reduced 55%
- Similar amputation
and mortality rates

NEJM 338, 4/16/98

Indication for Thrombolysis

Category 1-2a limbs should be considered

- Class 2b : Two schools of thought

 - 1)“Delay in definitive Tx”

 - 2)“Thrombolytics extend window of opportunity”

- Clots <14days most responsive

 - But even chronic thrombus can be lysed

- Large clot burden

 - Better response to lytic tx than surgery

 - Requires longer duration of thrombolytics

Technique of Thrombolysis

- Guide Wire Traversal Test (GTT)
 - Ability to traverse lesion best predictor of success
 - Use 0.035 in angled glide wire
 - “knuckling-over” indicates sub-intimal plane
 - Attempt pro-grade, Anti-grade, lytic bolus

Technique of Thrombolysis

- Catheter directed delivery
 - 1) Lacerate clot via catheter with side holes
 - 2) Pulse-Spray technique (mechanical component)
- Urokinase and TPA equally effective
- 4 hr treatment followed by angiogram
 - 4000IU/min x4hr, 2000IU/M=min x 48h
 - r-UK (TOPAS Trial)
 - no improvement after 4hr >> surgery
 - Continue Heparin gtt
 - Fibrinogen levels

Mechanical Thrombectomy

- Percutaneous aspiration embolectomy
 - Viable alternative in selected patients
 - Variety of devices
 - Combines diagnostic and therapeutic procedure
 - Removes non-lysable debris
 - Effective in distal vessels
 - Risk distal embolization
 - Combine with lytic Tx

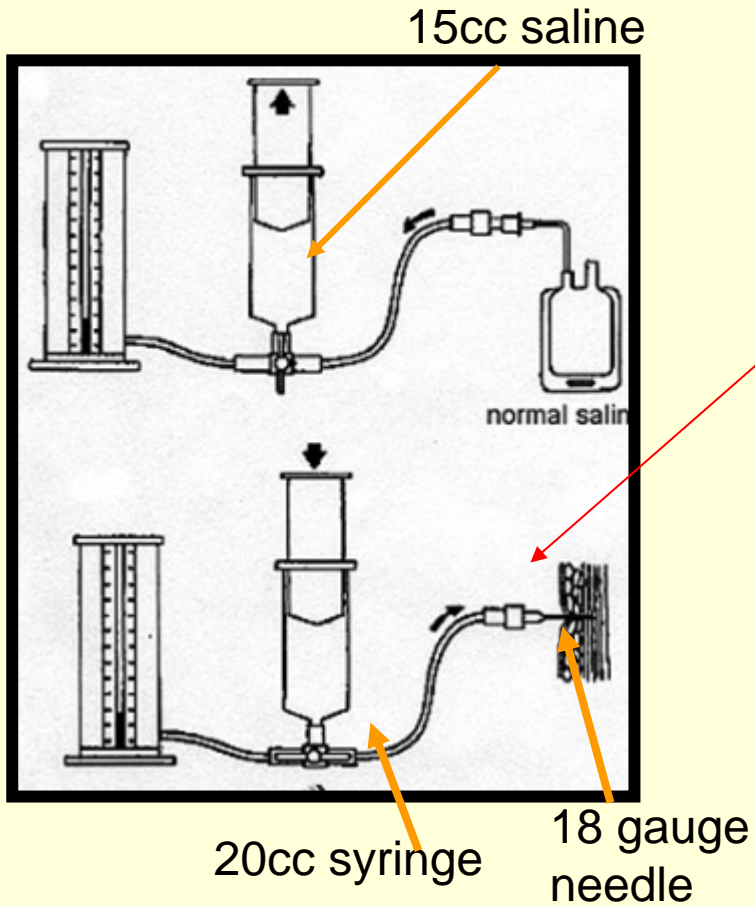
Reperfusion Syndrome

- Ischemic-reperfusion syndrome
 - **Local**: endothelial damage, capillary permeability, Transudative swelling, cellular damage
 - Compartment Syndrome
 - Tx: Fasciotomy
 - **Systemic**: Lactic Acidosis, Hyperkalemia, Myoglobin, Inflammatory Cytokines
 - Cardiopulmonary complications
 - Renal Tubular necrosis
 - Myoglobin precipitates
 - Tx: Volume, Urinary alkalinization

Compartment Syndrome

- Increased Intracompartmental pressure; the Two P's
- Less than 30 mm Hg difference between ICP and MAP, or 10 mmHg difference between ICP and diastolic, or greater than 15mm pressure by Whiteside technique
- Ischemia/reperfusion, trauma, venous outflow obstruction, fracture, crush
- Whiteside catheter

Compartment Pressure

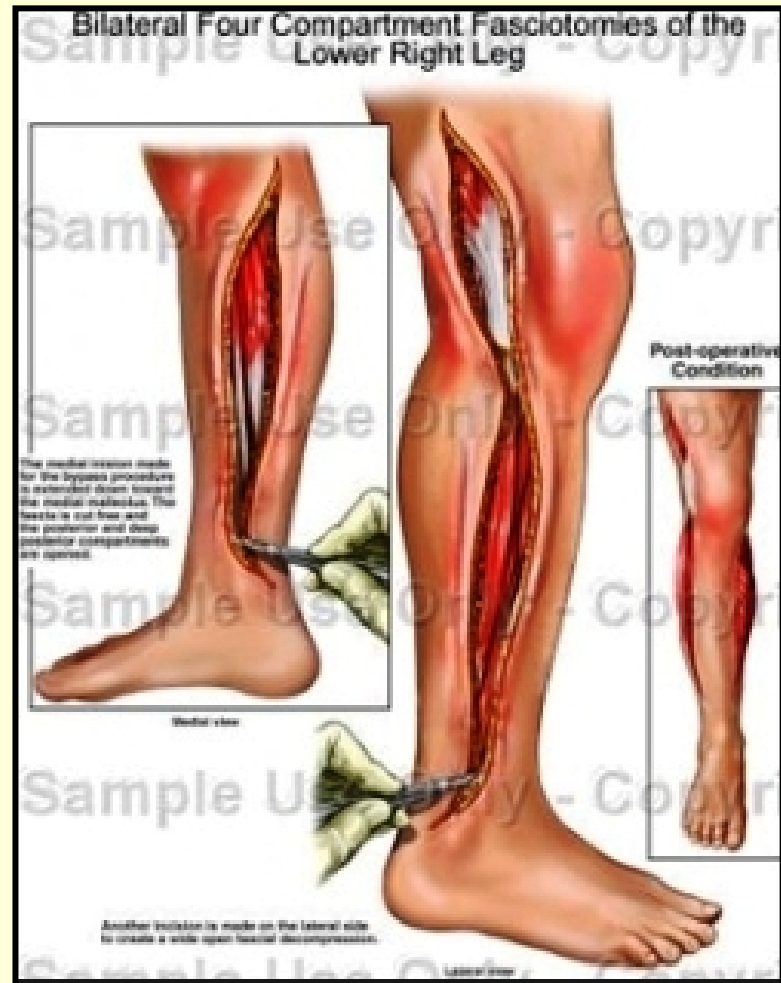
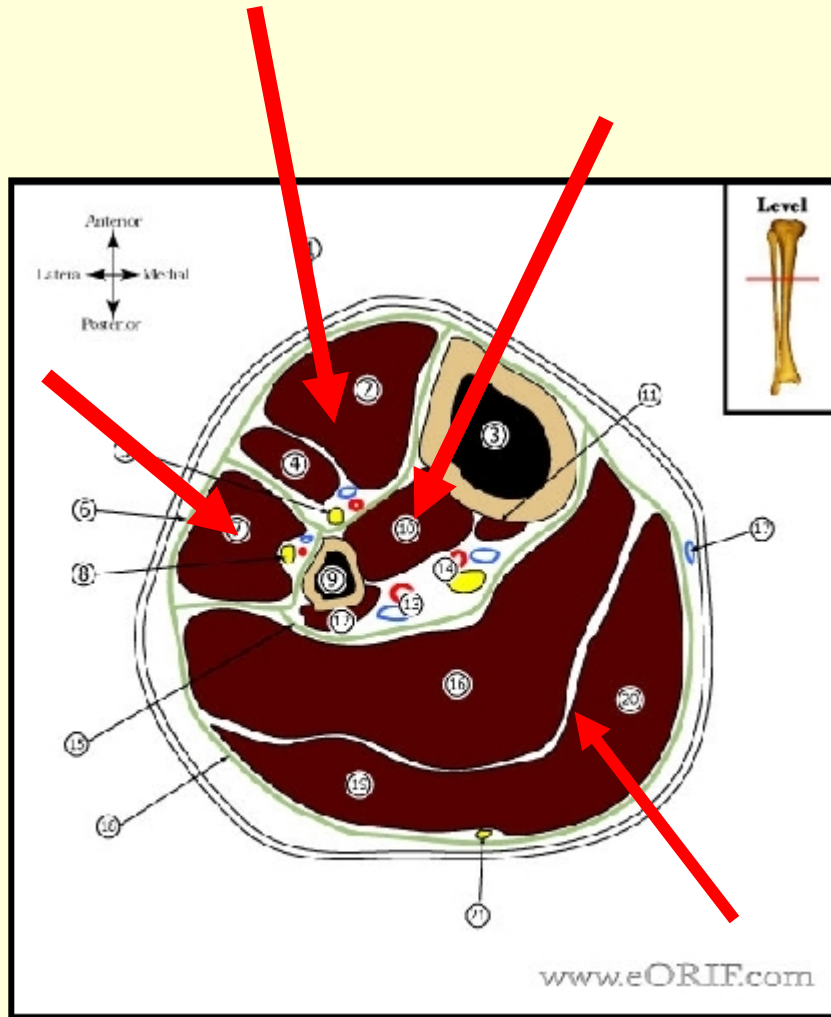


Inject into compartment slowly until meniscus moves and measure pressure on manometer-15 mmHg or less is normal

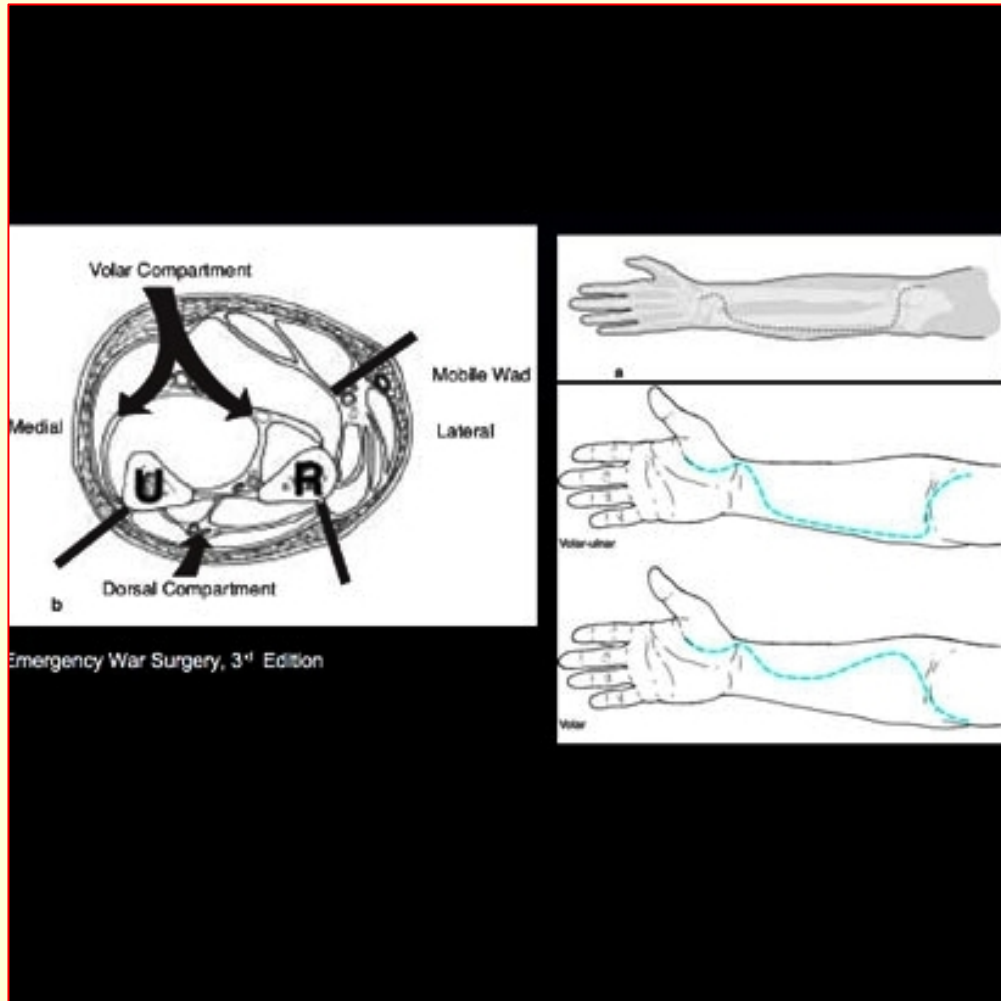
Straker system



Fasciotomy



Arm Fasciotomy



Reperfusion ARF

- Myoglobinemia, myoglobinuria, hyperkalemia, acidosis
- Bicarbonate on releasing the fascia
- Alkalize urine
- Hydrate
- Mannitol

Summary

- Thrombotic and embolic occlusions are separate processes with different presentations and treatments
- Treatment pathways in AAO are complex and vary depending on clinical situation
- Catheter-based treatments preserve outcomes with less overall morbidity
- Consider fasciotomy on clinical grounds

Vascular Trauma

Cervical Trauma

Zones

- Zone 1-Below the cricoid cartilage
 - Cervical incision plus anterior thoracotomy or median sternotomy
- Zone 2-Cricoid cartilage to angle of jaw
 - Cervical incision
- Zone 3-Above angle of jaw
 - Jaw subluxation

Cervical Injury

- Penetrating versus Blunt
- Treatment with stroke-early revascularization
- Tracheobronchial, esophageal or spinal injury 1-7%
 - Subcutaneous emphysema
 - hematemesis

Hard Signs/Soft Signs Penetrating Trauma

Hard

- Shock
- Pulsatile bleeding
- Loss of pulse with evolving neurologic deficit
- Expanding hematoma

Usually exploration

Soft

- History of bleeding
- Proximity
- Nerve injury
- Stable hematoma
- Unequal blood pressure measurement

Diagnostic measures

Penetrating Cervical Trauma

- CTA/CT-penetrating trauma without hard signs
- Occult injury-
 - Flaps-watch
 - Dissections-repair if easy, anticoagulate if not
 - Pseudoaneurysms-repair large ones early
- Anticoagulate only large flaps if can't operate-not great data!

Blunt Cervical Trauma

- Hyperextension of neck
 - Lateral articular processes of C1-C3
 - dissection
- Direct blow
- Laceration by bone

Screening for Carotid Injury

Denver Criteria

- Hemorrhage, hematoma
- Bruit
- Neuro exam inconsistent with head findings
- Stroke on CT
- Focal deficit
- LeFort II or III
- Basilar skull fx involving carotid canal
- GCS<6
- C-spine fx
- Hanging with anoxic injury

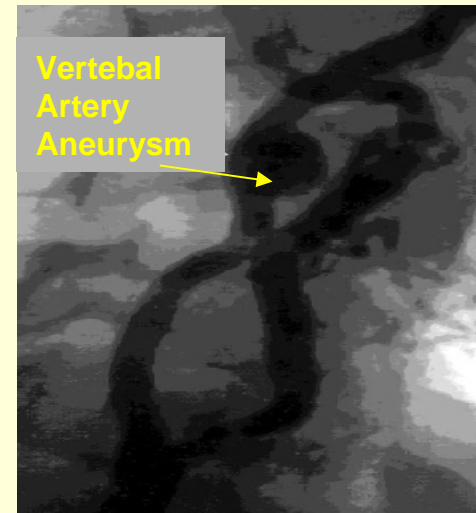
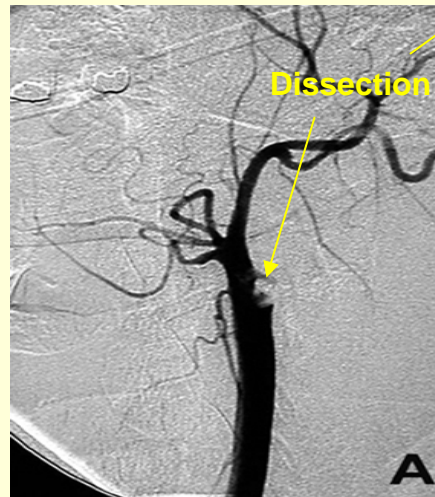
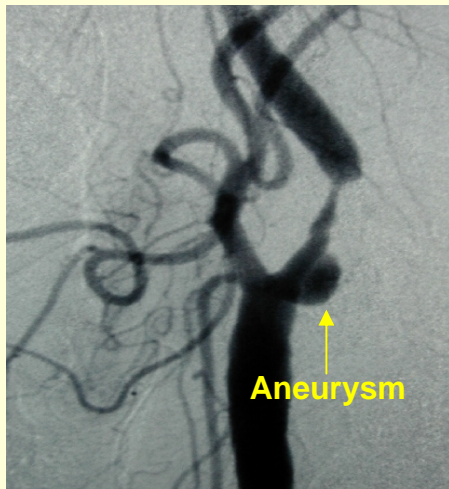
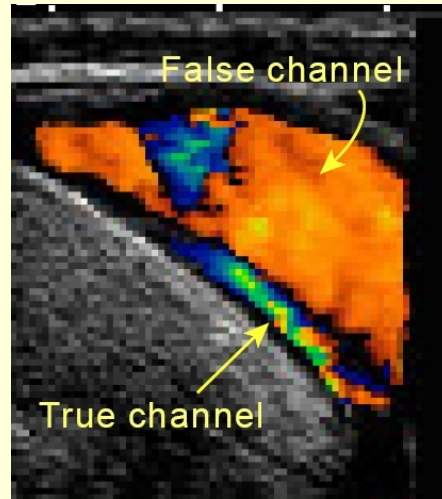
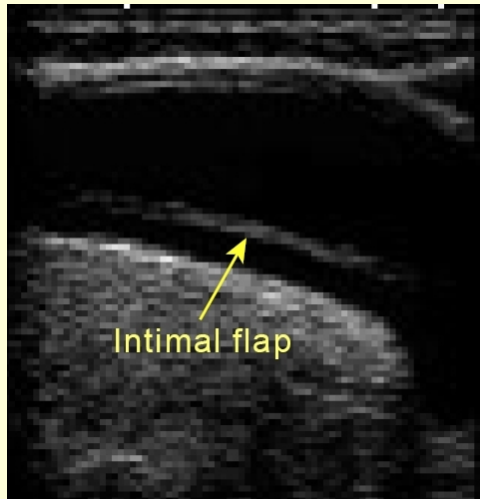
18% of screened had injury

Memphis Criteria

- Neuro exam not explained by brain injury
- Horner's syndrome
- Neck soft tissue injury
- Le Fort II or III
- Basilar skull fracture
- C spine fracture

29% of screened had injury

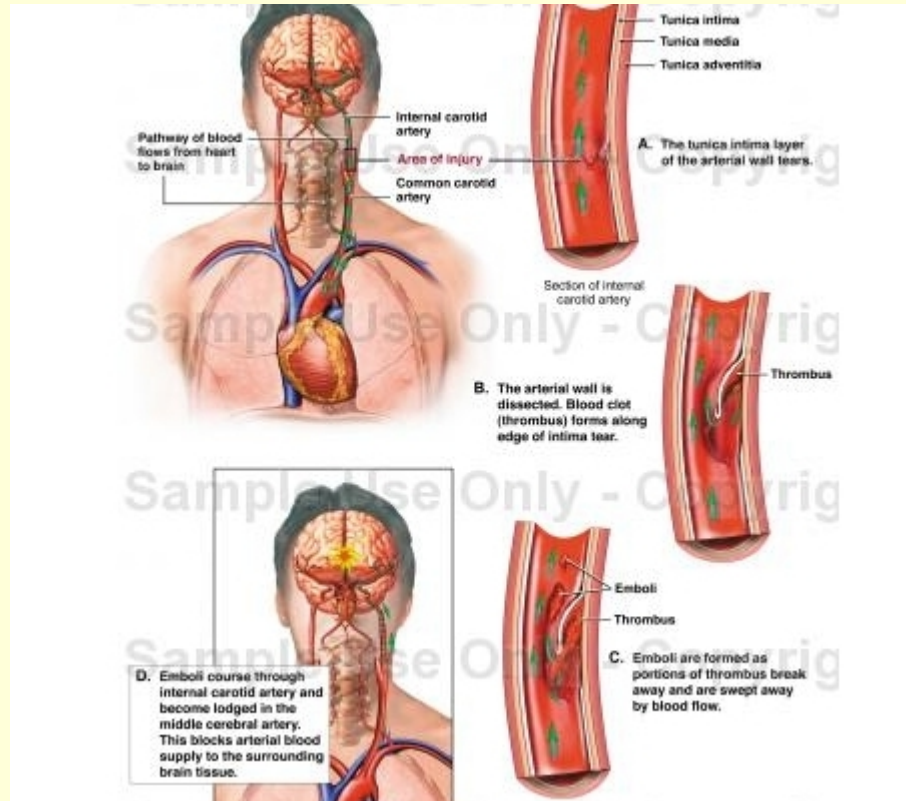
Cervical Arterial Injury



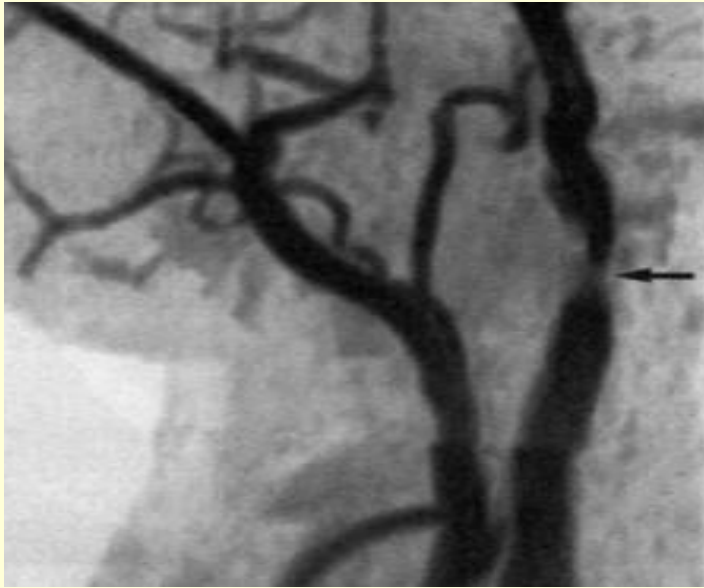
Classic Stretch Injury

- History of hyperextension (i.e. swimming)
- Severe neck to head ache near ear
- Horner's syndrome
- Hypoglossal n. injury
- Stroke

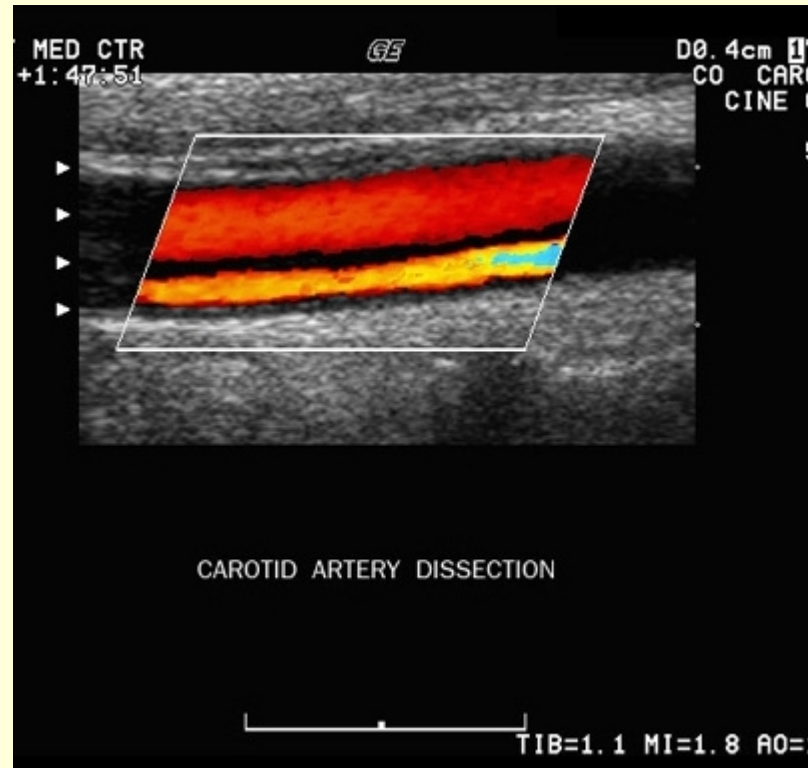
Carotid Dissection



Carotid Dissection



Carotid Dissection



Carotid Dissection

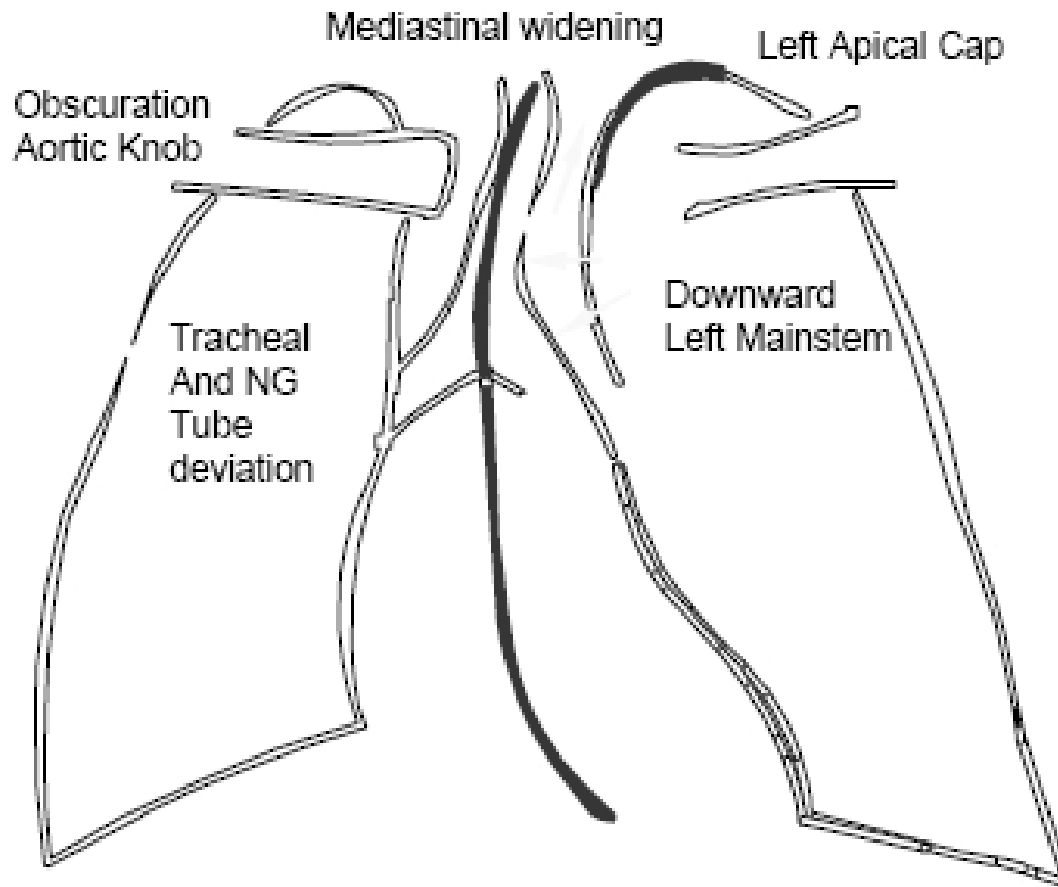
- Thrombosis-After 1-3hrs, no treatment
- Massive stroke-no Rx, anticoagulate if not contraindicated
- No or mild stroke and accessible-repair or stent
- Mild or no stroke and inaccessible-anticoagulate if not contraindicated

Blunt Thoracic Injury

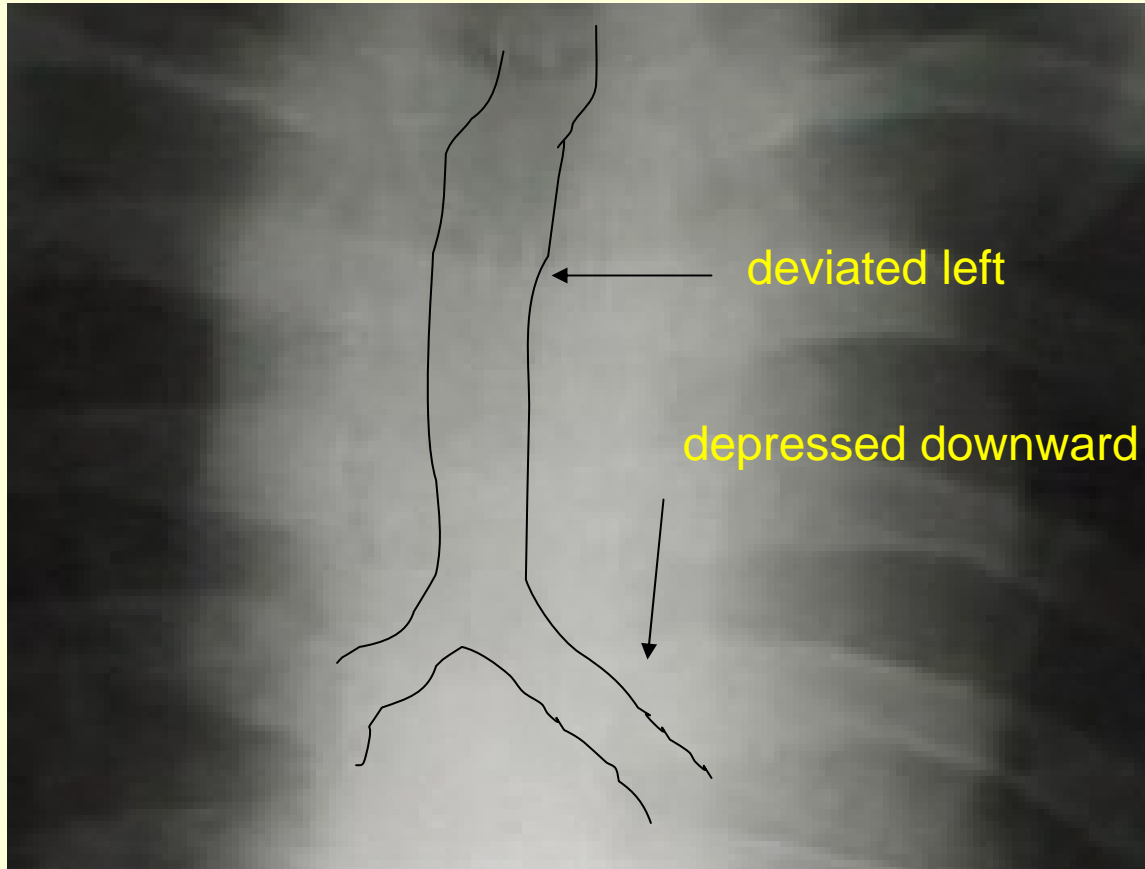
Blunt Aortic Injury

- Below the subclavian artery
- Shearing stress-fixed vs non-fixed aorta, rib cage compression, ligamentum arteriosum
- Mechanism of injury
 - Seat belt strap
 - Fractures of clavicle, ribs, sternum
 - Reversed Toyota sign
- Xray
 - Apical Cap
 - Widening of mediastinum
 - Indistinct aortic knob
 - Trachea deviation, bronchus depressed
- CT

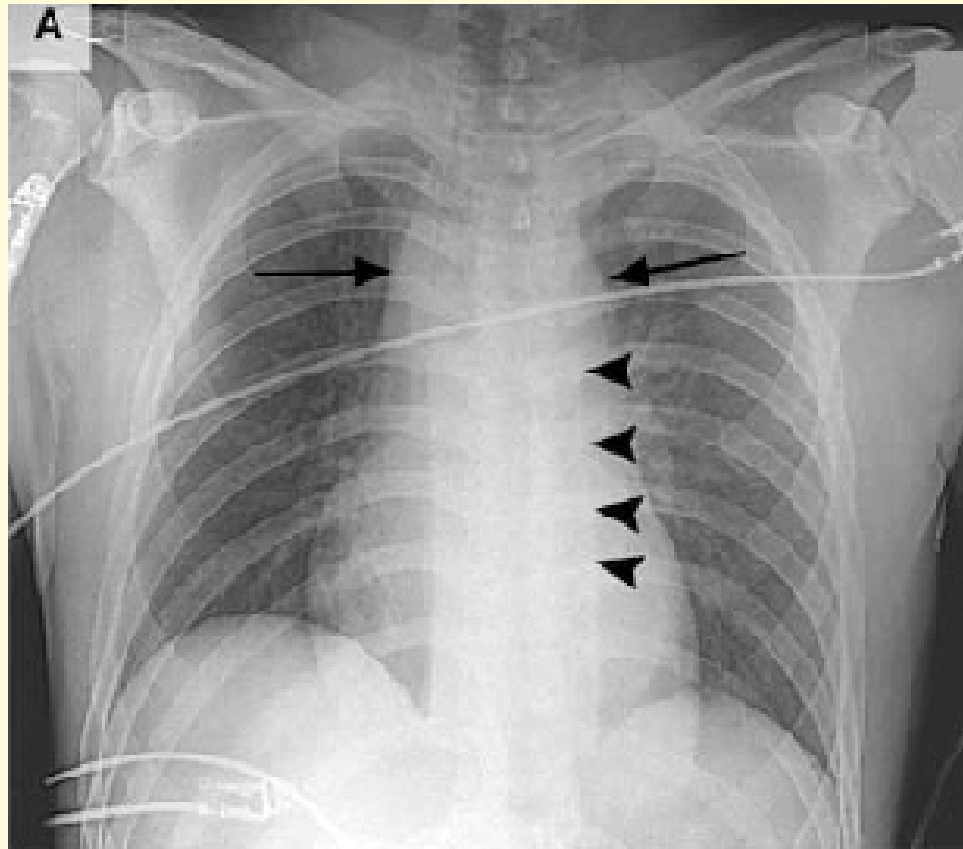
Xray



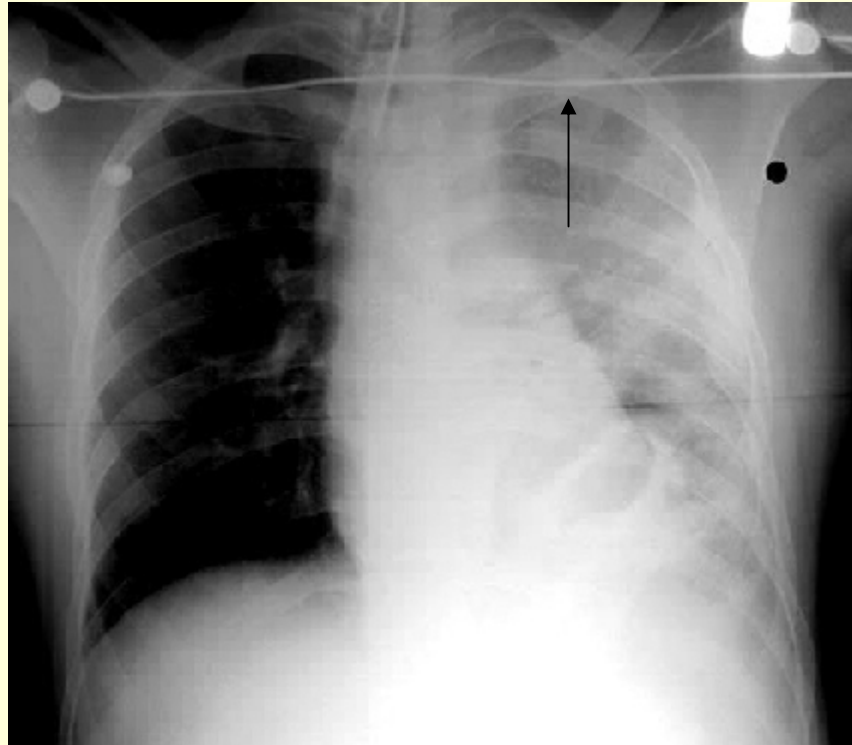
Deviated Trachea



Widened Mediastinum/Aortic Knob



Apical Cap



Xray

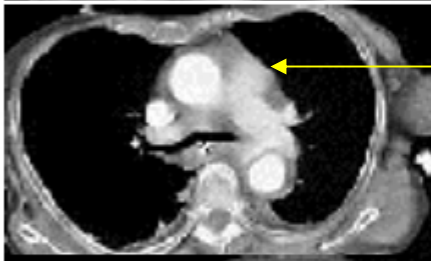
Chest x-ray screen

Positive predictive value 10%

Negative predictive value 98%

Too many false positives

CT



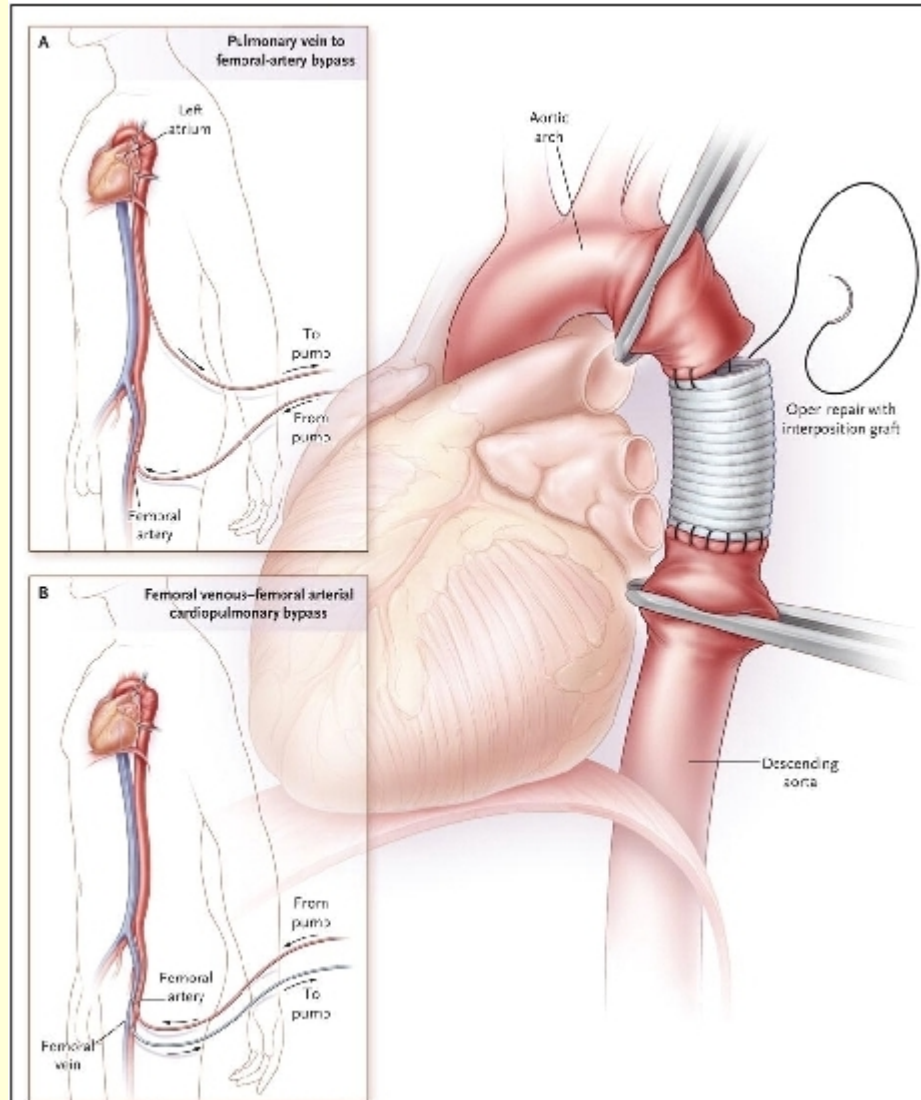
Treatment

- Emergency treatment-hemodynamically unstable **because of aortic injury**
- Expectant
 - Hemodynamically unstable because of other injuries
 - Hemodynamically stable
- No treatment-missed, lost to followup

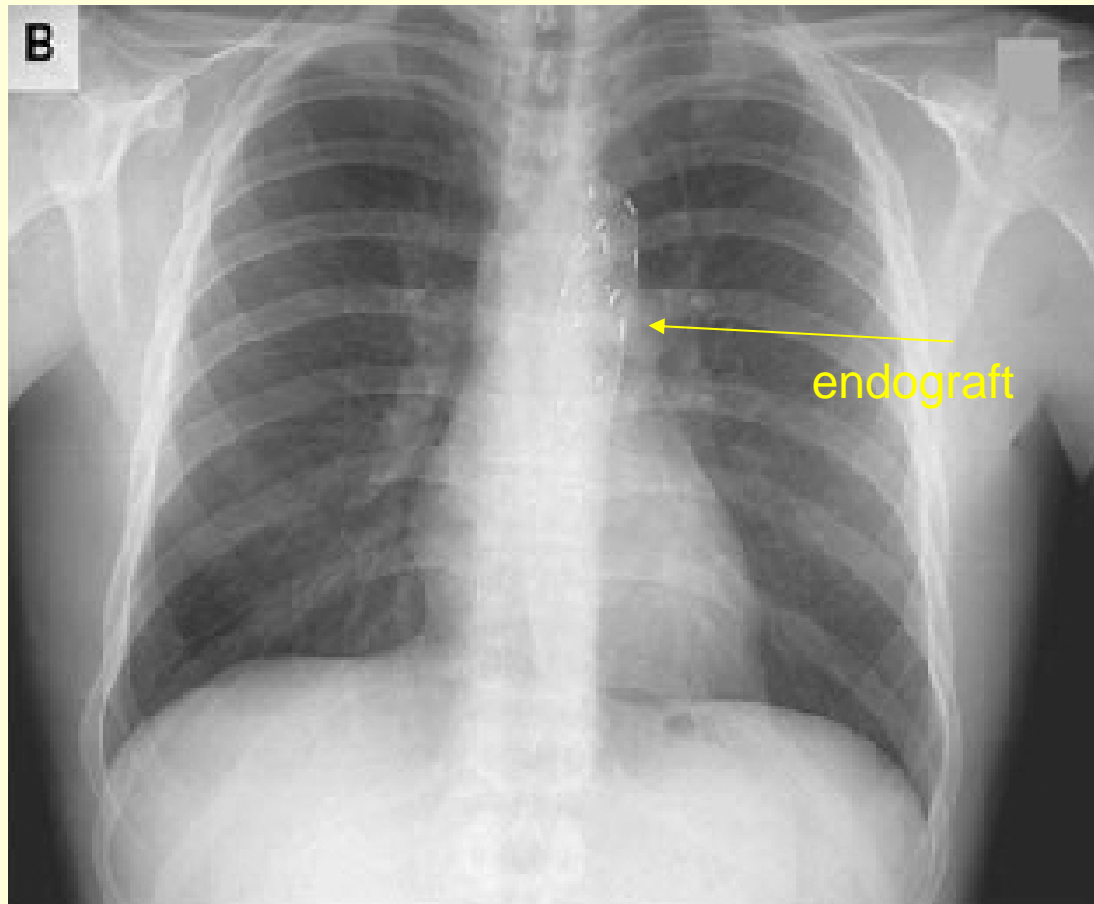
Treatment

- Initial blood pressure control
- Surgery
 - Bypass
 - Clamp and sew
- Endovascular surgery

Surgery



Endovascular Surgery



Results

Table 1. Comparison of Operative Approaches to Blunt Aortic Injury.

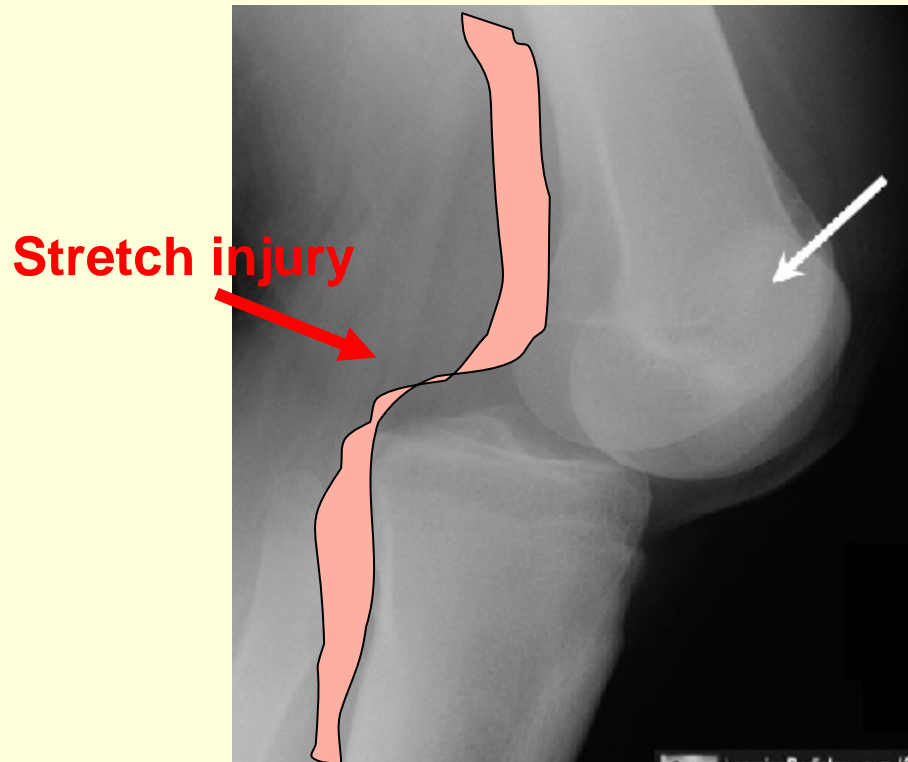
| Variable | Relative Degree of Risk* | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| | Clamp and Sew | Shunt-Bypass | Endovascular Repair |
| Complication | | | |
| Operative stress | High | Medium | Low |
| Blood loss | Medium | Medium | Low |
| Operative time | Medium | High | Low |
| Paraplegia | High | Medium | Low |
| Clinical scenario | | | |
| Patient with high surgical risk | High | Medium | Low |
| Patient with severe lung injury | High | Medium | Low |
| Patient with severe head injury | High | High | Low |
| Patient with challenging anatomy | Medium | Low | High |

* Relative degree of risk refers to a general comparison among the three operative procedures.

Peripheral Injury

- Hard signs—explore-especially the 2 p's
- Soft signs-diagnostic test to rule out or watch
- Mandatory diagnostic test-posterior dislocation of knee or elbow
- Blunt trauma associated with injury to vessels
 - Supracondylar fracture of arm or leg
 - Dislocation fracture at ankle

Posterior Dislocation



Intimal Flap

- May occur in penetrating or blunt trauma without hard signs
- Issue is when to assess invasively and when to intervene
- Risks are thrombosis, embolism and pseudoaneurysm
- Consensus that most may be observed
- Anticoagulation unnecessary-possible
ASA

Observation

- Most have no sequellae
- May thrombose
- Long term
 - Fistula
 - Pseudoaneurysm
- Embolism

Intimal Flap

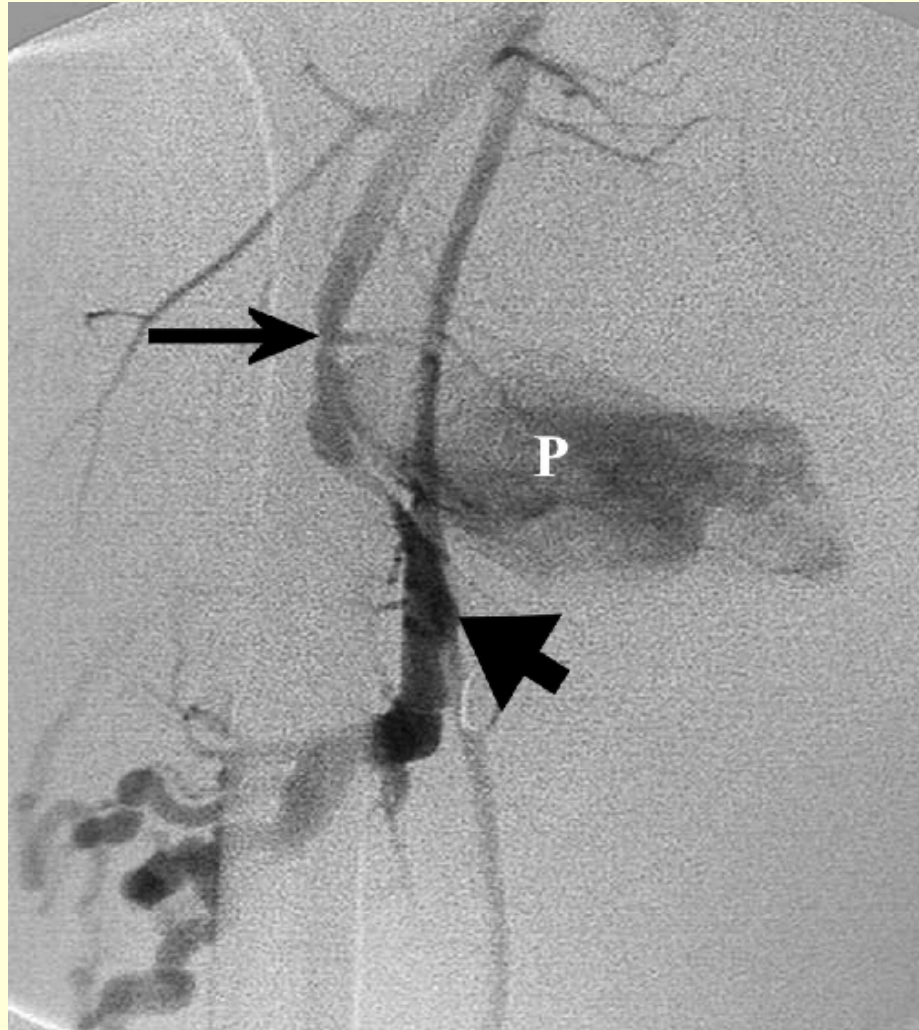


At Injury



No treatment-6 weeks

A-V Fistula



Posttraumatic Pseudoaneurysm

