



Medial laxity, poster-medial laxity and AMRI

In ACL deficient knee

Drs Nicolas GRAVELEAU, Nicolas BOUGUENNEC, Etienne CAVIGNAC and SFA surgeons

SFA - FRANCE

HELLO TO PETER VERDONCK

He was yesterday
in the OR ... but
not on the good
side of the drape
!!!



MEDIAL STRUCTURES LESIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ACL TEARS

- MCL + ACL = 2 most frequently injured ligaments of the knee

But few cases require surgery

Associated with the Antero-Medial Rotatory Instability (AMRI)

- Consensus for some points... but not for all
- Analysis is difficult because a lot of :
lesions described with variable definitions
surgical techniques
- Actuality topic !

Willinger et al. KSSTA 2021

Ball et al. KSSTA 2020

Zhang et al. AJSM 2014

Engebretsen & Lind KSSTA 2015

Miyasaka et al. AJKS 1991

Treatment of Combined Injuries to the ACL and the MCL Complex

A Consensus Statement of the Ligament Injury Committee of the German Knee Society (DKG)

Daniel Guenther,* MD

Investigation performed at Cologne Merheim Medical Center, University Witten/Herdecke, Cologne, Germany

The Orthopaedic Journal of Sports Medicine, 9(11), 23259671211050929

DOI: 10.1177/23259671211050929

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Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00167-020-06336-3>

KNEE

The posteromedial corner of the knee: an international expert consensus statement on diagnosis, classification, treatment, and rehabilitation

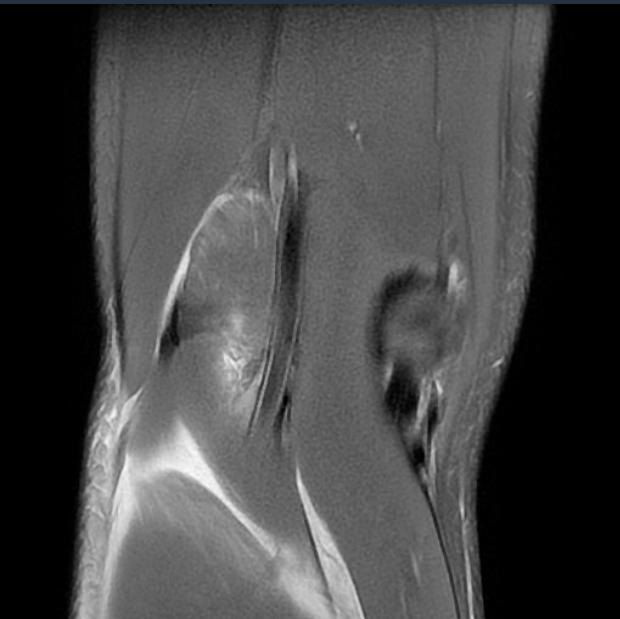
Jorge Chahla¹  · Kyl N. Kunze² · Robert F. LaPrade³ · Alan Getgood⁴ · Moises Cohen⁵ · Pablo Gelber^{6,7} ·
Björn Barenbus⁸ · Nicolas Pujo^{9,10} · Manual Leyes¹¹ · Ralph Akoto¹² · Brett Fritsch¹³ · Fabrizio Margheritini¹⁴ ·
Leho Rips¹⁵ · Jakub Kautzner¹⁶ · Victoria Duthon¹⁷ · Danilo Togninalli¹⁸ · Zanot Giacomo¹⁹ · Nicolas Gravelleau²⁰ ·
Stefano Zaffagnini²¹ · Lars Engbretsen²² · Martin Lind²³ · Rodrigo Maestu²⁴ · Richard Von Bormann²⁵ ·
Charles Brown²⁶ · Silvio Villaseca²⁷ · Juan Carlos Monllau²⁸ · Gonzalo Ferrer²⁹ · Jacques Menetrey¹⁷ ·
Michael Hantes³⁰ · David Parker¹³ · Timothy Lording³¹ · Kristian Samuelsson^{32,33} · Andreas Weiler³⁴ · Soshi Uchida³⁵ ·
Karl Heinz Froesch^{36,37} · David Robinson^{7,38}

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WHY SUCH A TOPIC ?

- MCL injuries → healing is the rule with conservative treatment

But... sometimes, no healing



Medial Laxity & Instability



Failure of the ACL



So what to do with the MCL
when ACL rupture ?

1+1=

*Indelicato et al. JBJS Am
1983*

*Petermann et al. KSSTA
1993*

*Zhu et al. KSSTA 2018
Zhang et al. AJSM
2014*

*Svantesson et al. KSSTA
2019*

Combined ACL & MEDIAL structures of the knee

Symposium SFA 2023

N. BOUGUENNEC, T. NERI, C. HERCE, C. LUTZ, B. FREYCHET, C.
KAJETANEK, A. HARDY, M. OLLIVIER, E. CAVAGNAC



SFA 2023

Société Francophone d'Arthroscopie

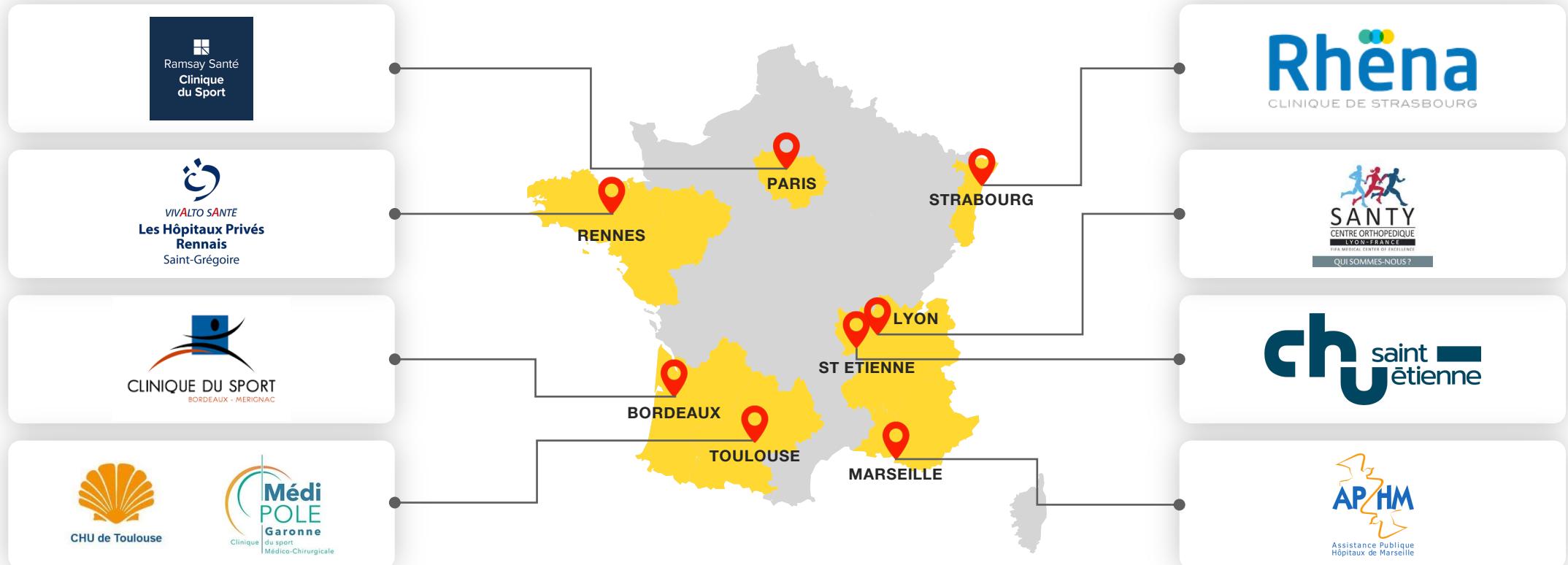
LYON

CENTRE DES CONGRÈS

14.15.16 DÉCEMBRE

CENTER INVOLVED IN THIS SFA STUDY

Sympo LCA LCM



BIBLIOGRAPHY



Journal of Orthopaedics 34 (2022) 21–30
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Journal of Orthopaedics
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jor

 ELSEVIER



The management of combined ACL and MCL injuries: A systematic review
Raunak Rao ^{*}, Rahul Bhattacharyya, Barry Andrews, Rajat Varma, Alvin Chen
Orthopaedics and Trauma, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, SE5 9RS, United Kingdom



Conclusion: **Heterogeneous outcome measures and limited randomised controlled trials** prevent advocacy of a single treatment option. Good outcomes have been reported from repair, reconstruction and conservative management of the MCL together with ACL reconstruction. Further prospective comparative data is required to evaluate MCL management choice and prognostic signs for successful nonsurgical MCL treatment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Result according to ACL treatment



Non operative treatment of ACL + MCL treatment (none/repair/reconstruction)

Bad results in all cases

- RTP (29%)
- Re-injuries



Systematic Review

Combined Anterior Cruciate Ligament and Medial Collateral Ligament Reconstruction Shows High Rates of Return to Activity and Low Rates of Recurrent Valgus Instability: An Updated Systematic Review

Margaret L. Wright, M.D., Carlo Coladonato, M.S., Michael G. Ciccotti, M.D., Fotios P. Tjoumakaris, M.D., and Kevin B. Freedman, M.D., M.S.C.E

ACL reconstruction is mandatory whatever is the LCM managment

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Result according to LCM injury grading Grade 1 et 2

JOURNAL OF BONE & JOINT SURGERY

KNEE

Does chronic medial collateral ligament laxity influence the outcome of anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction?

A PROSPECTIVE EVALUATION WITH A MINIMUM THREE-YEAR FOLLOW-UP

We have shown in a previous study that patients with combined lesions of the anterior cruciate (ACL) and medial collateral ligaments (MCL) had similar anteroposterior (AP) but greater valgus laxity at 30° after reconstruction of the ACL when compared with patients who had undergone reconstruction of an isolated ACL injury. The present study investigated the long-term outcome of patients followed up for a minimum of three years to evaluate whether the residual valgus laxity led to a poorer clinical outcome.

Each patient had undergone an arthroscopic double-bundle ACL reconstruction using a semitendinosus-gracilis graft. In the combined ACL/MCL injury group, the grade II medial collateral ligament injury was not treated. At follow-up, AP laxity was measured using a Kitaoka device while the knee was evaluated with Telos valgus stress radiographs and compared with the uninjured knee. We evaluated clinical outcome scores, muscle girth and time to return to activities for the two groups.

Valgus stress radiographs showed statistically significant greater mean medial joint opening in the combined lesion group than in the isolated ACL group (1.7 mm vs 0.9 mm or 0.9 mm vs 0.7), respectively ($p = 0.013$), while no statistically significant difference was found between the AP laxity and the other clinical parameters. Our results show that the residual valgus laxity does not affect AP laxity significantly at a minimum follow up of three years, suggesting that no additional surgical procedure is needed for the medial collateral ligament in combined lesions.

S. Zaffagnini,
T. Bonanzinga,
G. M. Marchegiani
Muccoli,
G. Giordano,
D. Bruni,
R. Rizzoli,
N. Lopomo,
M. Maracci
From the Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, Bologna, Italy

Prospectif recul 3 ans

Do Clinical Outcomes and Failure Rates Differ in Patients With Combined ACL and Grade 2 MCL Tears Versus Isolated ACL Tears?

A Prospective Study With 14-Year Follow-up

Gian Andrea Lucidi,^{*†} MD, Piero Agostinone,[†] MD, Alberto Grassi,[†] MD, PhD, Stefano Di Paolo,[‡] Eng, Giacomo Dal Fabbro,[†] MD, Tommaso Bonanzinga,^{§||} MD, PhD, and Stefano Zaffagnini,[†] Prof., MD
Investigation performed at IRCCS Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, Bologna, Italy

Prospectif recul 14 ans

Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine (2019) 12:239–244
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12178-019-09549-3>

ACL: RISK FACTORS, OUTCOMES, PREVENTIONS (R GALLO, SECTION EDITOR)

Combined Anterior Cruciate Ligament and Medial Collateral Ligament Knee Injuries: Anatomy, Diagnosis, Management Recommendations, and Return to Sport

Joshua L. Elkin^{1,2} · Edgar Zamora¹ · Robert A. Gallo²

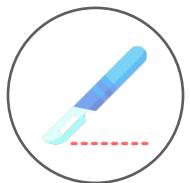
Méta-analyse



Results ACL + MCL grade1 / 2 conservative treatment = equal to isolated ACL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Result according to LCM injury grading Grade 3



Depending of the tear location on MCL

- Distal and midsubstance ⇒ surgery (plasty > repair)
- Femoral insertion ⇒ surgery = conservative

Systematic Review

Combined Anterior Cruciate Ligament and Medial Collateral Ligament Reconstruction Shows High Rates of Return to Activity and Low Rates of Recurrent Valgus Instability: An Updated Systematic Review

Margaret L. Wright, M.D., Carlo Coladonato, M.S., Michael G. Cicotti, M.D., Fotios P. Tjoumakaris, M.D., and Kevin B. Freedman, M.D., M.S.C.E



HHS Public Access

Author manuscript
Arthroscopy. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2020 May 01.

Published in final edited form as:
Arthroscopy. 2019 May ; 35(5): 1466–1472. doi:10.1016/j.arthro.2018.10.138.

Outcomes of Grade III MCL Injuries Treated Concurrently with ACL Reconstruction: A Multicenter Study



distal / mid subst. grade 3 MCL = SURGERY | Femoral tear = conservative

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Result according to LCM injury grading Grade 3



Result according to MCL management

- No difference : functional scores
- RTP and re-rupture rates (controversy)
- No difference ROM
(knee stiffness = old surgical techniques)
- Residual medial laxity = less if MCL plasty

Nonoperative Management, Repair, or Reconstruction of the Medial Collateral Ligament in Combined Anterior Cruciate and Medial Collateral Ligament Injuries—Which Is Best?

A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

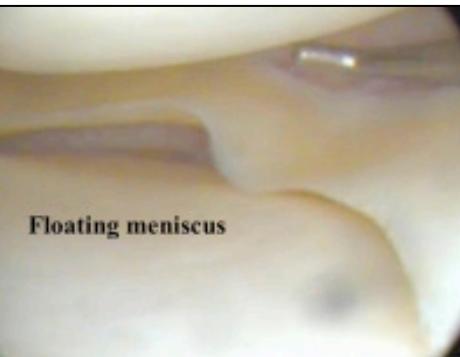
Christopher L. Shultz,^{*} MD, Emily Poehlein,[†] MB, Nicholas J. Morris,^{‡§} BA, Cynthia L. Green,[†] PhD, Jessica Hu,^{||} Sarah Lander,^{||} MD, Kelms Amoo-Achampong,^{||} MD, and Brian C. Lau,^{||} MD
Investigation performed at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina, USA



The Presence of the Arthroscopic "Floating Meniscus" Sign as an Indicator for Surgical Intervention in Patients With Combined Anterior Cruciate Ligament and Grade II Medial Collateral Ligament Injury
Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic & Related Surgery
Volume 35, Issue 3, March 2019, Pages 930-937

Early medial reconstruction combined with severely injured medial collateral ligaments can decrease residual medial laxity in anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction

Arthroscopy and Sports Medicine | Published: 03 November 2021 | 142, 2791–2799 (2022)



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Result according to LCM injury grading Grade 3



Result according to MCL management

- ACL rec. + conservative MCL = increase the risk of ACL revision
(cause = laxité médiale résiduelle augmente tension greffe LCA)
- ACL rec.+ MCL rec. = isolated ACL
- But ...

Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology, Arthroscopy (2019) 27:2450–2459
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00167-018-5237-3>

KNEE



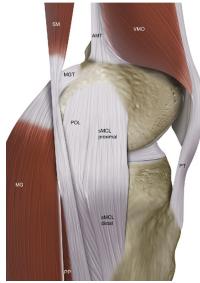
CrossMark

Increased risk of ACL revision with non-surgical treatment of a concomitant medial collateral ligament injury: a study on 19,457 patients from the Swedish National Knee Ligament Registry

Eleonor Svantesson¹  · Eric Hamrin Senorski² · Eduard Alentorn-Geli^{3,4,5} · Olof Westin^{1,6} · David Sundemo¹ · Alberto Grassi^{7,8} · Svetmir Ćustović⁹ · Kristian Samuelsson^{1,6}

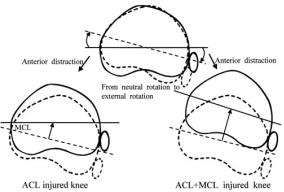
What you need to treat association ACL + « MCL » ?

ANATOMY STATUS



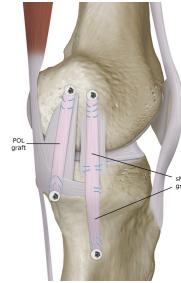
- sMCL
- dMCL
- POL

BIOMECA



- **Varus**
 - À 30°: sMCL +++, dMCL
 - À 0°: POL
- **Rotation = dMCL**
- **Translation = dMCL**

Surgical TREATMENT



- sMCL: tibia 6cm under joint line
 - Tensioned 30° flexion
- dMCL: reverse ALL (miroir)
- POL: post / fem. epicondyle
 - Tensioned 0° flexion



Surgery for whom ?

ACL + MCL GRADE 1

= *PAIN without LAXITY*

DO NOT FIX THE MCL!

NO GO !

Surgery for whom ?

ACL + MCL GRADE 2

NO MEDIAL Laxity in EXTENSION but slight to moderate laxity @ 20° of flexion



Delayed SURGERY stiffness ,

...



NO. MCL treatment



Early ACL reconstruction



MCL REPAIR especially if ...

- Sport activity
- Distal MCL or MCL entrapment

Surgery for whom ?

ACL + MCL GRADE 3

(*MEDIAL laxity in flexion AND in extension*)



GO for SURGERY

Otherwise = chronic laxity and bad functionnal results

Quit SOON

Repair if you can in acute

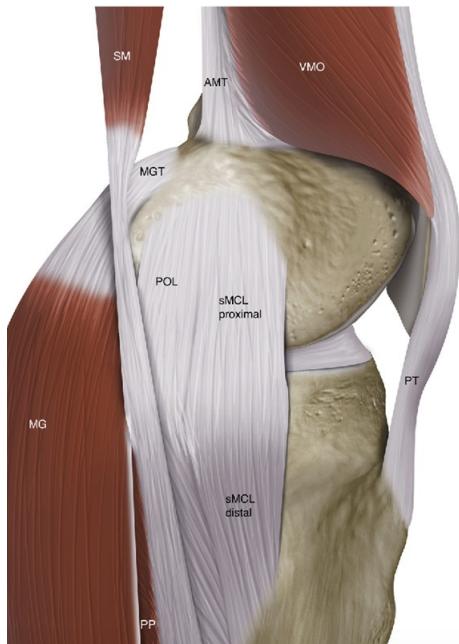
... sometime difficult due to the pain / knee aspect (« new / second « trauma +++)

If not possible : secondary reconstruction associated with ACL rec on a « calm » knee

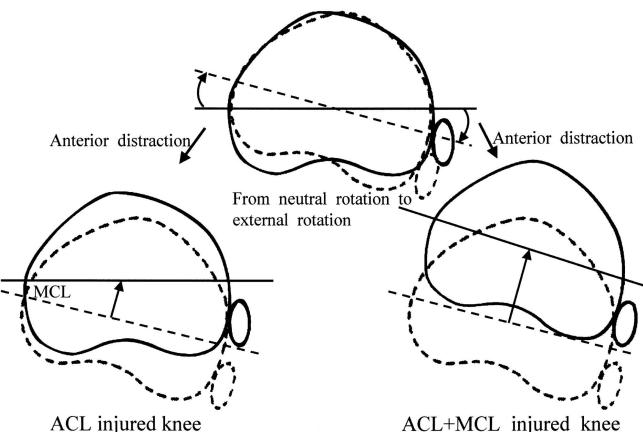
PLAN



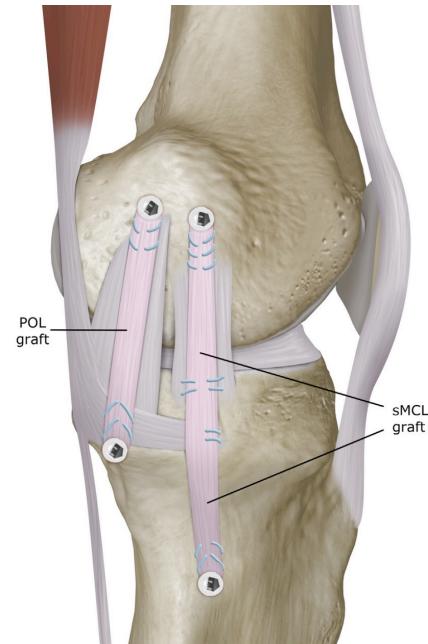
ANATOMY



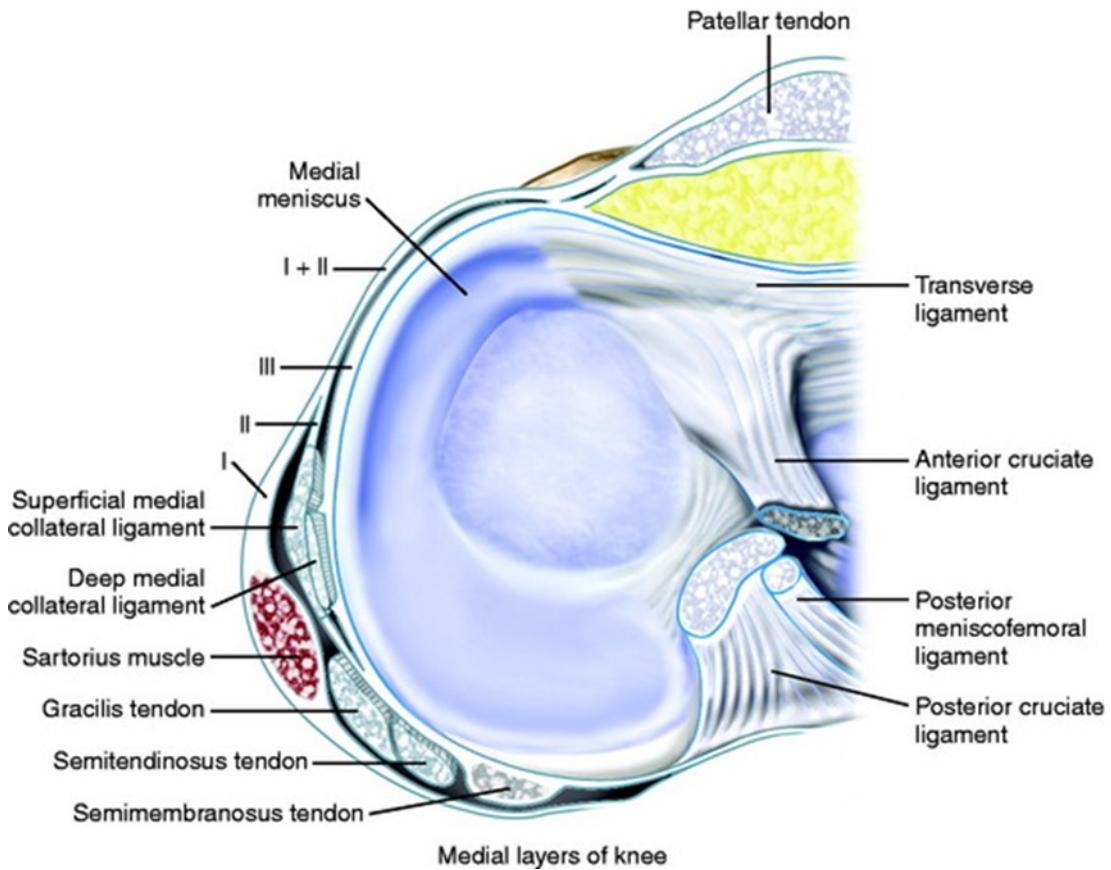
BIOMECA



SURGICAL PLAN



ANATOMY



3 LAYERS

Medial Structures of Knee

Layer 1

Sartorius and fascia (patellar retinaculum)
gracilis, semitendinosus, and saphenous nerve run between layer 1 and 2

Layer 2

Semimembranosus, superficial MCL, MPFL, posterior oblique ligament

Layer 3

Deep MCL, capsule, coronary ligament

ANATOMY

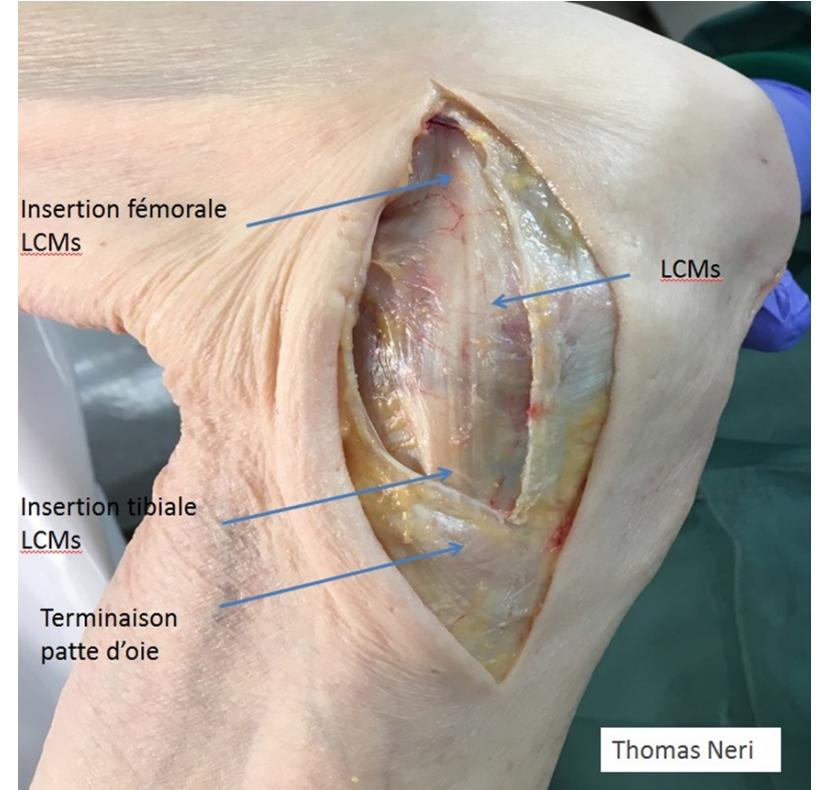
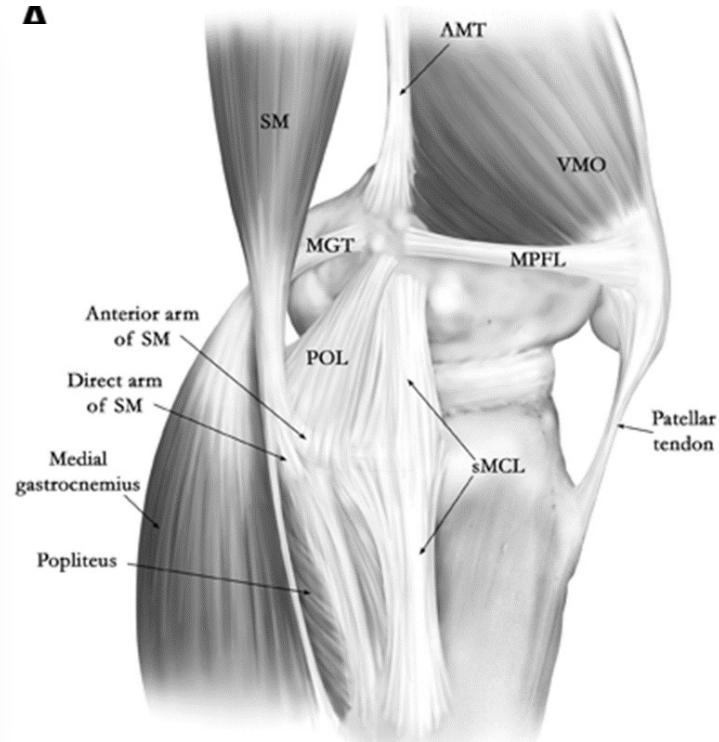
INTERMEDIATE LAYER

sMCL

POL

SM

ST, gracilis



ANATOMY

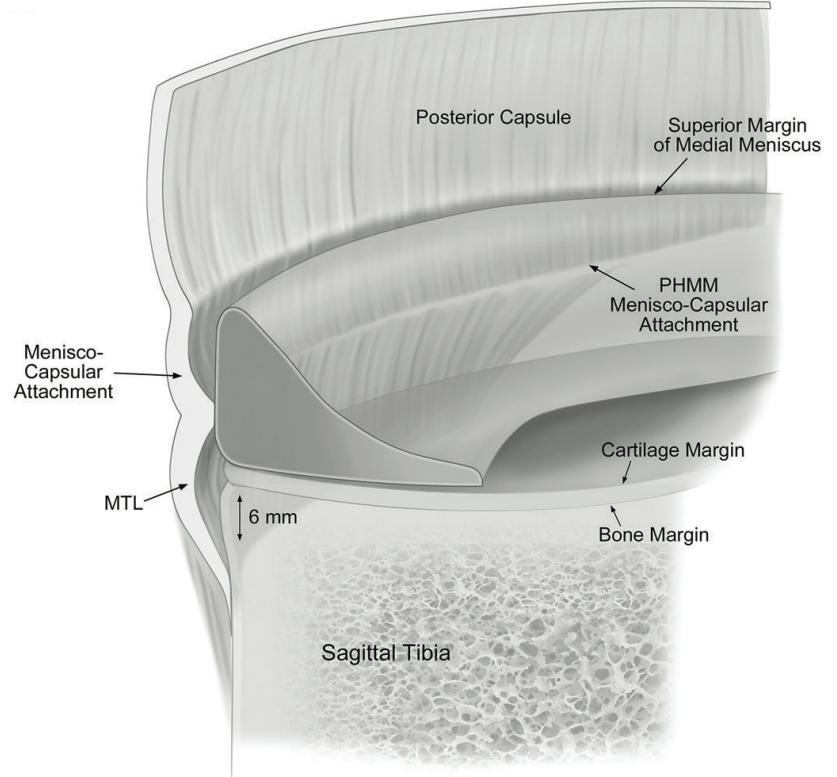
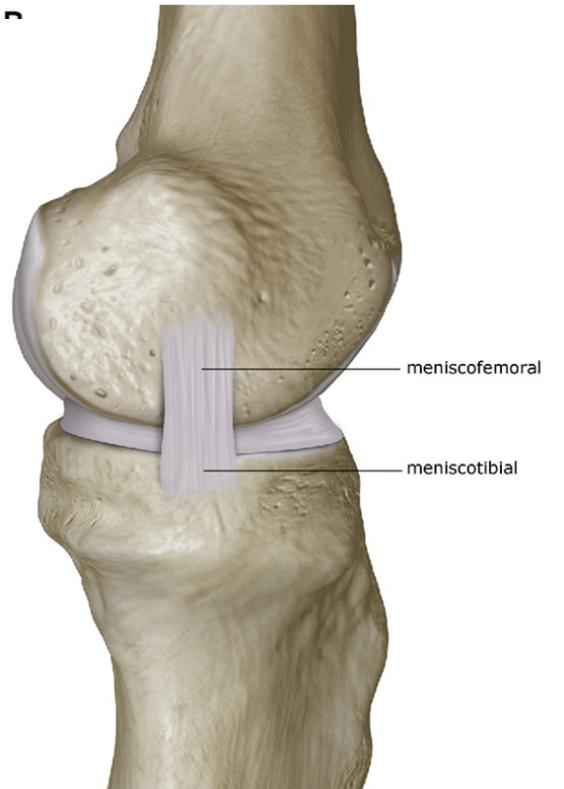
DEEP LAYER

dMCL

capsule

Ligament menisco-tibial

Ligament capsulo-
meniscal



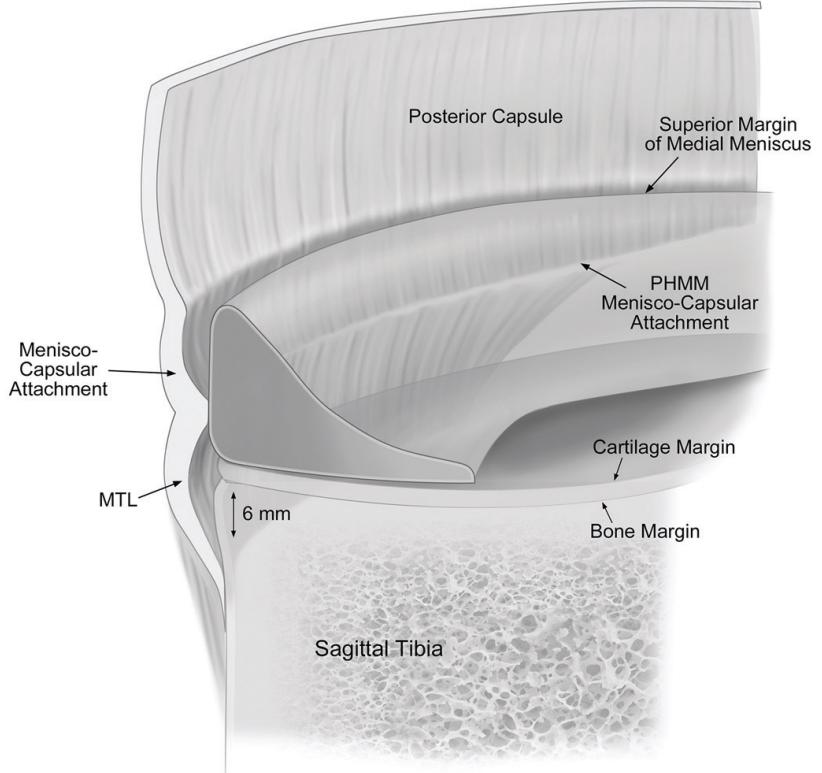
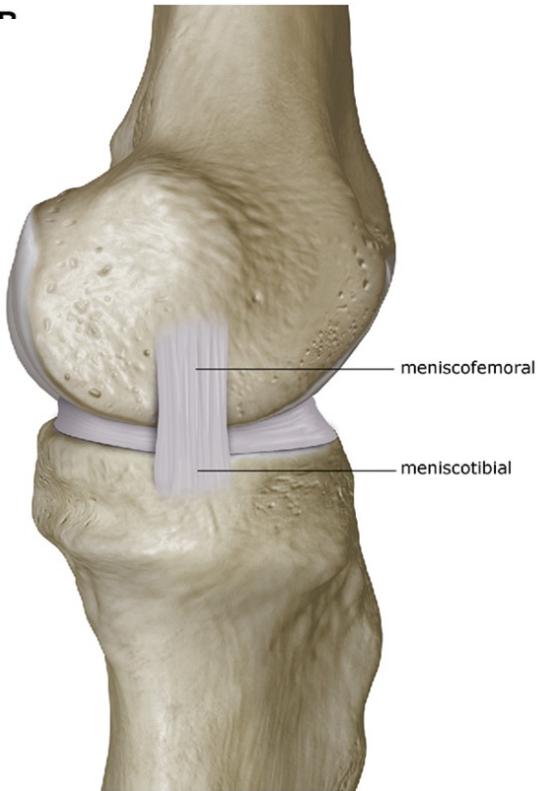
ANATOMY

DEEP MCL (dMCL)

Stabilization of ANTERIOR
TRANSLATION & VALGUS

2 contingents :

- Menisco-femoral
- Menisco-tibial



ANATOMY

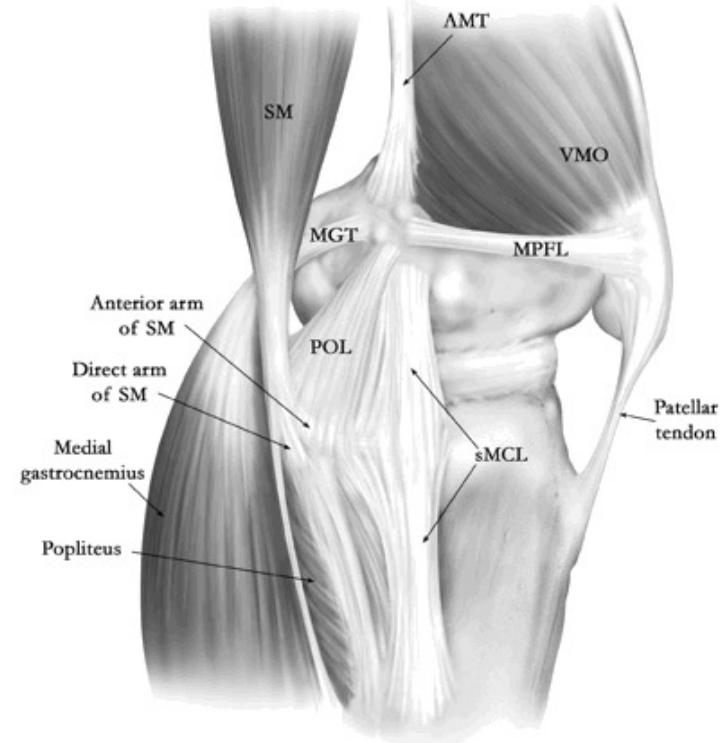
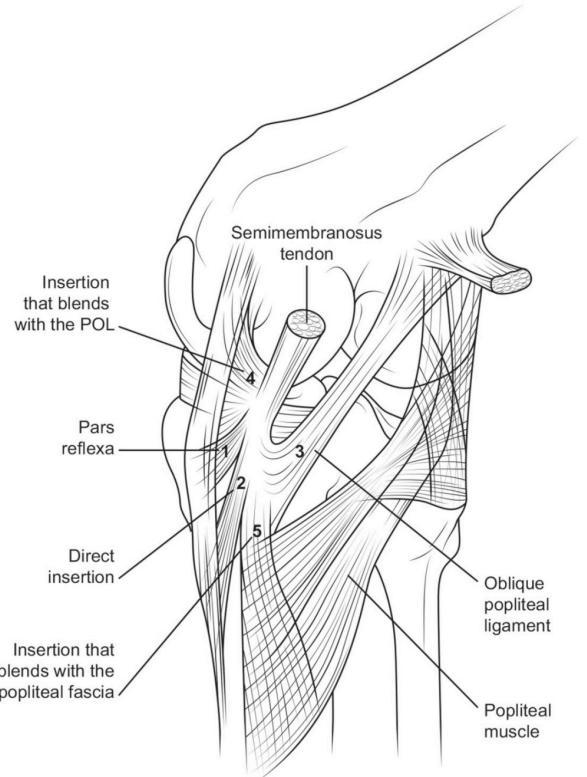
POSTERO-MEDIAL CORNER

Posterior Oblique Ligament (POL):

- Femur: Post-distale tubercle ADD
- Tibia: SM tendon

PM articular capsule

Posterior part of the medial meniscus



ANATOMY

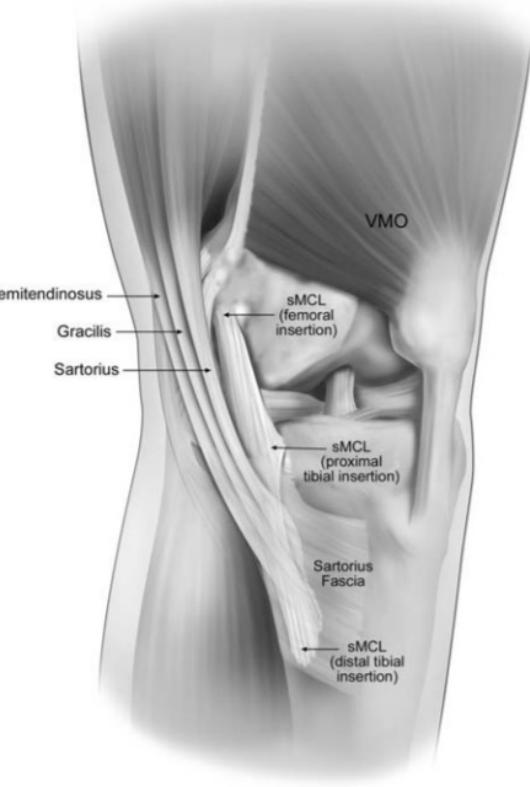
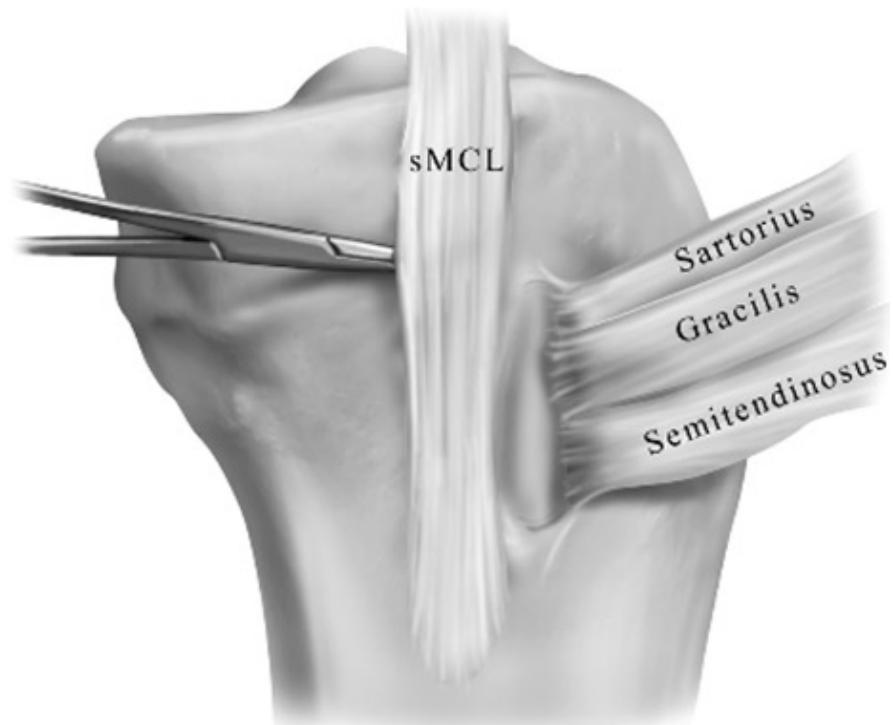
Semi membranosus

Sartorius

Semi tendinosus

Gracilis

- SECONDARY restrain in valgus
- GRAFTS choices

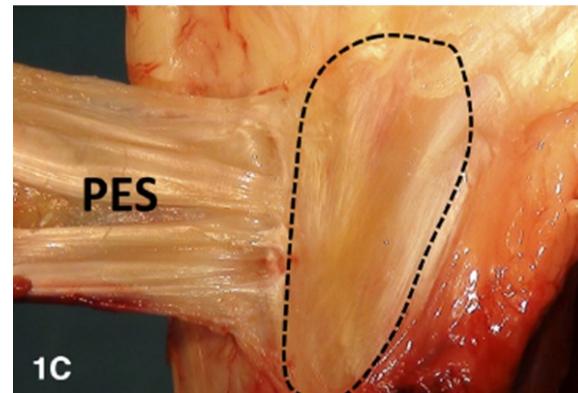
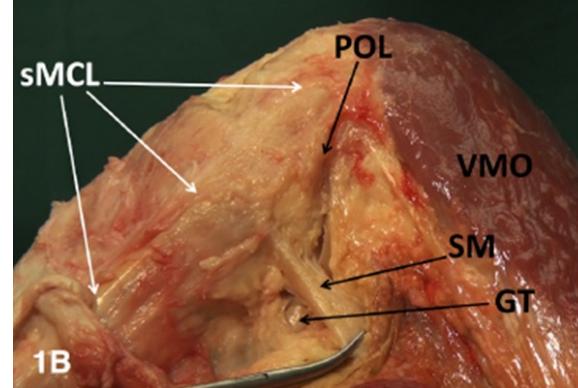
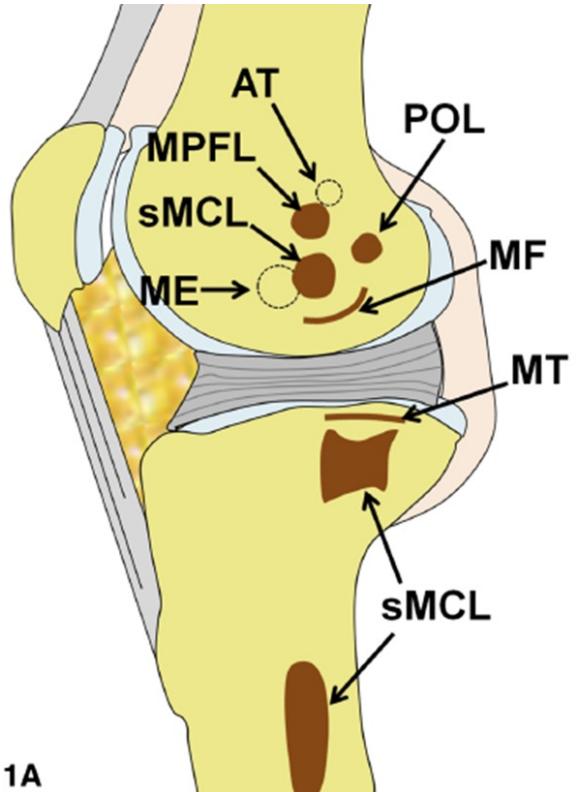


SURGICAL TECHNIQUES

**RESPECT the
ANATOMY**

**REPAIR
(reinsertion)**

**RECONSTRUCTION
(graft)**



BIOMECA

Restrain Valgus, Rotation & Translation



VARUS

@ 30°: sMCL +++ & dMC
@ 0°: POL



ROTATION

dMCL



TRANSLATION

Association of structures
(dMCL +++)

BIOMECA

INTACT KNEE

Pas de laxité
en extension

Laxité physiologique
à 30°

VALGUS @ 30°

sLCM ++++

dLCM

VALGUS @ 0°

POL

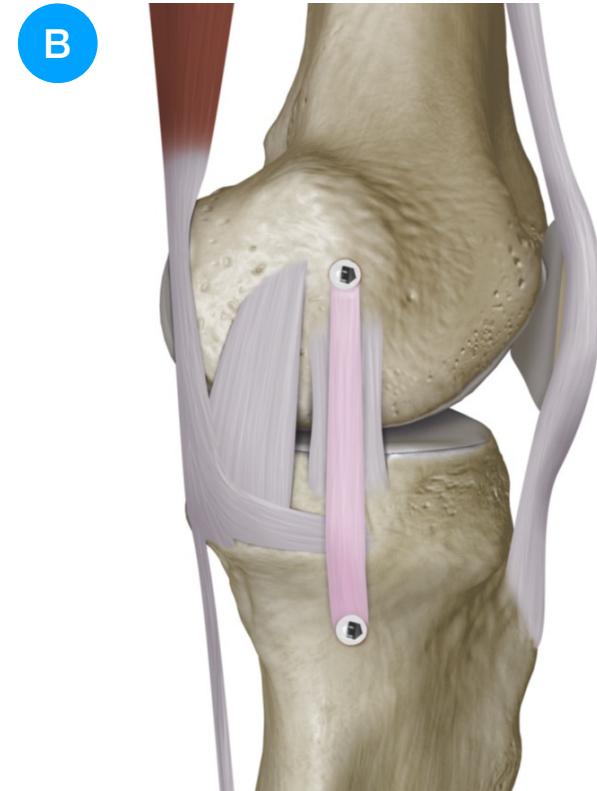
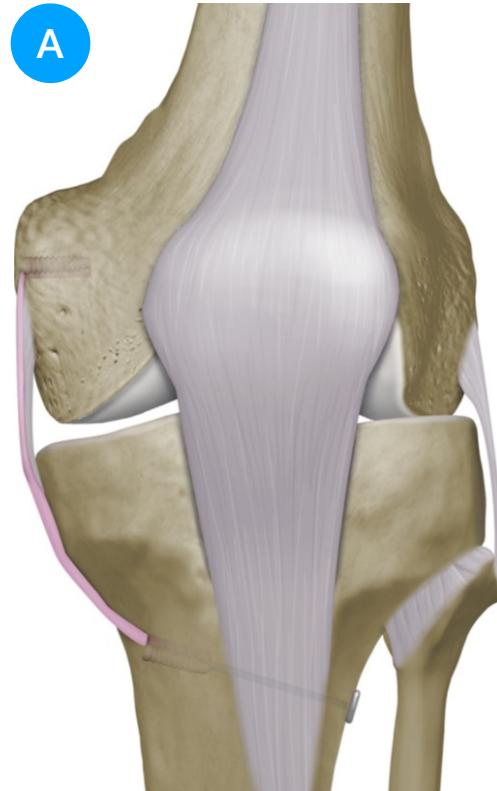
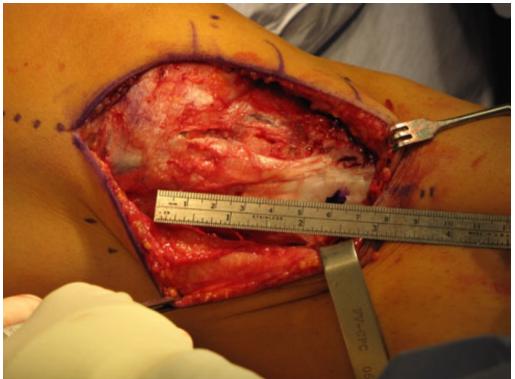
AMRI & TRANSLATION

dLCM

SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

sMCL

**TIBIAL Tunnel : 6cm
above the joint line**



SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

dMCL

Femoral tunnel

- 6 mm distal
- 5 mm postérieur
- // MEDIAL epicondyle

Tibial tunnel:

- 8 mm below the joint line



The Mirror Anterolateral Ligament: A Simple Technique to Reconstruct the Deep Medial Collateral Ligament Using the Gracilis Associated With a Four-Strand Semitendinosus for Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction

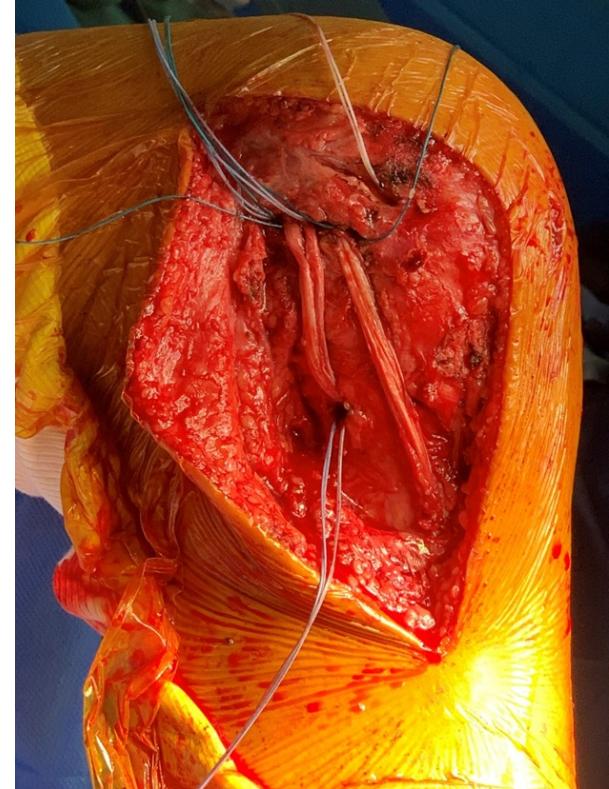
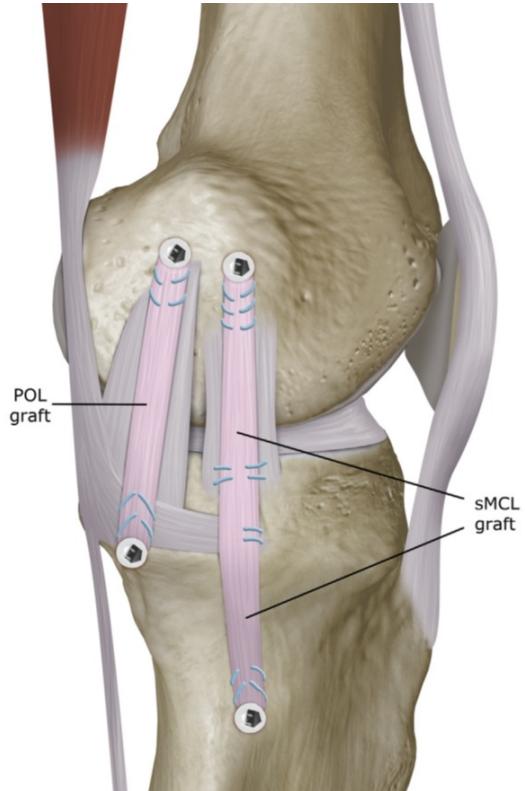
Jérémie Daxhelet, M.D., Nicolas Bouguennec, M.D., and Nicolas Graveleau, M.D.

SURGICAL MANAGEMENT

MCL + POL

Anatomic +++

- 2 bundles
- 2 femoral tunnels



FOCUS



A New Algorithm to Treat Chronic Combined ACL/MCL Injuries: Let's Come Back to the “Rotatory Instability Test”

Nicolas Bouguennec,^{*†} MD , Thibault Marty-Diloy,[†] MD , Philippe Colombet,[†] MD,
Nicolas Gravaleau,[†] MD, and James Robinson,[‡] FRCS(Orth), MS

Investigation performed at Clinique du Sport, Bordeaux-Merignac, France

- Back to a simple test, the “Rotatory Instability Test” as described by Slocum and Larson in 1968
- Improve the sensitivity and accuracy of the deep MCL (dMCL) and superficial MCL (sMCL) examination
- Allow to propose a decision-making algorithm for the treatment of the chronic combined ACL/MCL injuries based on the assessment of anteromedial rotatory instability (AMRI).

SUPERFICIAL MCL DEEP MCL AND ANTERIOR DRAWER

The Role of the Medial Collateral Ligament and
Posteromedial Capsule in Controlling Knee Laxity

James R. Robinson et al.

The American Journal of Sports Medicine 2006

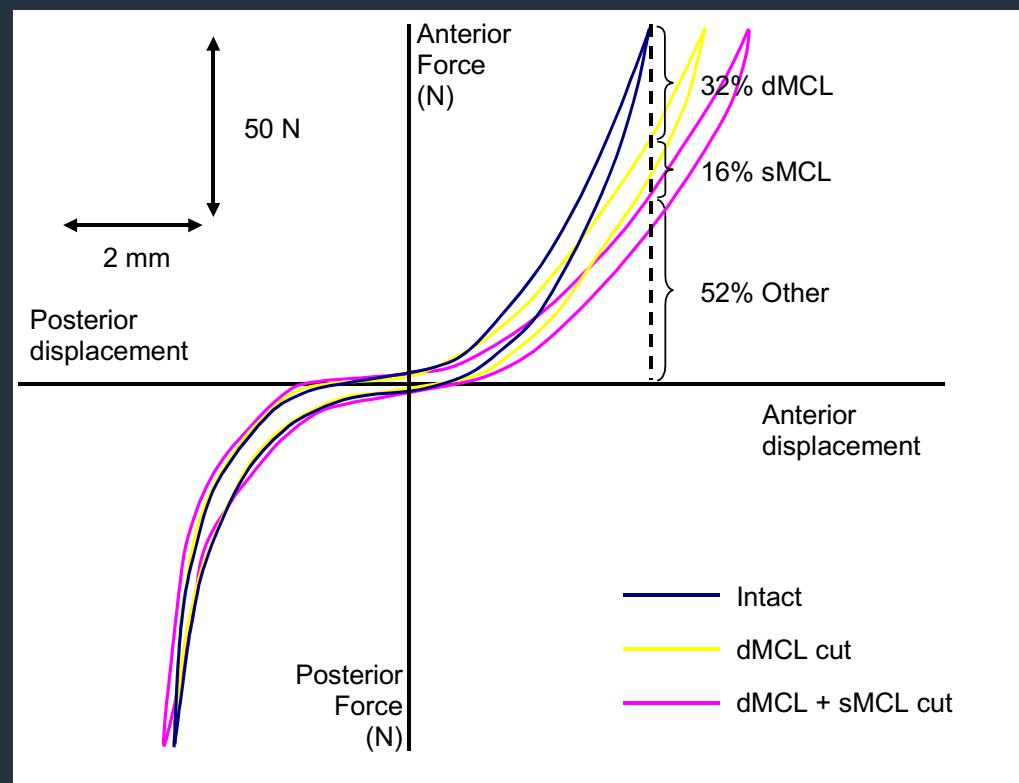
1. Intact → sMCL → dMCL → PMC
2. Intact → dMCL → PMC → sMCL
3. Intact → PMC → sMCL → dMCL



Dr James ROBINSON

ATT @150N in all combination : NO SIGNIFICATIVE DIFFERENCE in NEUTRAL ROTATION

If you fix the tibia in EXTERNAL ROTATION : dMCL 32% contribution to ATT restriction à la restriction de la translation antérieure



BASICS : CAUTIOUS CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Examination of the ACL injury

- Lachman test
- Anterior drawer in neutral rotation
- Pivot shift test confirm the ACL injury



Examination of MEDIAL structures (*sMCL, dMCL, POL, « capsule »*)

- Valgus laxity in full knee extension
- Valgus laxity at 20° of flexion
- Anterior drawer test at 90° of flexion in external rotation **[ADER] test**

Allowing to identify isolated dMCL, dMCL + sMCL, or MCL + POL injuries.

AMRI : ANTERO MEDIAL ROTATIONAL INSTABILITY

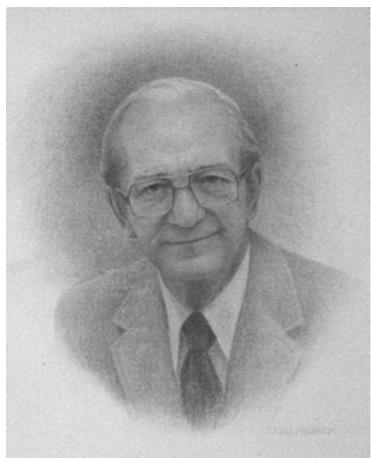
Factors for the presence of anteromedial rotatory instability of the knee

MAKOTO KURIMURA¹, HIDEO MATSUMOTO¹, KYOSUKE FUJIKAWA², and YOSHIAKI TOYAMA¹

TWO different definition of AMRI:

1. Excessive anterior translation with an externally rotated tibia in CLINICAL studies
2. Increase in external tibial rotation in most BIOMECHANICAL studies

This difference has caused confusion in the understanding of AMRI.



Dr. Donald B. Slocum



Dr. Robert L. Larson

Rotatory Instability of the Knee

*Its Pathogenesis and a Clinical Test to Demonstrate Its Presence**

Donald B. Slocum, MD; and Robert L. Larson, MD

J Bone Joint Surg [Am] 1968

The ligamentous structures of the medial side of the knee are composed of the capsular ligaments and an overlying tibial collateral ligament which reinforces the medial aspect of the joint.

Rotatory instability of the knee permitting **abnormal external rotation of the tibia on the femur** is the result of forced abduction of the flexed knee and external rotation of the tibia. **Rotatory instability** is a functional deficit and is but a segment of a more general **involvement of the meniscocoligamentous system**.

This agrees ... with the experimental work of Kennedy who demonstrated that forced external rotation of the flexed knee results in consistent rupture of the **deep capsular portion of the medial ligament**.

The **rotatory instability test** is said to be **positive** when pathologically increased **forward and outward displacement** of the tibia on the femur is possible when the tibia is pulled forward while externally rotated 15 degrees, with the knee flexed to right angles and the foot supported to eliminate gravitational tension.

CLINICAL examination : ADER TEST

3 - Rotational laxity control

- Who check EDL ?
- AMRI = ANTERO-MEDIAL ROTATORY INSTABILITY
 - Exces of ATT + ER
 - Lack of consensus on role of POL & PM capsule
- ADER test = Anteriro drawer test in EXTERNAL ROTATION of 15°
- Make difference between sMCL & dMCL



Courtesy N. Bouguennec

Could exist even without medial laxity in isolated dMCL lesion



A New Algorithm to Treat Chronic Combined
ACL/MCL Injuries: Let's Come Back to the "Rotatory
Instability Test"

Nicolas Bouguennec, MD ^{†,*}, Thibault Marty-Diloy, MD [†], Philippe Colombe, MD [†],
Nicolas Gravellou, MD [†], and James Robinson, FRCS(Orth), MS [‡]

ACL + MCL CHRONIC INJURIES

(ACL surgery planned)



No ← Valgus laxity in extension → Yes



AMRI Classification with a « Modified Wierer classification »

ACL + MCL + POL
surgery

Anterior Drawer in External Rotation Test (ADER TEST)
+ Valgus stress test at 20° of flexion

GRADE	0	I	II	III
ADER TEST	-	+	++	+++
VALGUS LAXITY at 20° of flexion	-	-	+	+++

= Isolated ACL recon.

dMCL injury
+/- no or minimal sMCL injury
= ACL + dMCL reconstruction

dMCL and significant sMCL injury
= ACL + dMCL + sMCL reconstruction

Merci et bienvenus à BORDEAUX!





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