

Case study

Courtesy of Mr. Mark Davies

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Clinical particulars

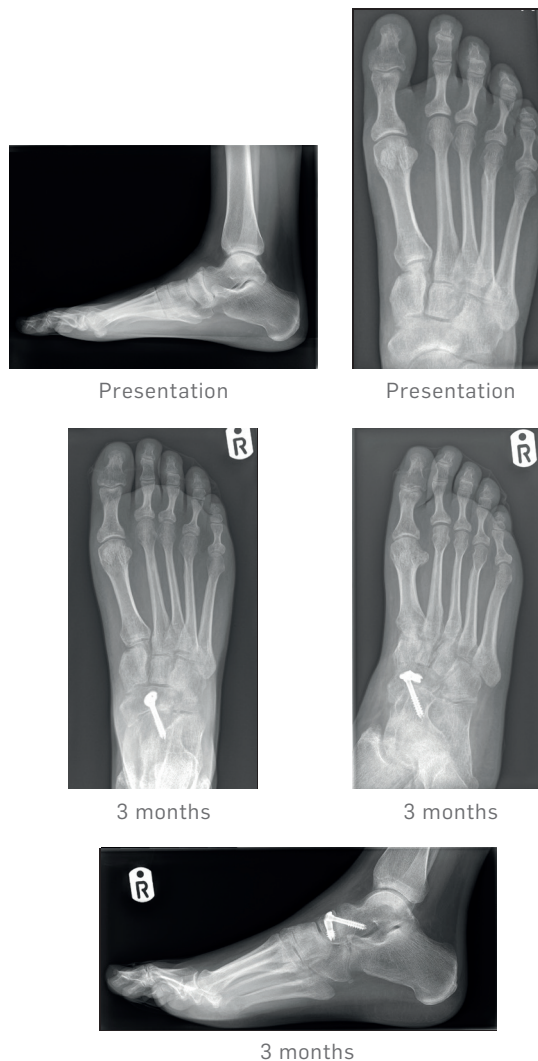
27-year-old female presented with spontaneous symptoms and signs suggestive of isolated talonavicular septic arthritis. This was treated by an open arthrotomy and washout. *Staphylococcus aureus* was grown from the joint and found to be sensitive to gentamicin and flucloxacillin. The surgical treatment and a 6 week course of oral antibiotic therapy resolved the acute infection. Unfortunately, as a result of the septic arthritis, the patient experienced ongoing pain from the talonavicular joint such that 18 months after the infective episode, she sought treatment for the pain. Plain radiographs showed a narrowed joint line at the talonavicular joint. No other investigations suggested ongoing presence of infection.

Treatment

The patient underwent a talonavicular fusion utilising the incision for the index surgery. After thorough debridement by resection of the articular surfaces with chisels, further tissue samples were taken. Given the sensitivities of the original organism, **STIMULAN** mixed with gentamicin was injected as a paste into the joint space before compression across the joint was applied with the internal fixation.

Outcome

At 6 months' follow-up, the arthrodesis procedure was successful and the patient remains pain free.



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