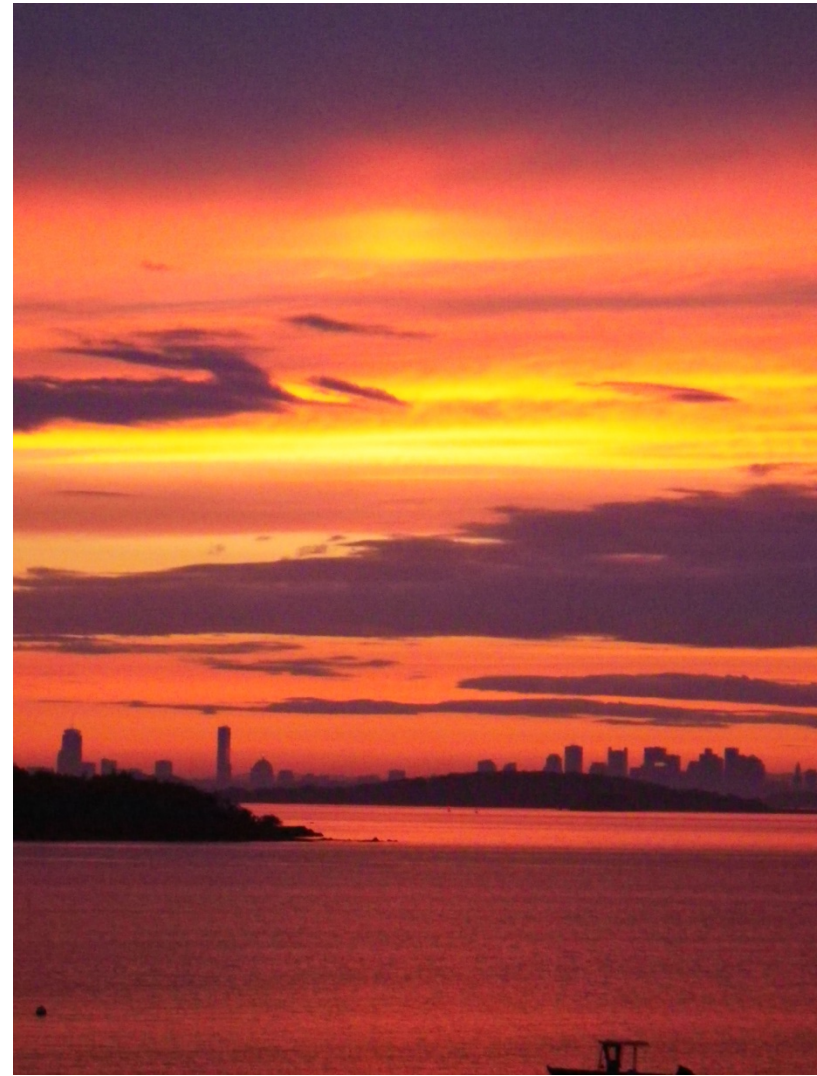


5 Complications in ACL Surgery – How to Avoid Them

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Speaker's Disclosure

- **Our fellowships and registry receive support from:**
Arthrex, DePuy-Synthes, DonJoy, Smith & Nephew, Conmed Linvatec, Zimmer, Stryker
- **Consultant:**
Smith & Nephew
DePuy Synthes – Mitek Sports Medicine
Histogenics
Flexion Therapeutics
Visgo Therapeutics
Amplex

5 Complications in ACL Surgery

How to Avoid Them

- 1. Anterior knee pain from patella tendon autograft**
- 2. Inadequate diameter for hamstring autograft**
- 3. Extension loss following ACL reconstruction**
- 4. Infection**
- 5. Multiple failures in the young active athlete**

1. Many Systematic Reviews & Meta-Analyses Confirm Value of B-PT-B Graft

- Just to highlight a few
 - Biau et al. AJSM 2009
 - Individual patient data on 423 patients using up to date hamstring fixation
 - Concluded improved stability with B-PT-B when compared with hamstrings
 - Mohtadi et al. Cochrane Collaboration 2011
 - Pooled data on almost 1600 patients
 - Concluded improved stability with B-PT-B but with an increase of anterior knee problems

Systematic Review (Karlsson – Sweden)

- 2/3's of published comparative studies showed BTB had better stability than HT
- Tendency for increased function in BTB
- Only 60% of studies showed increased anterior knee pain with BTB, and it was predominantly with kneeling
- How do we minimize this????

B-PT-B Autograft Tips: Harvest and Donor Site Treatment are Key

- **Preserve the paratenon / pre-patella bursa**
- **Harvest extra bone from tibia**
- **Loosely close patella tendon defect prior to closing paratenon**
- **Graft the patella defect prior to closing paratenon / pre-patella bursa**
- **Close paratenon / pre-patella bursa**



2. Avoiding Inadequate Diameter for Hamstring Autografts

- **The Influence of Hamstring Autograft Size on Patient-Reported Outcomes and Risk of Revision After Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: A Multicenter Orthopaedic Outcomes Network (MOON) Cohort Study**
- **Graft diameter was a significant predictor of the risk of failure**
- **Arthroscopy, 2013**

MOON Data

Only 25% of
grafts >8mm

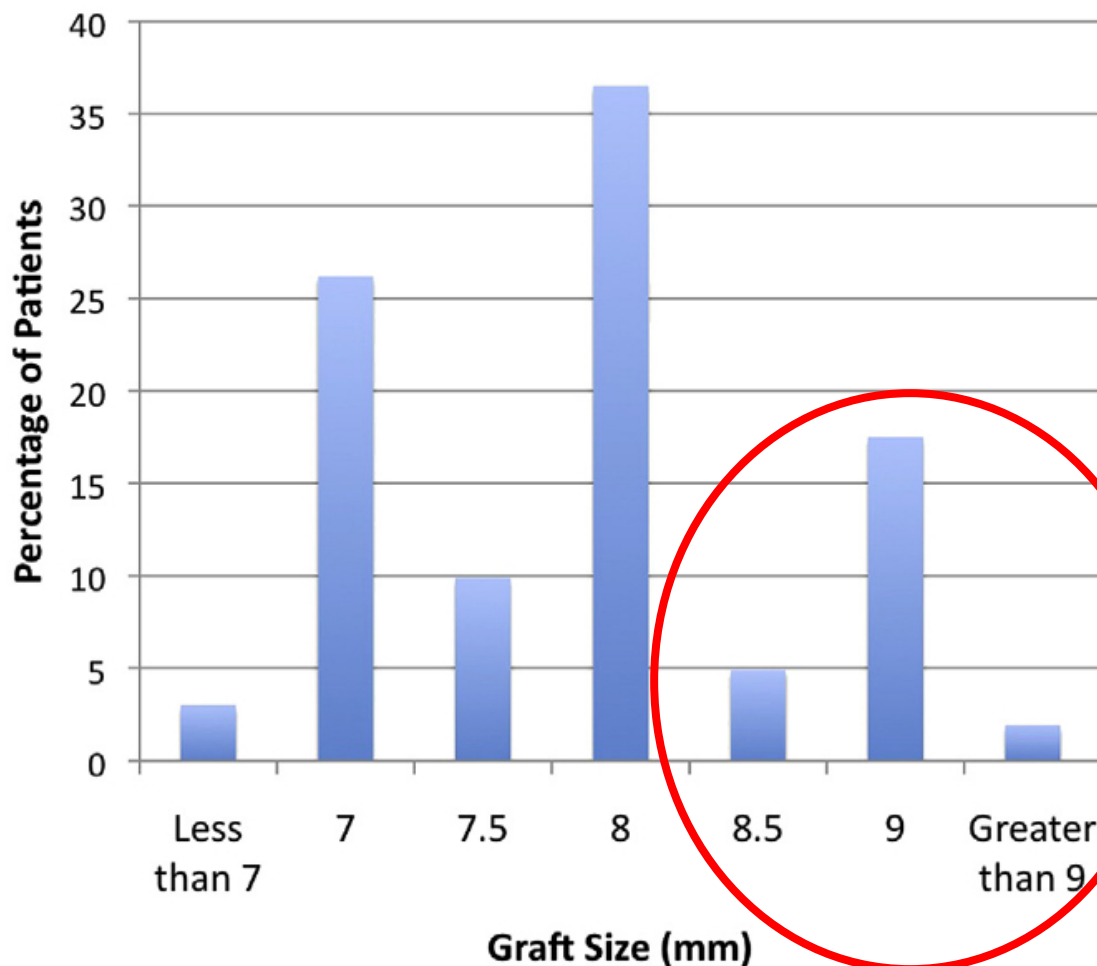


Table 2. Revision Rates by Graft Size for Total Cohort

	No.	Revisions	% Revised
Graft size			
>8 mm	64	0	0
≤8 mm	199	14	7.0
All	263	14	5.3

MOON Data: Even a bigger problem with a young active patient

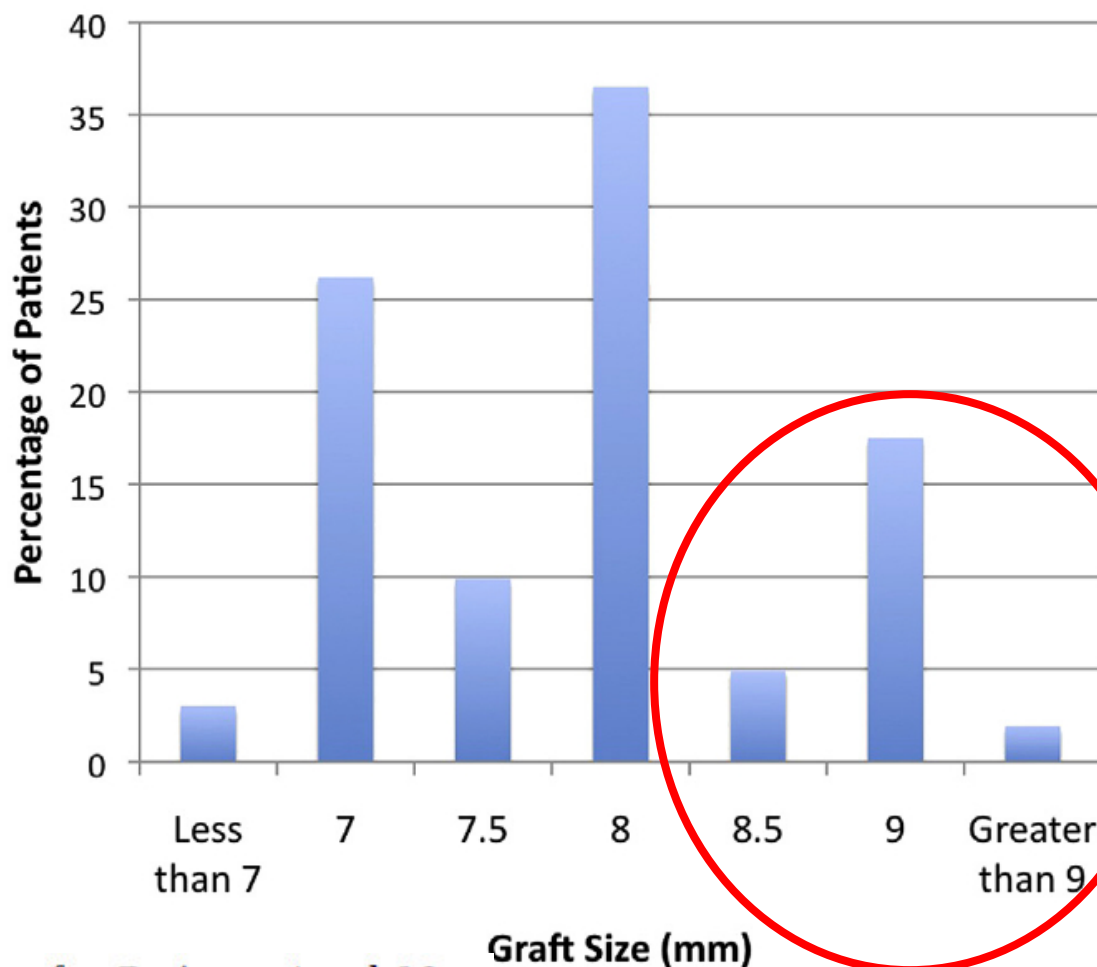


Table 4. Revision Rates by Graft Size for Patients Aged 18 Years or Younger

	No.	Revisions	% Revised
Graft size			
>8 mm	14	0	0
≤8 mm	71	13	18.3
Total	85	13	15.3

How to Increase the Diameter of a Quadrupled Hamstring Graft

- Quadrupled 7-8cm with 2 adjustable loop flip buttons
- Reliably gives grafts $\geq 8.5\text{mm}$ diameter, even for small females
- Often just need semi-T tendon for males



3. Avoiding Extension Loss Following ACL Reconstruction

- Delay acute surgery until full pre-op extension
- Tension your graft in full extension
- Brace in full extension, except for ROM for 1st 10 days post-op
- If it happens – get the scar out early: at 4 months



4. Avoiding Infection

- Nakayama et al. Micro-organism Colonization and Intraoperative Contamination in Patients Undergoing Arthroscopic Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction. *Arthroscopy*, 2012
- Intra-op 6% of skin at incision site and 2% of grafts were culture + for *Coag – Staph*, often methicillin-resistant

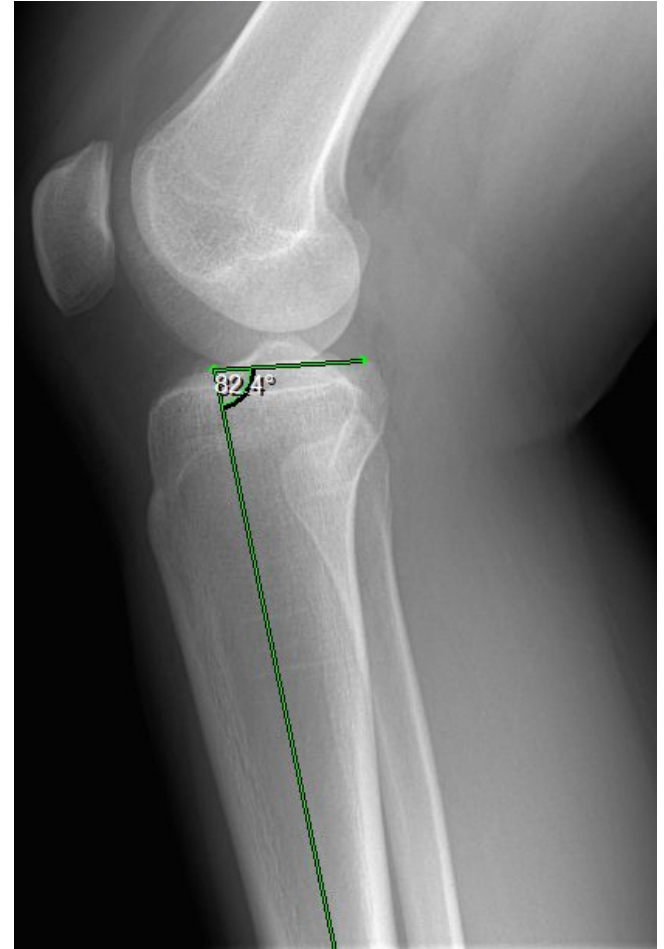
4. Avoiding Infection

- **Vertullo et al. A Surgical Technique Using Presoaked Vancomycin Hamstring Grafts to Decrease the Risk of Infection After Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction. *Arthroscopy*, 2012.**
- **Reduced infection rate from 1.4% to 0% by soaking graft on back table**
- **Additionally, we irrigate the graft and implants as we insert them – belt and suspender approach**

5. Avoiding Multiple Failures in the Athlete

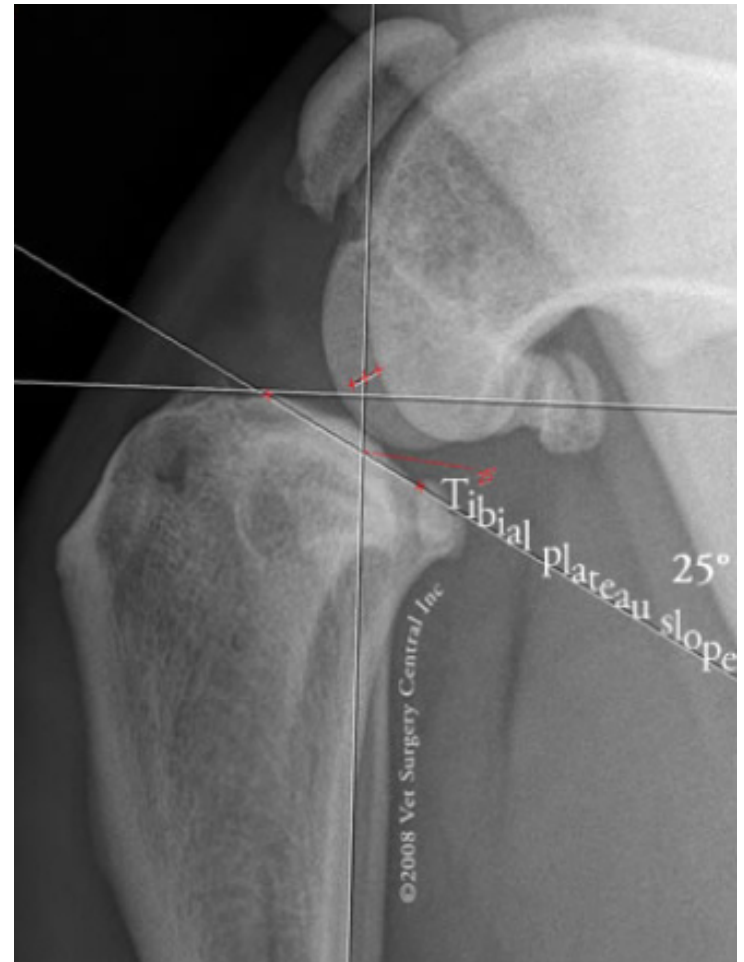
Think Kinematics of Anterior Tibial Translation

- Major players
 - ACL
 - Posterior capsule
 - Posterior horn medial meniscus
 - Posterior tibial slope – PTS
 - Traditionally measured off lateral X-Ray



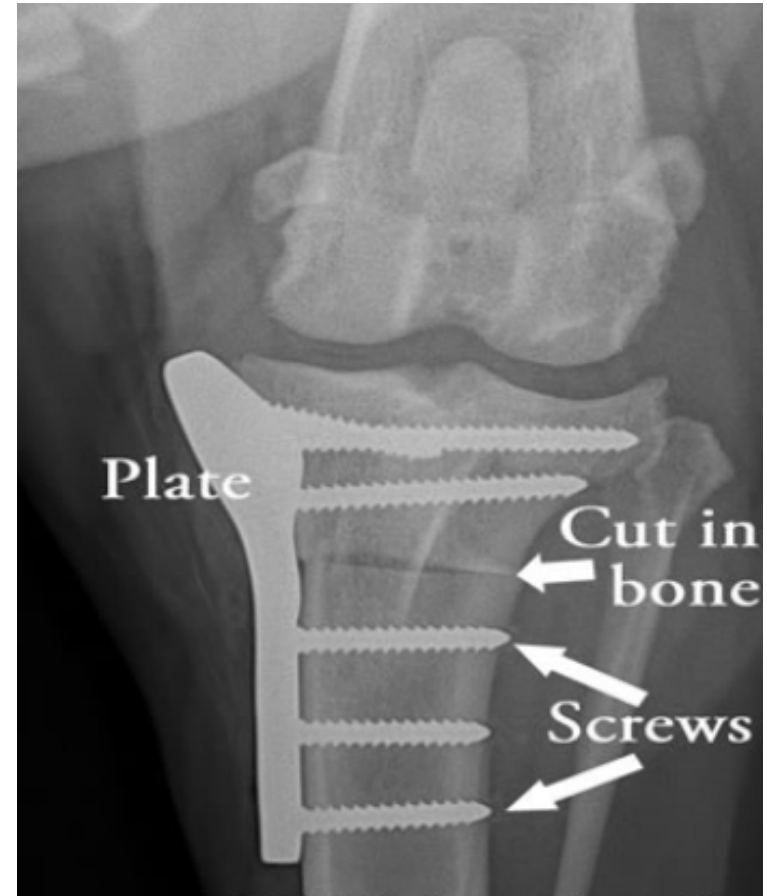
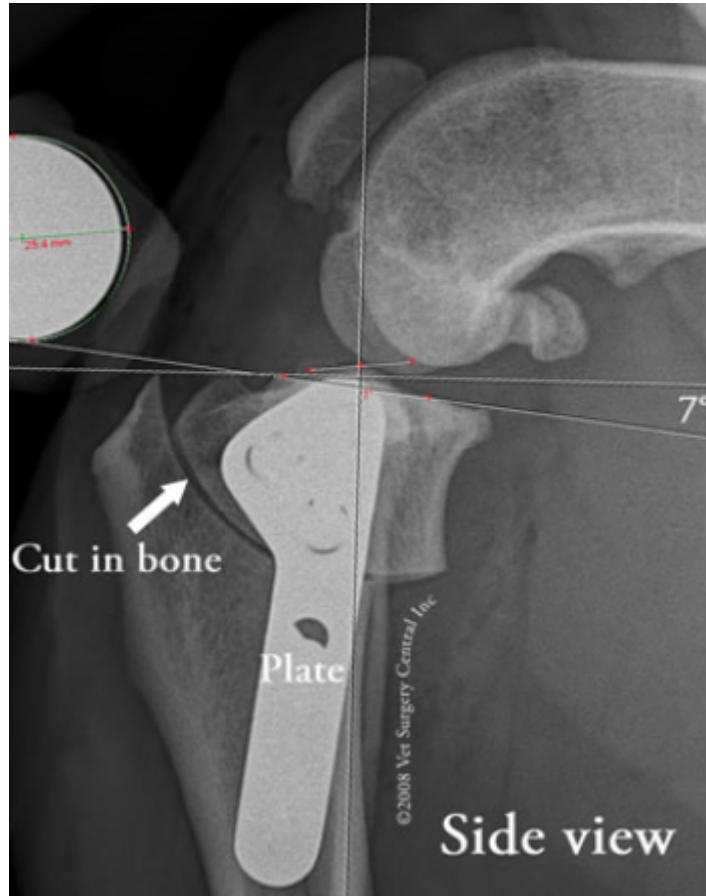
Historical Perspective

- Lyon group in France
- Henri DeJour and others
- Recognition of association of PTS and ACL injury (in humans)
- Our veterinarian colleagues were way ahead of us



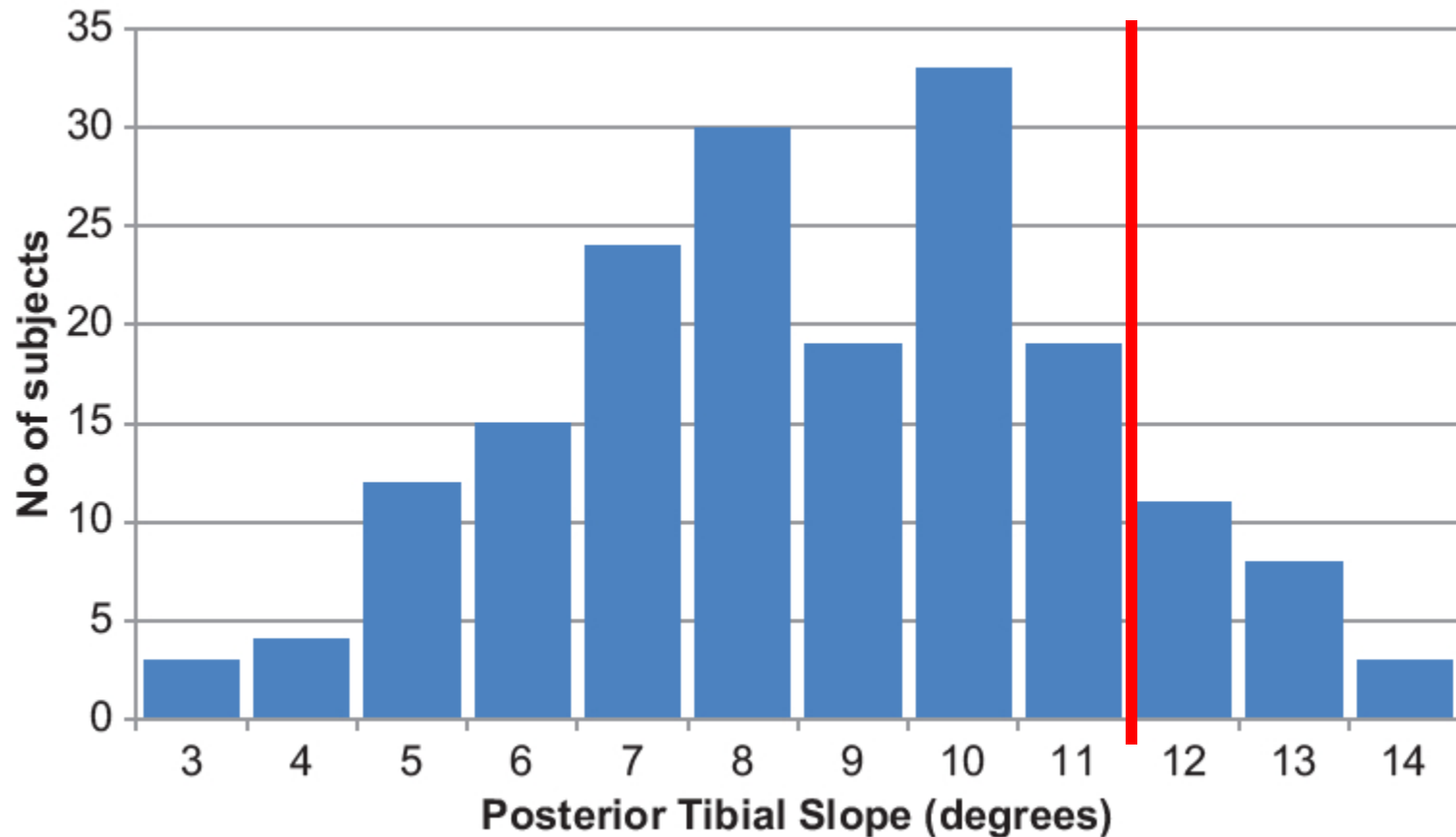
Canine stifle joint

Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy - TPLO



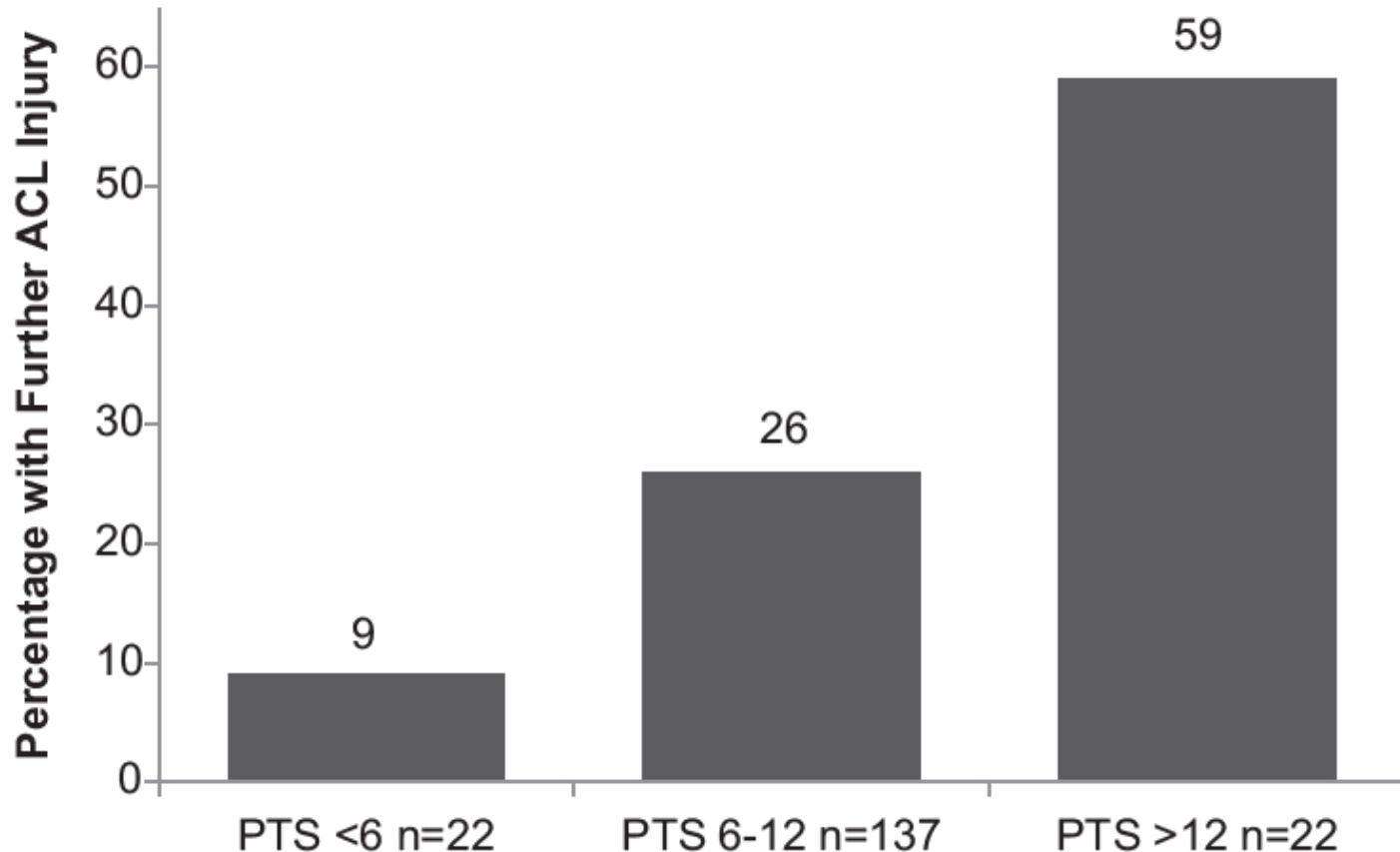
TPLO has replaced ligament reconstruction for canine ACL tears

ACL Tibial Slope: Australian Cohort



Pinczewski et al: AJSM, 2013

Further ACL Injury post ACL Reconstruction Ipsa- or Contra- Lateral



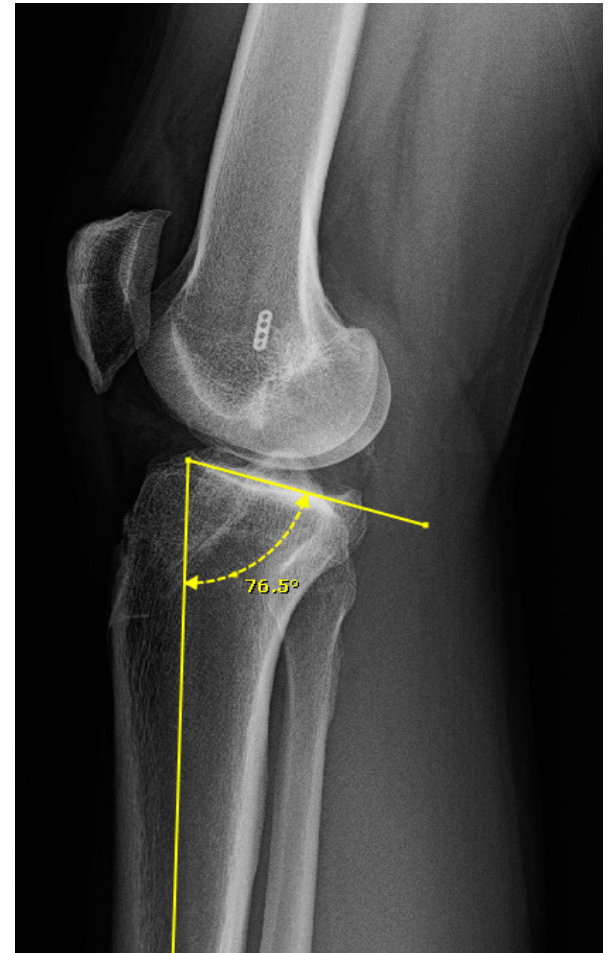
Pinczewski et al: AJSM, 2013

When Should we Consider Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy - TPLO

- DeJour et al, 2015, KSSTA
 - Failed revision ACL surgery
 - PTS $\geq 12^\circ$ (corrected to mean of 3°)
 - Single stage ACL – deflexion osteotomy
 - 90% > 2yr. f/u
 - 8/9 patients clinically stable

When Should we Consider Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy - TPLO

- Active 25 yo failed 2 well done ACL's – hamstring auto- and B-PT-B auto-
- Posterior tibial slope = 14°
- Total medial meniscectomy



When Should we Consider Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy - TPLO



**2nd stage will be B-PT-B +
medial meniscal allograft**

Summary – Avoiding ACL Complications

- 1. Maintain meticulous graft harvest**
- 2. Consider a shorter construct for hamstrings**
- 3. Extension before, during, and after surgery**
- 4. Soak and irrigate your graft in vancomycin**
- 5. Remember the slope**

Thank You