Does translation of the proximal radius on radiographs predict need for collateral ligament reconstruction in trans-olecranon fractures?

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- Ring et al 1997 17 patient series: 'collateral ligaments seem to be <u>relatively spared</u> as compared with anterior dislocation of the elbow without fracture.'
- Midgaardt et al 2021 cadaveric study: 'collateral ligament disruption is a <u>prerequisite</u> for a transolecranon fracture dislocation'
  - Translation of >3mm on lateral x-ray correlated with MCL disruption
  - Translation of >7.5mm suggested LUCL and MCL disruption





#### Methods

**Aim:** Assess relationship between displacement and collateral ligament injury in order to GIRFT!

#### **Inclusion criteria:**

- 'A fracture in which the stability of the ulnohumeral joint is lost due to intra-articular fracture of the olecranon with no disruption of the proximal radioulnar joint'
- Intact PRUJ

#### **Exclusion criteria:**

- Monteggia fractures
- Paediatric injuries



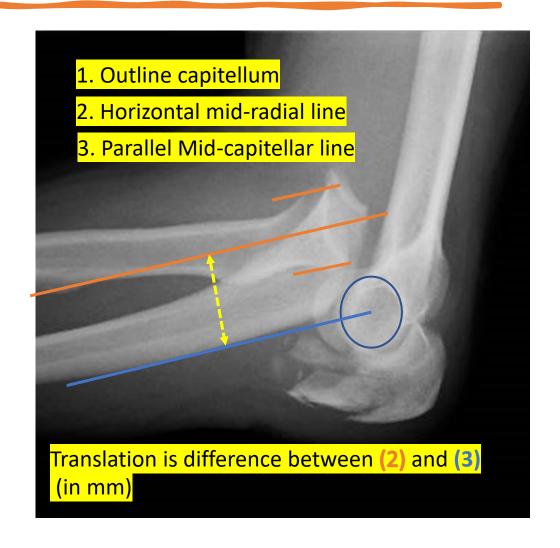






## Methods

- Retrospective review of all transolecranon #s 2015-2022.
- Senior author reviewed radiographs prior to inclusion.
- Demographic, injury and operative data collected, post-op radiograph and note review.
- Measurements conducted in triplicate by 2 independent raters.





## Cohort

- 3 excluded due to inadequate imaging for analysis
- Inter-rater reliability of 0.89 for displacement
- LUCL status is poorly reported in literature

	This study	Literature*
Mean age	57.4 years	42.1 years
Number of fractures	16	8-35
Radial head	43.8%	17.1- 57.1%
Coronoid	62.5%	0-65.2%
LUCL injury	56.3%	0-11.4%

<sup>\*</sup>Cho et al (2020). Trans-olecranon fracture dislocations of the elbow: a systematic review. Diagnostics. 10, 1058

<sup>\*</sup> Wong et al (2015) Adult Monteggia and Olecranon Fracture Dislocations of the Elbow. Hand Clinics. 31:4;565-580



#### Results

- 9/16 required LUCL repair
- Increased age, posterior apex and associated radial head fracture more likely to need LUCL repair.
- 2 revision fixation for instability

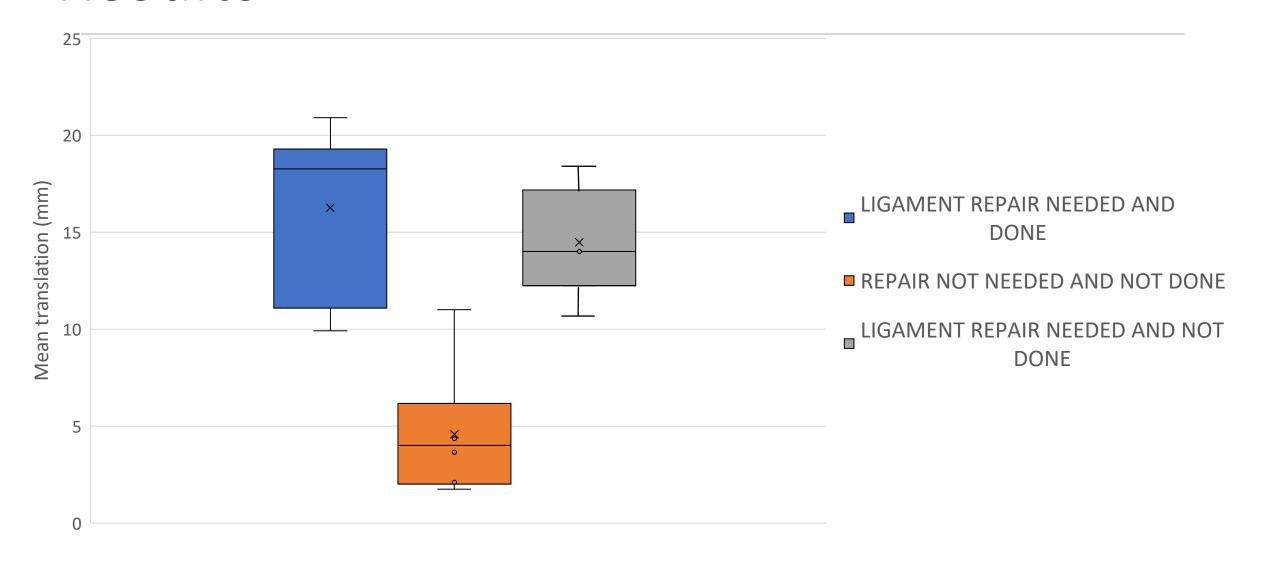
	This study	Literature*
Heterotopic ossification	31.3%	6.0 - 43.9%
Stiffness	50.0%	20.0 – 56.0%
Infection	6.25 %	0-11.4%
Re-operation	18.8 %	12 - 50%

<sup>\*</sup>Cho et al (2020). Trans-olecranon fracture dislocations of the elbow: a systematic review. Diagnostics. 10, 1058

<sup>\*</sup> Wong et al (2015) Adult Monteggia and Olecranon Fracture Dislocations of the Elbow. Hand Clinics. 31:4;565-580



## Results





## Limitations



Single centre retrospective series



Initial imaging is not always reliable



Difficulty in classification

# Key messages:







>10mm highly likely to need ligament repair

5-10mm MAY need ligament repair

<5mm do not need ligament repair

Always screen intraoperatively



#### **References:**



- Ring *et al*. Transolecranon fracture-dislocation of the elbow. J. Orthop. Trauma 1997, 11, 545–550.
- Midtgaard et al. Biomechanical study of transolecranon fracture-dislocations. J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2021 Jun;30(6):1245-1250
- Cho et al. Trans-olecranon fracture dislocations of the elbow: a systematic review. Diagnostics (Basel) 2020. 10, 1058
- Wong et al. Adult Monteggia and Olecranon Fracture Dislocations of the Elbow. Hand Clinics 2015. 31:4;565-580
- Scolaro & Deingessner. Treatment of Monteggia and Transolecranon fracturedislocations of the elbow. JBJS Rev 2014;2(1):e3

Questions ...



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