

Multimodality Multiparametric and Motion Musculoskeletal Imaging: Structure and Function

John A. Carrino, M.D., M. P. H.
Vice Chairman, Department of Radiology and Imaging
Hospital for Special Surgery
Professor of Radiology, Weill Cornell Medicine
New York, NY



DISCLOSURES

- Research Grants
 - GE (Institutional)
- Consultant
 - Globus Medical
 - Image Analysis Group
 - Pfizer
- MAB
 - Carestream
 - Image Analysis Group
 - GE

Call for Action to Invest in Musculoskeletal Health and Control the Burden of Musculoskeletal Conditions



Musculoskeletal disorders are the most common causes of severe long-term pain and physical disability, affecting hundreds of millions of people across the world

Functional Imaging

- Medical imaging usually performed in static, non-loaded non-physiologic state
- Motion is an integral function of the MSK system
- Evaluating Joint dysfunction could be enhanced by functional imaging
- Functional Imaging for MSK

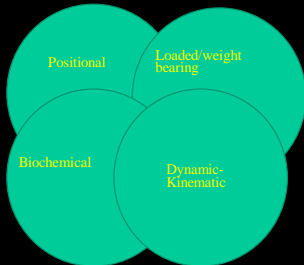
Functional Imaging: Impetus

- some disorders of muscles, tendons, nerves, and joints are better or only seen dynamically
 - during motion of the extremity
 - muscle contraction
 - Compression/provocative maneuvers
 - position change

Functional Imaging: Types

- Positional
- Loaded/weight bearing
- Dynamic-Kinematic
- Biochemical

Functional Imaging Intersections

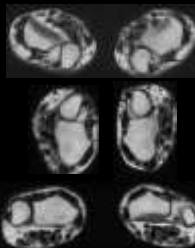


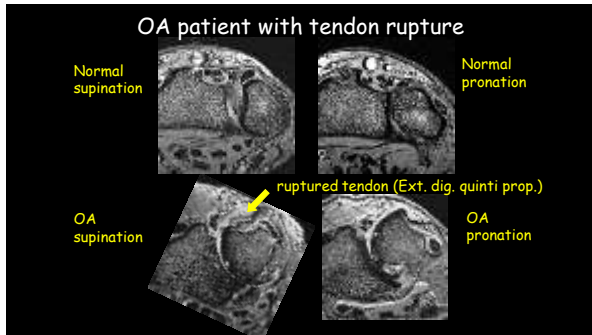
Functional Imaging



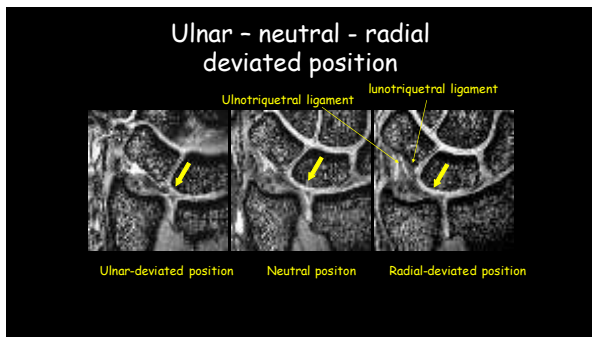
Wrist: DRUJ Instability

- Positional CT or MRI
 - Pronation, neutral, supination
 - Image bilateral wrists









Neutral

Courtesy of M Dohi, MD JISS

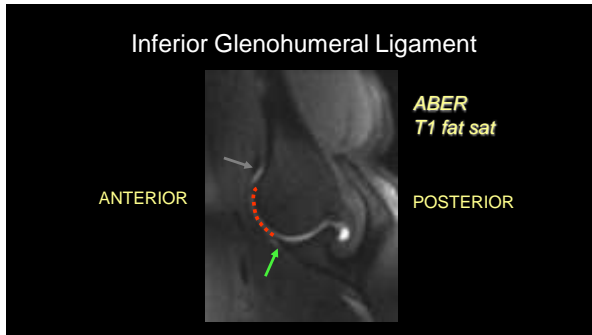
ER

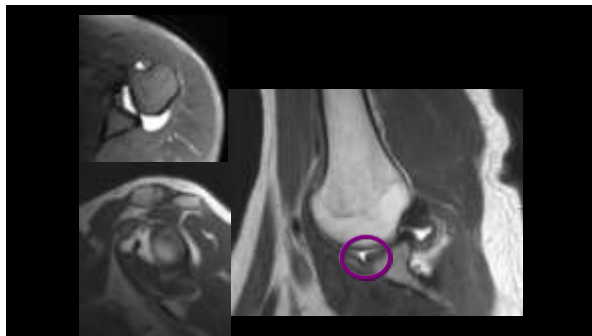
- **AB**duction External Rotation
- Surface Coils
- Coronal Localizer
- ABER prescribed oblique along axis of humerus

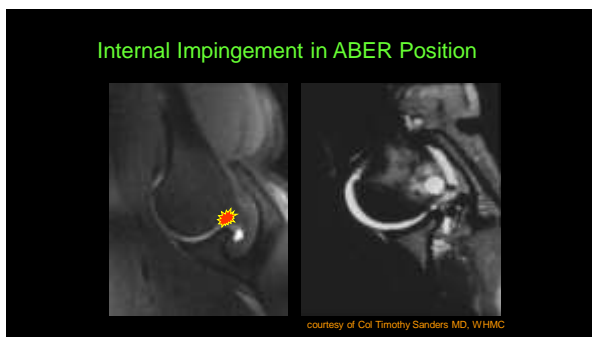


Figure 2. Two typical low-damage specimens in the stiff position (compression and tension) at 2 to 4% plastic strain. The TC-synthesized 0001-*h* hcp titanium sheets parallel to the long axis of the specimen, that is, $\theta = 0^\circ$ or 180° .

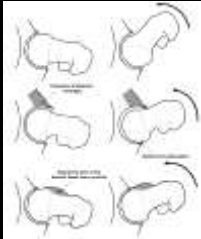
[illegible]







FAI



Normal configuration of hip with sufficient joint clearance allows unrestricted range of motion (top).

In pincer impingement, excessive acetabular overcoverage leads to early linear contact between femoral head-neck junction and acetabular rim, resulting in labrum degeneration and significant cartilage damage. Posteroinferior portion of joint is damaged (contrecoup) due to subtle subluxations (center).

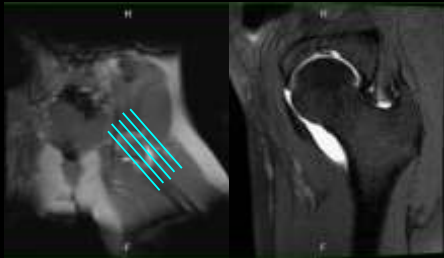
In cam impingement, aspherical portion of femoral head-neck junction is jammed into acetabulum (bottom).

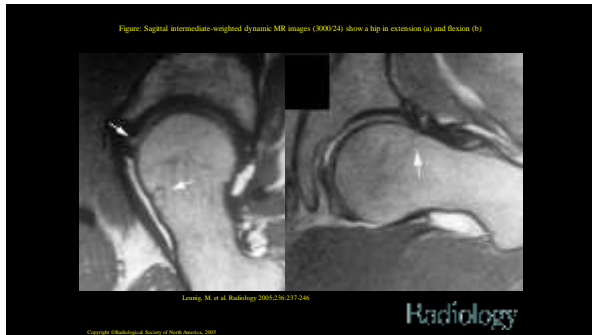
Tammi M et al. AJR. 2007;180:1548-1552

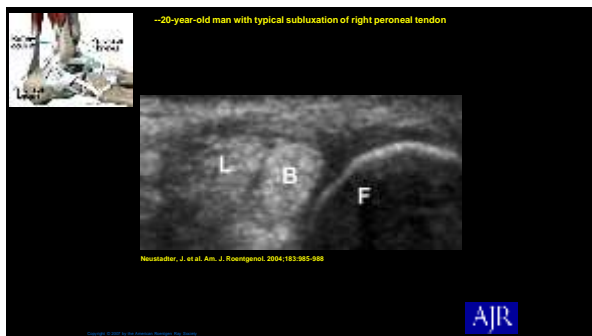


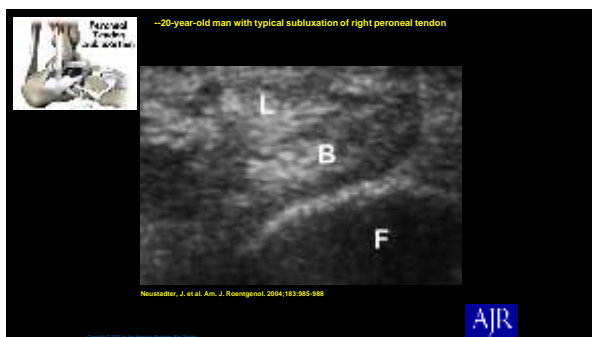


FABER









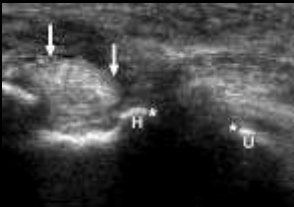
—24-year-old man, competitive javelin thrower, who had a history of ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction 5 years earlier and recently felt a pop and recurrent pain while throwing



Nazarian, L. N. Am. J. Roentgenol. 2008;190:1621-1626

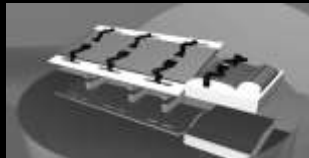
AJR

—24-year-old man, competitive javelin thrower, who had a history of ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction 5 years earlier and recently felt a pop and recurrent pain while throwing



Nazarian, L. N. Am. J. Roentgenol. 2008;190:1621-1626

AJR

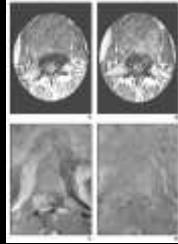


Donna G. Blankenbaker, Victor M. Houghton, Baxter P. Rogers, M. Elizabeth Meyerand, and Jason P. Fine. Axial Rotation of the Lumbar Spinal Motion Segments Correlated with Concordant Pain on Discography: A Preliminary Study. Am. J. Roentgenol., Mar 2006; 186: 795 - 799.

Lumbar Spine Motion on Discography

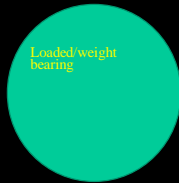
- One possible cause of back pain in patients with intervertebral disk degeneration is decreased stability of the motion segment.
- Axial rotations between lumbar spinal vertebrae can be measured noninvasively with CT or MRI
- Concordant pain at discography predicts increased axial rotation at a lumbar disc level
- Rotation averaged 0.6° for the normal discs, 1.4° for discs with nonconcordant pain, and 1.8° for discs with concordant pain

Figure 10-10



Functional Imaging

Loaded/weight bearing





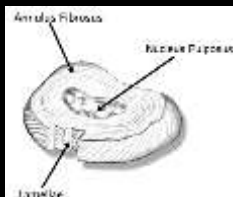
EOS System

- Low dose biplane x-ray system utilizing two perpendicular x-ray beams with a novel detector
- Performed in an upright, weight-bearing position; assesses kyphoscoliosis
- Commonly used in pediatric scoliotic patients
- Improved visualization of thoracic spine





Intervertebral Disc: Anatomy



NUCLEUS:
Soft hydrated

ANULUS:
-Concentric lamellae
-Angle alternates to form cross-woven re-inforced structure

Degenerative Disk Disease: Conventional Imaging Approach



Define
morphologic
changes in
the disk



Spine “Functional” Imaging: Positions

- **Supine with axial loading (simulated weight bearing)**
- **Seated**
- **Upright**

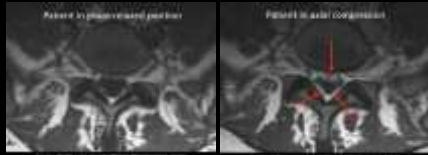
DynaWell
L-Spine

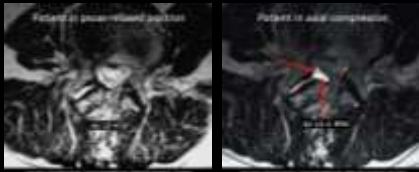


Made of hardened plastic, DynaWell™ L-Spine is free of any material that would disturb the magnetic field of the MRI scanner

The key features are:

- Cushioned vest: with adjustable straps
- Stretch cords: on either side of vest
- Calibration instrument: at top of the foot plate
- Foot plate: at base of scanner



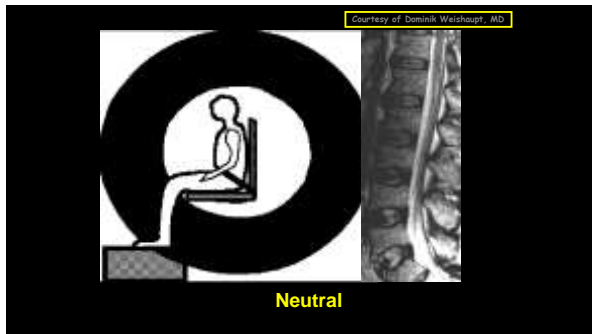


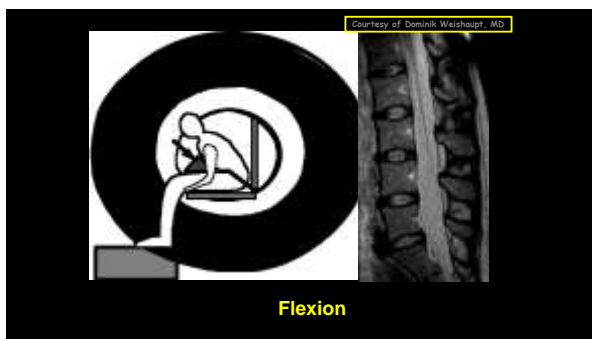
DynaWell: Literature

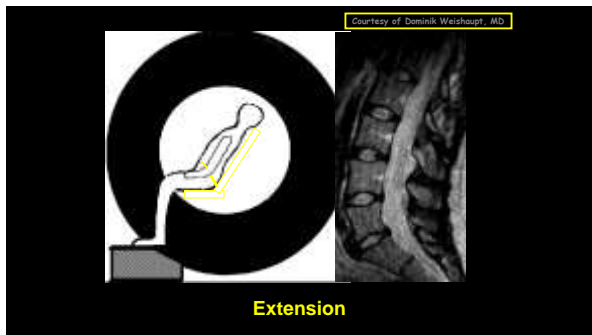


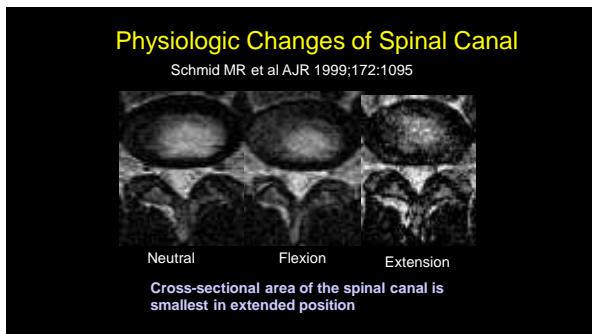
- Danielson B, Willén J: Axially loaded Magnetic Resonance Imaging of the lumbar spine in asymptomatic individuals. *Spine* 2001; 26: 2601-06.
- Kimura S, Steinbach G, Waterpugh D, Hargens A: Lumbar spine disc height and curvature responses to an axial load generated by a compression device compatible with magnetic resonance imaging. *Spine* 2012; 26: 2598-2600.
- Willén J, Danielson BI: The diagnostic effect from axial loading of the lumbar spine during Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging in patients with degenerative disorders. *Spine* 2001; 26: 2607-14.
- Danielson BI, Willén J, Gaultz A, Niklasson T, Hansson TH: Axial loading of the spine during CT and MR in patients with suspected lumbar spinal stenosis. *Acta Radiologica* 1998; 39: 604-611.
- Tallroth K: Plain CT of the degenerative lumbar spine. *European Journal of Radiology* 1998; 27: 206-213.
- Willén J, Danielson BI, Gaultz A, Niklasson T, Schönstrom N, Hansson TH: Dynamic effects on the lumbar spinal canal. Axially loaded CT - Myelography and MRI in patients with sciatica and/or neurogenic claudication. *Spine* 1997; 22 (24): 2302-2310.

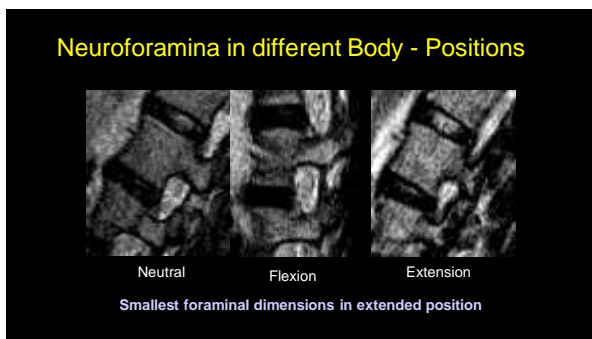


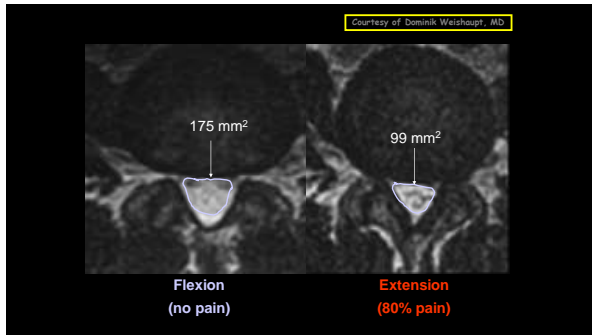


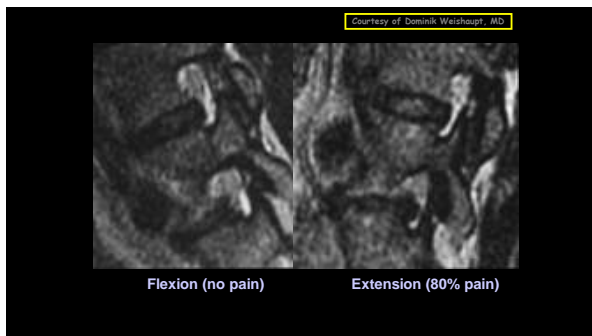


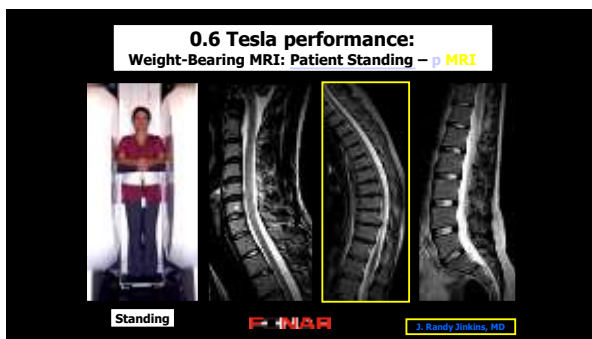


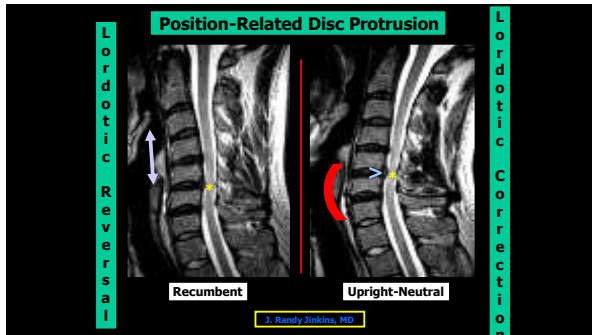


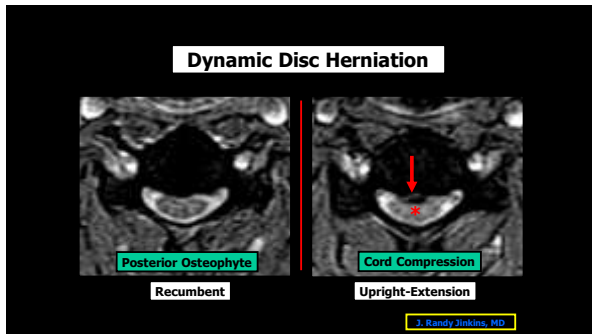


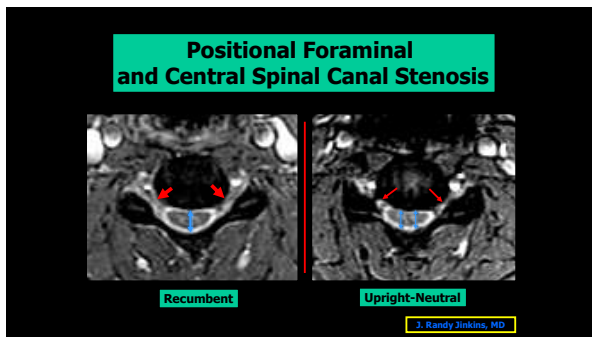


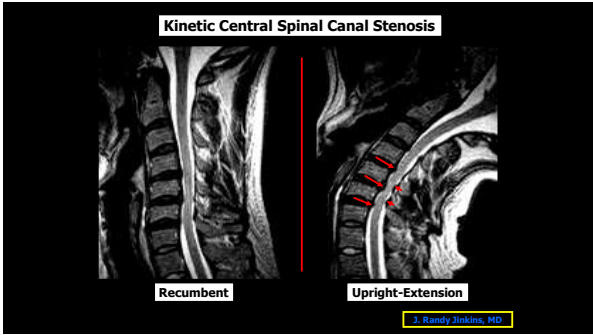


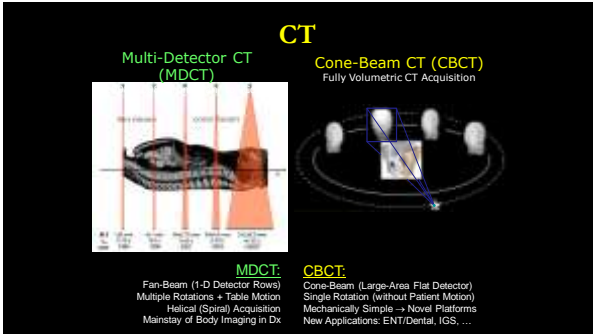


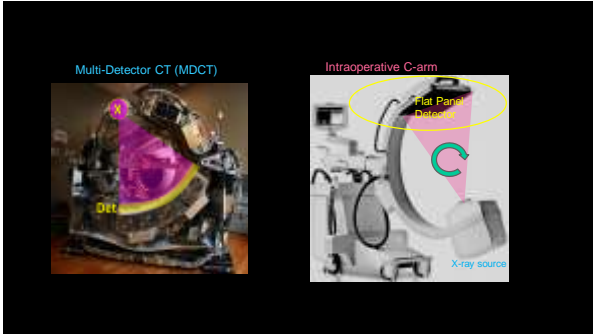












Applications of Cone-Beam CT



Extremity CBCT

System Configuration

Flat-panel detector (FPD)
Compact gantry
Sitting / standing examination

Capabilities

Weight-bearing scans
High isotropic spatial resolution
Multi-mode Rad / Fluoro / CBCT
Simplified logistics
Modest imaging dose

Carestream OnSight 3D
caresstream.com



Planned Verity
planned.com



CurveBeam pedCAT
curvebeam.com



Zhuweli et al. Med Phys 2011
Cotton et al. Radiology 2014
Toornen et al. JBR 2013
Huang et al. Spine 2012

Applications of Weight-Bearing CBCT

Anatomical metrics in weight-bearing CBCT

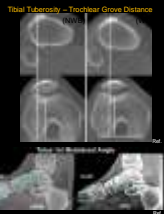
Metrics often adapted from RAD
Significant change between WB and non-WB:
-In the knee joint^{1,2}
-In foot and ankle³⁻⁶
Rotational dynamics in foot and ankle^{7,8} (normal reference values)
New 3D-specific anatomical metrics (e.g. hindfoot alignment)^{9,4}
Biomechanical comparison healthy vs. disease (hallux valgus)⁹
Comparison with pressure measurements¹⁰
Good inter-reader agreement

CBCT vs. RAD in weight-bearing

Significant differences in anatomical metrics¹¹
Improved detection of arthrosis and impingement¹²
Correlates with pain in flatfoot deformity

Challenges

Establish clinical significance of CBCT metrics and weight-bearing
No 'gold standard' reference values – ongoing work
(<https://www.wbcbctstudygroup.com/>)



1. Hirschmann. Eur Radiol 2015 (Planned Verity)
2. Hirschmann. Orthopedics 2017 (Planned Verity)
3. Hirschmann. Eur Radiol 2014 (Planned Verity)
4. Hirschmann. Eur Radiol 2014 (Planned Verity)
5. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
6. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
7. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
8. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
9. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
10. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
11. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)
12. Luchini. Foot Ankle Int 2015 (Planned Verity)



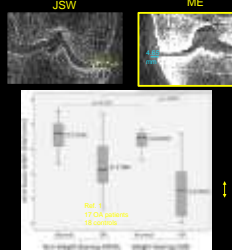
Joint Space Analysis in OA

Joint Space Width (JSW)

Detection and staging of OA
Currently measured with weight-bearing RAD
More accurate positioning with CBCT¹
Improved sensitivity
High inter-reader agreement
Weight-bearing (WB) vs. Non-weight bearing (NWB)¹
Significant difference in JSW for OA
No significant difference in JSW for non-OA

Additional metrics accessible to CBCT

Meniscal extrusion (ME)
Weight bearing aids detection of ME²
ME changes between WB and non-WB in OA patients¹
Higher sensitivity and specificity in CBCT than RAD²



1. Thewissen RW, Rector 2018 (Osteoporosis)
2. Sengul Phys Sportsmed 2015 (patCAI modified for knees)

Functional Imaging

Dynamic-
Kinematic

Dynamic Kinematic Imaging

- Dynamic
 - "real-time"
- Kinematic
 - "joint in motion"

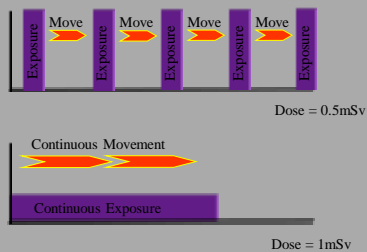
Dynamic Kinematic Ultrasound

Advances in sonographic technology, including higher resolution probes, power Doppler sonography, extended field-of-view imaging, and compound imaging, have contributed to expand its clinical applications

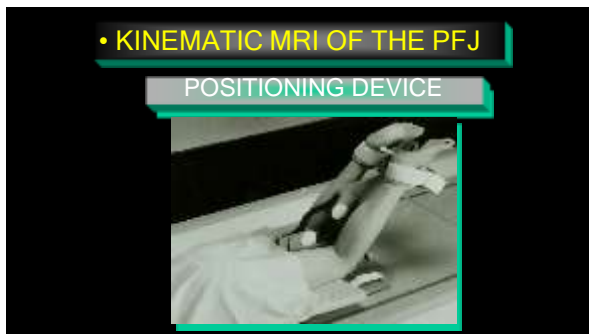
V. Khoury, E. Cardinal, and N. J. Bureau. Musculoskeletal Sonography: A Dynamic Tool for Usual and Unusual Disorders
Am. J. Roentgenol., January 1, 2007; 188(1): W63 - W73.



Dynamic Joints









3T Open-Bore MRI

- Improved off iso-center imaging (TrueForm™ design)
- Large patients
 - Athletes
 - Bariatric
- More positioning options (decubitus)
- Mild claustrophobia
- Functional Joint Imaging
- High Field Strength 3T



Johns Hopkins Bayview Med CTR
Siemens Verio
Courtesy of Mark Bohlman, MD

Functional Imaging



12 TSE, 45 sec acquisition, 8 patients, 100 to 200 mm, 20 cm FOV

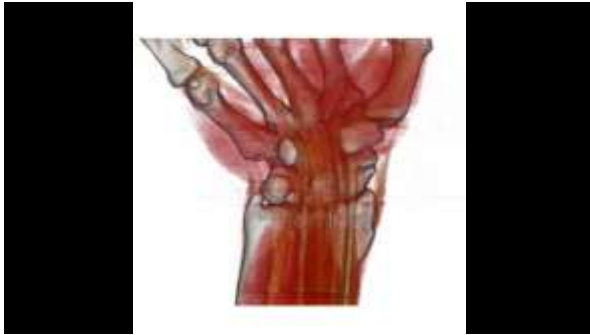


12 TSE, 30 sec acquisition, 8 patients, 100 to 200 mm, 20 cm FOV

70 cm open bore broadens clinical possibilities: Kinematic Imaging

Courtesy of Singapore General Hospital, Singapore





256-detector row CT

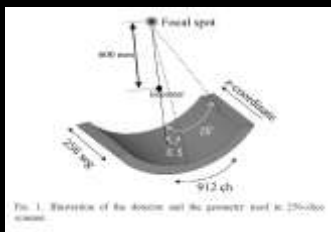


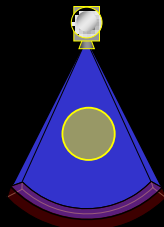
FIG. 1. Geometry of the detector and the geometry used in 256-slice scanner.

Man et al. Physical performance evaluation of a 256-slice CT-scanner

Med. Phys. 31 (6) June 2004

Unique Applications

1. Volume Scan
 - ONE Rotation
 - ONE Heart Beat
2. Dynamic Volume Scan
 - ONE Examination
 - New Diagnostic Tool



Dynamic Volume CT



ONE
Aquilion

- 16 cm coverage per rotation
- 320 X 0.5mm detector elements
- 350 msec rotation time
- 650 lb patient couch



The subject's knees are positioned within the CT gantry (Viewed from the other side of gantry).



The subject's knees are secured with a strap to prevent translation during flexion and extension of the knee.



The CT gantry is tilted away from the subject in order to maximize knee motion.



Characterization of changes in PF loading with dynamic 3D CT

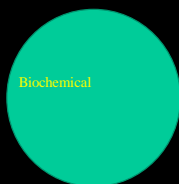
- Primary objectives: to show the efficacy of using dynamic 3D CT imaging technology paired with computational modeling and analysis, in its application to furthering our understanding of kinematics and biomechanics of the knee with respect to patellofemoral instability. In particular, we hope to show how realignment procedures will centralize the patella and reduce patellar subluxation and instability as well as reduce the pressure applied to lateral cartilage, thereby improving function and slowing cartilage degeneration.
- Secondary objectives: to examine the efficacy of realignment surgeries (including tibial tubercle transfers and MPFL reconstructions) in the way they 1) unload the lateral patellofemoral cartilage and 2) correlate with changes in the patients' pain and functional status.

Computational and experimental pressure patterns superimposed over the image of the patella for one knee at 60° of flexion.

Pressure changes related to VMO weakness are shown for intact cartilage and cartilage with a lateral lesion.



Functional Imaging Intersections



Disc Structure

- Avascular
- Low oxygen tension
- Acid pH
- Extracellular matrix
- Cell density <0.5%



Courtesy of Lee Riley

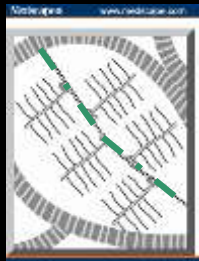
Intervertebral Disc: Three Major Constituents

1. WATER

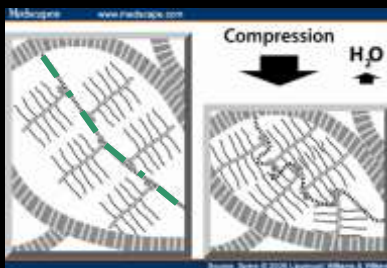
2. COLLAGEN

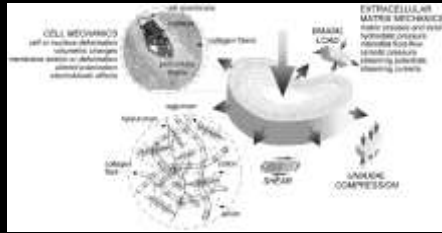
3. AGGREGAN

- Proteoglycan core
- GAG chains



Intervertebral Disc: Function





Setton L. A., Chen J. / J Bone Joint Surg 2006;88:52-57

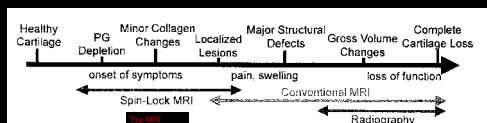


Intervertebral Disc Degeneration

With Degeneration

- *Loss of proteoglycan and water
- *Fibrocartilage formation and disorganization of the annular architecture

Musculoskeletal Imaging Spectrum: OA



1. Leuninger M, et al. / Arthritis Rheum 1979;22:1190
2. Leuninger M, et al. / Arthritis Rheum 1980;23:1190
3. Leuninger M, et al. / Arthritis Rheum 1981;24:1190
4. Leuninger M, et al. / Arthritis Rheum 1982;25:1190


I. Structure: Homogeneous, bright white.
Distinction of Nucleus and Anulus, Clear
Signal Intensity: Hyperintense
Height of Intervertebral Disc: Normal

II. Structure: Inhomogeneous with or without horizontal bands
Distinction of Nucleus and Anulus, Clear
Signal Intensity: Hyperintense
Height of Intervertebral Disc: Normal

III. Structure: Inhomogeneous, gray
Distinction of Nucleus and Anulus, Clear
Signal Intensity: Intermediate
Height of Intervertebral Disc: Normal to slightly decreased

IV. Structure: Inhomogeneous, gray to black
Distinction of Nucleus and Anulus, Lost
Signal Intensity: Intermediate to hypointense
Height of Intervertebral Disc: Normal to moderately decreased

V. Structure: Inhomogeneous, black
Distinction of Nucleus and Anulus, Lost
Signal Intensity: Hypointense
Height of Intervertebral Disc: Collapsed disc space



¹ Classification and images reprinted from Pfirrmann CWA, et al. *SPINE* 26(17): 1874-1875, 2001.

MRI Cartilage Biomarkers

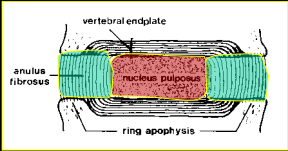
- Collagen
 - Diffusion
 - T2 maps
- GAG
 - dGEMRIC
 - Sodium Imaging*
 - T1rho*

*most benefit from higher field

Early Detection of Disc Degeneration

T1 ρ
Na
T2
dGEMRIC

DIFFUSION
(DTI)



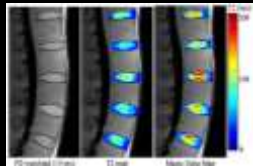
29

T2 Mapping

- loss of proteoglycans → loss of the fixed negative charge density → can be mapped negatively
- T2 variations could be related to
 - known distribution of water content
 - the distribution of proteoglycans content with cartilage depth
 - collagen network organization in different zones of cartilage
- T2 relaxation times of the IVD correlate strongly with water content and weakly with PG content

Marinelli NL, Hughton VM, Muñoz A, Anderson PA. T2 relaxation times of intervertebral disc tissue correlated with water content and proteoglycan content. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2009 Mar 1;34(5):520-524.

T2 mapping

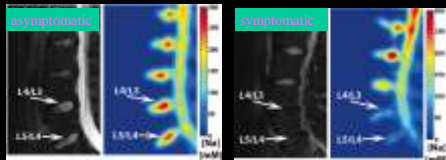


Magic echo imaging of the disc reveals features enhances sensitivity to the nucleus pulposus over conventional T2-weighted imaging.



Na MRI

- [Na] measured from sodium MRI correlates to [PG] measurement in discs (bovine samples)
- High field MRI 3T with special coil to detect sodium

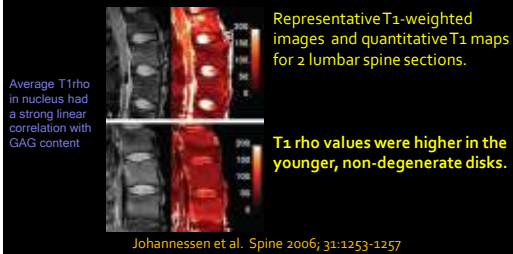


Wang C, McArdle E, Fenn M, Witschey W, Elliott M, Sochor M, Reddy R, Borthakur A. Validation of sodium magnetic resonance imaging of intervertebral disc. Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2010 Mar 1;35(5):505-10.

T1 ρ : Spin-lock MRI technique

Generates a new type of contrast, with images that reflect low frequency interactions (chemical exchange rate between macromolecules and free water).

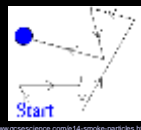
EARLY DETECTION: T1 ρ



Diffusion

- Diffusion imaging is a method for measuring the displacement distribution of water molecules *in vivo*.

Brownian Motion :
3D Random motion



www.acscimed.com/b14-smoke-particles.jpg

Diffusion terms

- **Isotropic:** Diffusion occurs along all directions, (with no preferred direction for diffusion), as in free water.
- **Anisotropic:** Diffusion is restricted and has directional dependence, as when it comes into contact with cell membranes and other large structures.

Diffusion Imaging: Technique

Refocusing Gradient:



Some protons will have moved during the time interval between pulses (Diffusion)



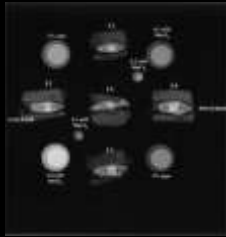
Measured signal is reduced by amount of diffusion

Diffusion Techniques

The diffusion of water occurs unequally in different directions

- **Diffusion Weighted Imaging (DWI)** measures the relative amount of water diffusion occurring in a voxel
- **Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI)** measures the direction and magnitude of water diffusion in 3 dimensions in a voxel

MRI - "Quality of IVD Diffusion"



Intervertebral disc specimens (L1 to L5). Regions of interest of MR scans that were performed are visible as white squares on the anterior annulus fibrosus, nucleus pulposus, and posterior annulus fibrosus.

The information obtained by the ADCs, particularly of the nucleus pulposus, can potentially be used in combination with quantitative T1, T2, and MT parameters to noninvasively obtain a quantitative assessment of the disc matrix composition and structural integrity

Antoniou et al. MRI 2004; 22: 963-972.

Diffusion Tensor Imaging: Collagen Fiber Orientation

DTI values reflect the orientation of collagen fibers in articular cartilage*



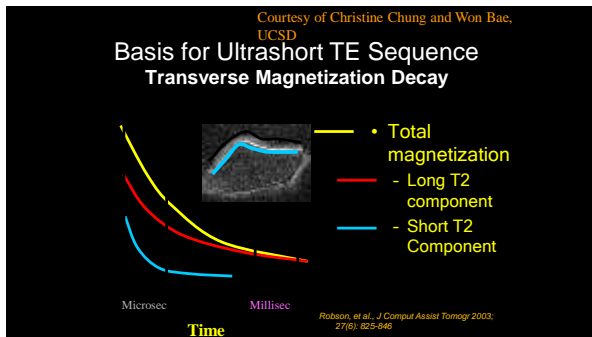
*Filidoro et al Magn Reson Med 2005; 53:993-998

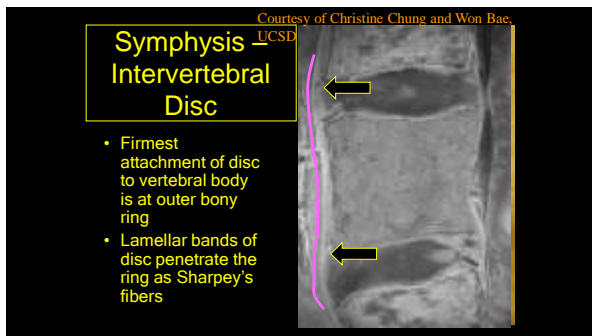
Diffusion Tensor Imaging: Collagen Fiber Orientation

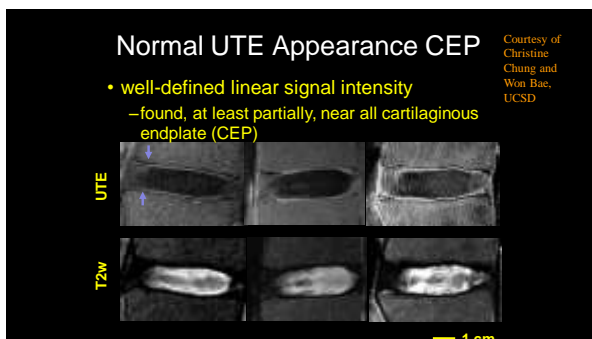
Orientations of anisotropy exhibit a layered morphology that agree with light micrographs of the disc



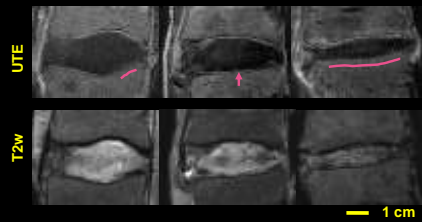
*Hsu et al MRM 1999; 41:992-999







- focal loss or irregularity



Note: what is DCE-MRI

4. Dynamic contrast-enhanced MRI (DCE-MRI) is considered a non-invasive imaging modality of choice for assessment of the inflamed synovium in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) and various cancers.
5. Exfoliation-based contrast agent, now introduced to change T1 & T2 relaxation values non-invasively starting at 3 to 5 µs per volume, the flow of the agent into the area being examined is traced.
6. The static magnetic contrast (e.g. gadopentate injection in musculoskeletal and cancer) MRI sequences should be available.
7. DCE-MRI reveals perfusion, enhanced vascularity, and diffusion, leakage of plasma and fluid into tissue.
8. As a result of DCE-MRI, a 2-dimensional dataset will be obtained (image Dimensions: 251 x 1mm (due to cortical resolution over time), now values for each time frame).
9. Information, increased permeability of the blood vessels results in an increased leakage of contrast agents, now fluid into the joint (synovial), which eventually leads to swelling (edema).

Why is inflammatory perfusion important?



Conclusion: 107 patients

Subclinical joint inflammation in 20% detected by imaging techniques
explains the structural deterioration in RA patients in clinical remission who are receiving conventional therapy with:

12 times higher odds of deterioration in joints with increased PD signal (odds ratio 12.21, $P < 0.001$). **4.5 timer higher odds** using MRI synovitis and osteitis

IVD: Endplate Perfusion

- Clinical studies using serial CE-MRI show a correlation between diffusion and morphologic DDD with endplate status being the most important factor influencing disc diffusion

Nguyen-mihn C, Haughton VM, Papke RA, An H, Censky SC. Measuring diffusion of solutes into intervertebral discs with MR imaging and paramagnetic contrast medium. *AJNR* 19:1781-1784, 1998.

Rajasekaran S, Nareesh Babu J, Arun R et al. A study of diffusion in human lumbar discs: A serial magnetic resonance imaging study documenting the influence of the endplate on diffusion in normal and degenerate discs. *Spine* 29: 2654-2667, 2004.

- Characteristics of normal, aging and degenerative discs and the effect of pharmacologic modulation of enhancement with nimodipine have been described

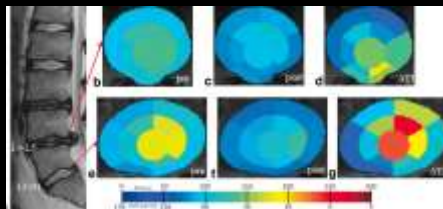
Rajasekaran S, Venkatasadas K, Nareesh Babu J, Ganesh K, Shetty AP. Pharmacologic enhancement of disc diffusion and differentiation of healthy, aging and degenerated discs. *Eur Spine J*. 17: 626-643, 2008.

dGEMRIC: Technique



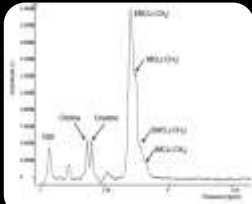
- PG/GAG depletion causes areas of negative charge
- Need to use positively charged contrast material
- Delayed acquisition time

dGEMRIC



Vaga S, Raimondi MT, Calani EG, Costa F, Giordano C, Perona F, Zerbi A, Fornari M. Quantitative assessment of intervertebral disc glycosaminoglycan distribution by gadolinium-enhanced MRI in orthopedic patients. *Magn Reson Med*. 2006 Jan;59(1):85-95.

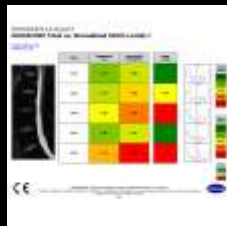
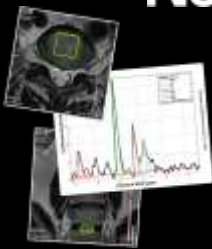
METABOLITE ASSESSMENT BY PROTON MR SPECTROSCOPY



Location and amplitude of resonances yields information about which metabolites are present and in what concentration

Relies on same physical principles as MRI
Biochemical (rather than anatomical) information about tissue content

Nocimed



Functional Imaging Intersections

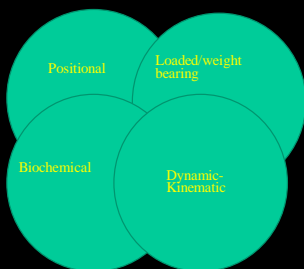


TABLE 3 Comparison of imaging modalities characteristics for functional joint imaging

MODALITY	ADVANTAGES	LIMITATIONS
Fluoroscopy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dynamic image acquisition (sufficient temporal resolution) Volumetric imaging High spatial resolution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projectational technique with overlapping structures obscuring relationships of interest
Ultrasound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dynamic image acquisition (sufficient temporal resolution) Imaging during activity High spatial resolution Non-ionizing radiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited contrast resolution with respect to osseous structures Limited field of view with respect to entire joint imaging
MRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very good contrast resolution for soft tissue structures Non-ionizing radiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient temporal resolution to capture joint motion during single acquisition Lesser spatial resolution Bore size prohibiting physiologic motion
Multidetector CT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High spatial resolution Suitable contrast resolution between bone, ligament, tendon and muscle Volumetric imaging Dynamic image acquisition (sufficient temporal resolution) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited field of view with respect to entire joint imaging (64-slice MDCT does not allow for greater than 32 mm coverage in the z direction during single acquisition)

The biomarker development process



Gray M. L. J Bone Joint Surg 2009;91-A:46-49

IBIS


Fundamentals of Clinical Research for Radiologists

Jeffrey S. Javali


The Research Framework

TABLE 1 Six-Tiered Model of Diagnostic Efficacy

Stage of Efficacy	Definition
Technical capacity	Resolution, diagnosis, reliability
Diagnostic accuracy	Sensitivity, specificity, predictive values, ROC curves
Diagnostic impact	Ability of a diagnostic test to affect the diagnostic workup
Therapeutic impact	Ability of a diagnostic test to affect therapeutic choices
Patient outcomes	Ability of a diagnostic test to increase the length or quality of life
societal outcomes	Cost effectiveness and cost utility



Thank you for your attention



CHIEF OF THE
OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF OF THE
IN THE OFFICE

