

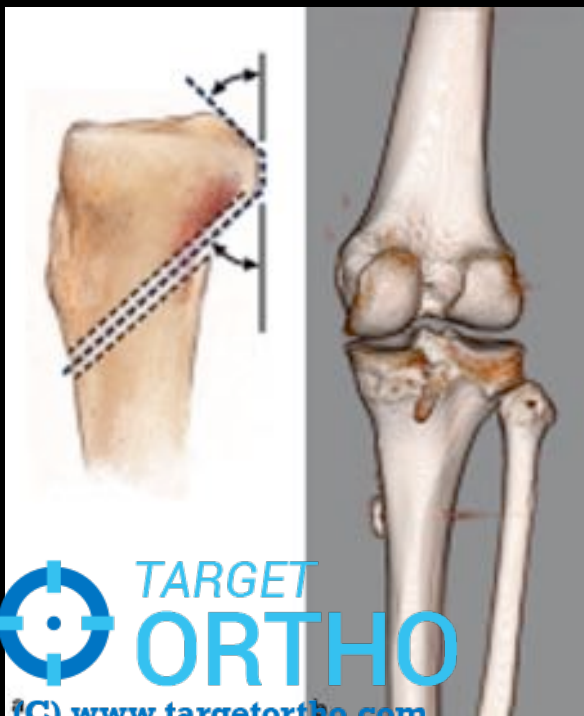
# DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT IN *PCL* AND *PLC* DEFICIENT KNEE

DR.MUKUL MOHINDRA

Consultant Specialist

---

Safdarjung Hospital  
VMM College  
New Delhi



**ANATOMY AND BIOMECHANICS**  
**of**  
**POSTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT**  
*And*  
**POSTERIO LATERAL COMPLEX**

*Quick Review*

# ANATOMY OF PCL

Extra-synovial structure with its own synovial sheath!

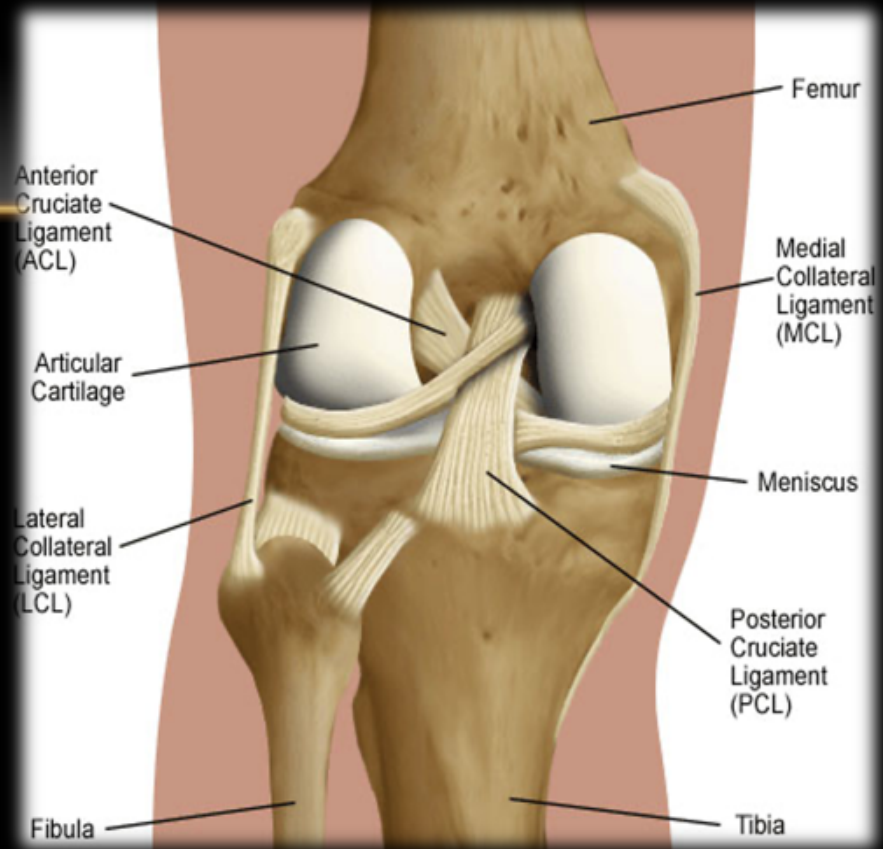
AVG. LENGTH: 38 mm

*(Girgis, Clin Orthop Rel Res, 1975)*

Tensile strength  
1.5 x that of ACL

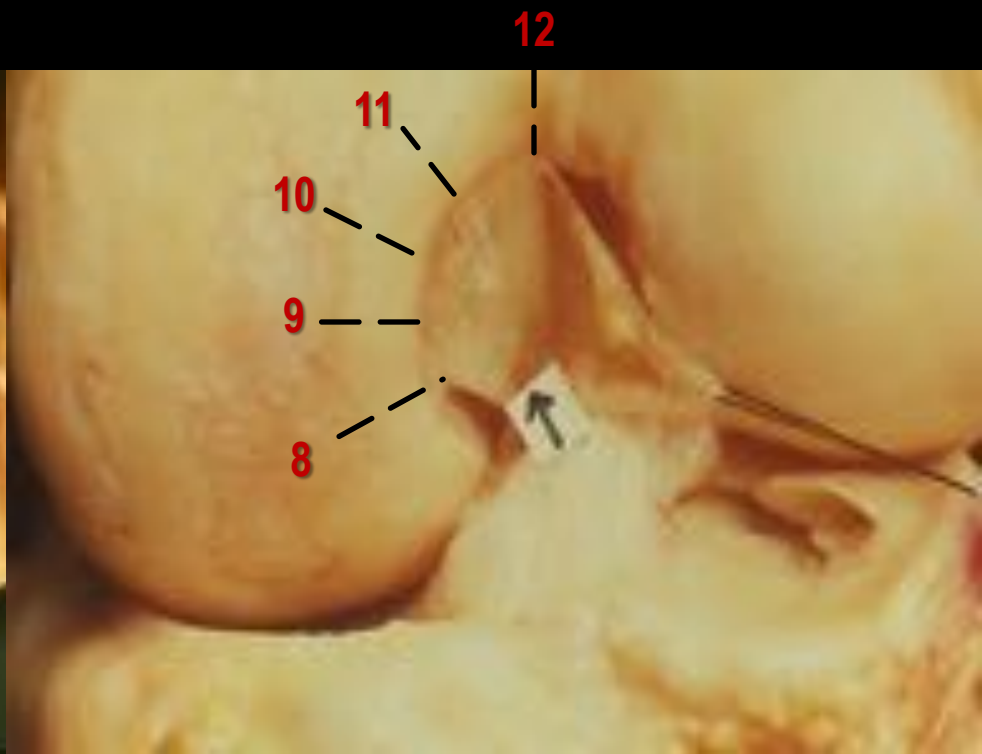
**ORIGIN:** Broad crescent shaped area over medial femoral condyle in the intercondylar notch

**INSERTION:** In a depression between two tibial plateaus (*the PCL fossa*)



# FEMORAL ORIGIN

Broad crescent shaped origin!

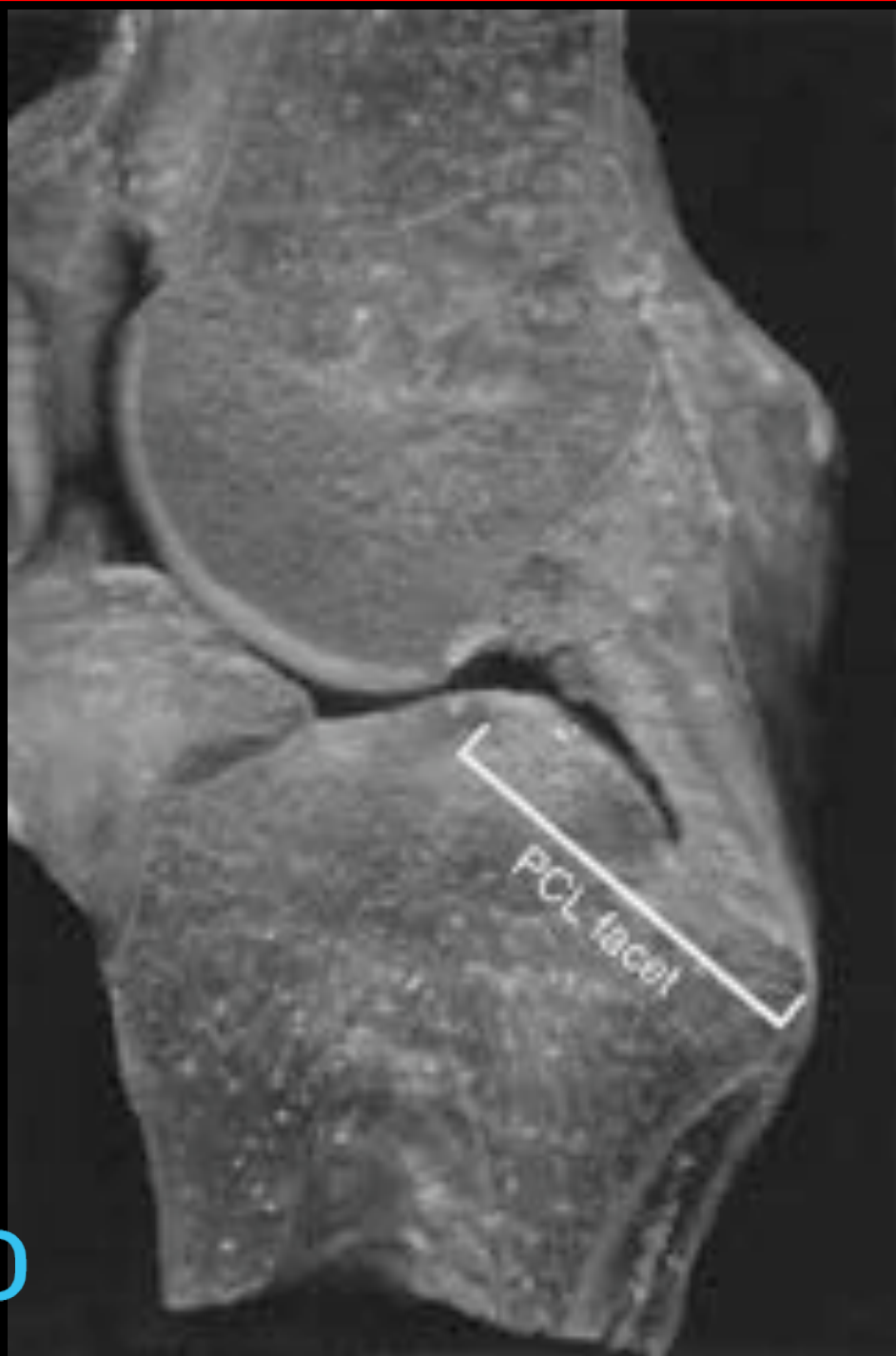






## TIBIAL INSERTION

1.0 -1.5 cm inferior to posterior rim of tibia (*PCL facet*)



Q. The thicker bundle in the PCL is

A.AL bundle

B.AM bundle

C.PL bundle

D.PM bundle

# PCL Complex

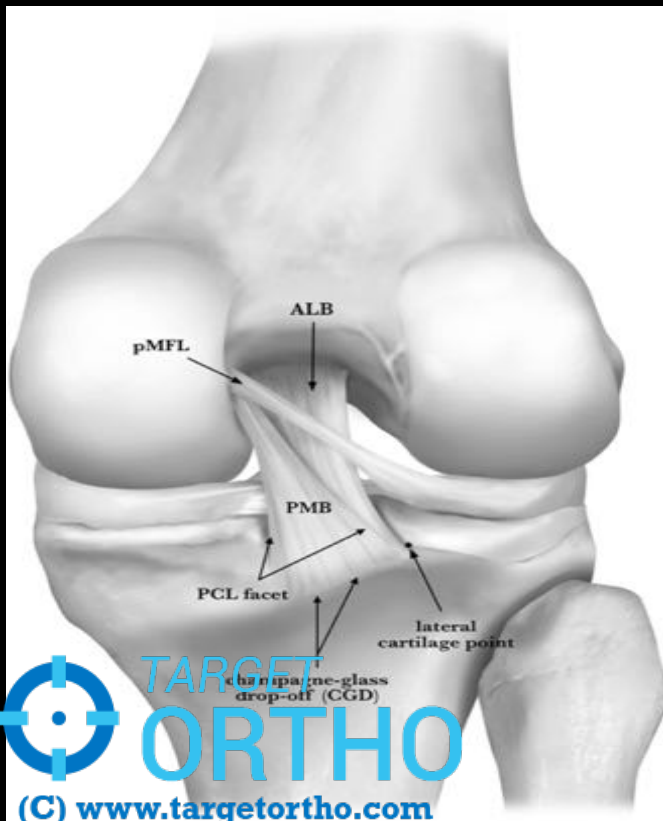
90  
degree

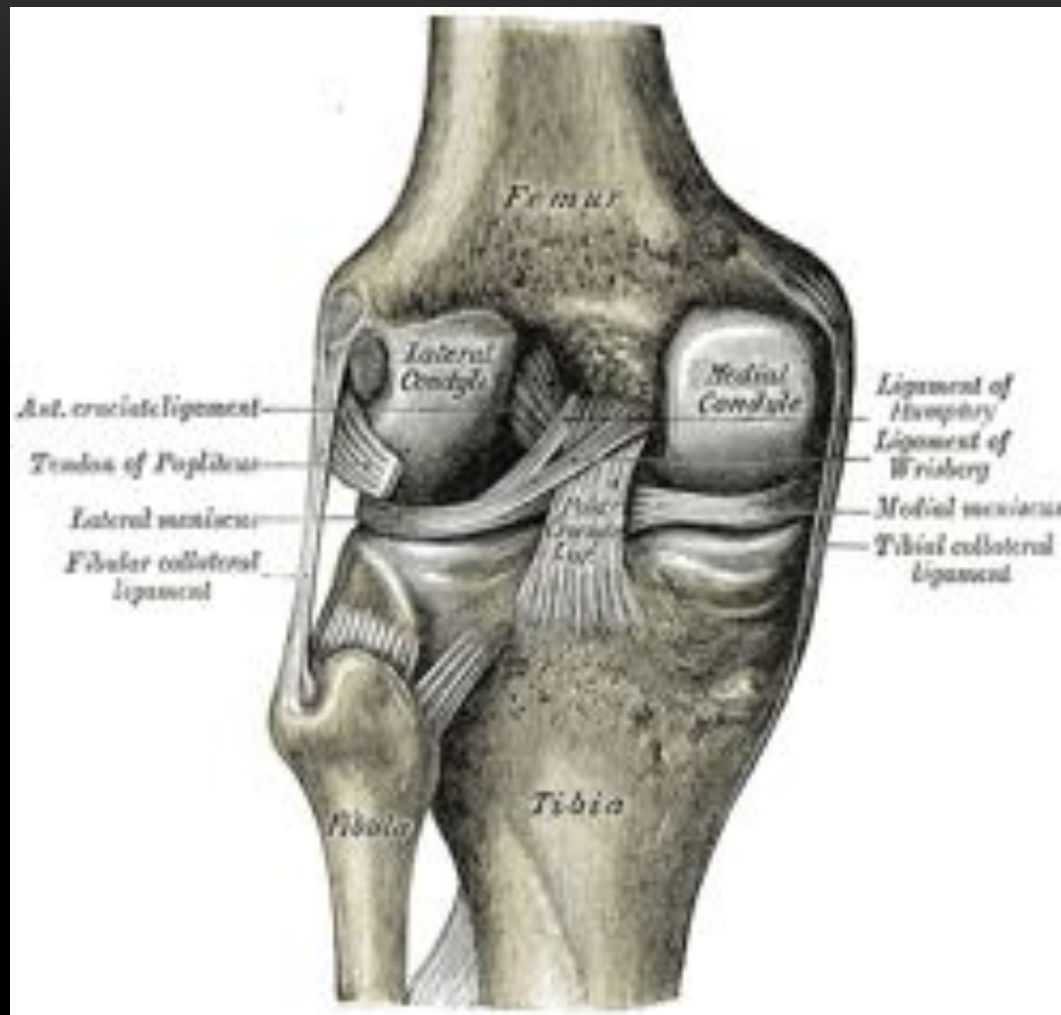
30  
degree

PCL BUNDLES: AL and PM

MENISCO-FEMORAL LIGAMENTS

*(have significant contribution to posterior drawer stability)*



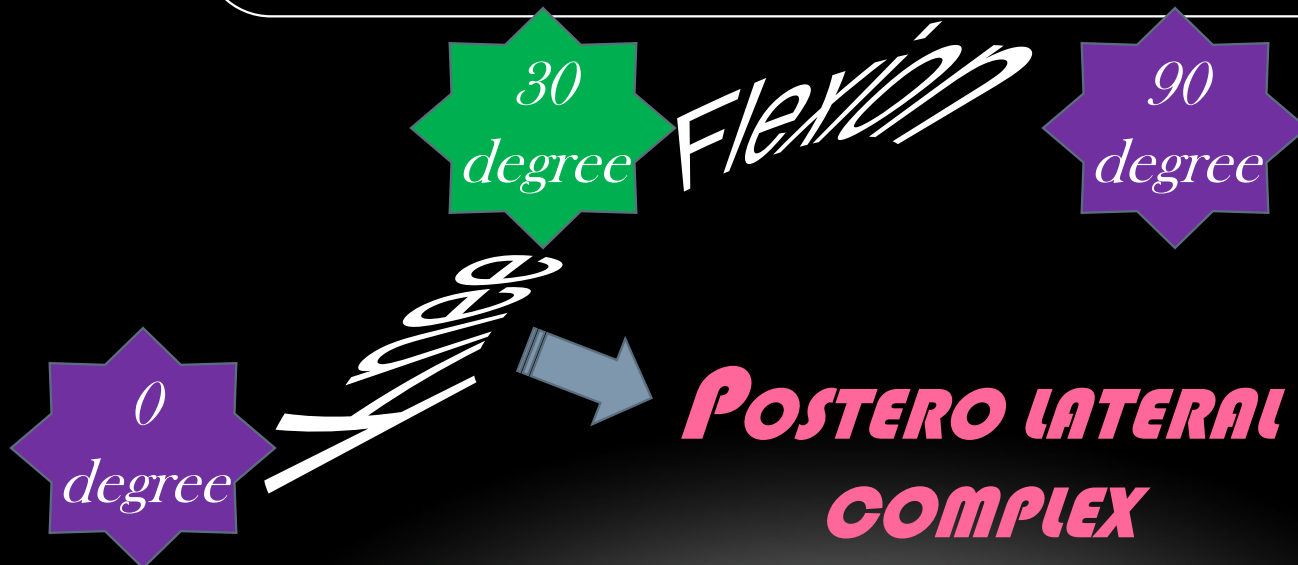


*17.2% femoral footprint of PCL can be meniscofemoral ligaments*

# BIOMECHANICS

Primary restraint to  
posterior translation of tibia

Secondary restraint to external rotation



Q. Not a part of PLC

A. Arcuate ligament

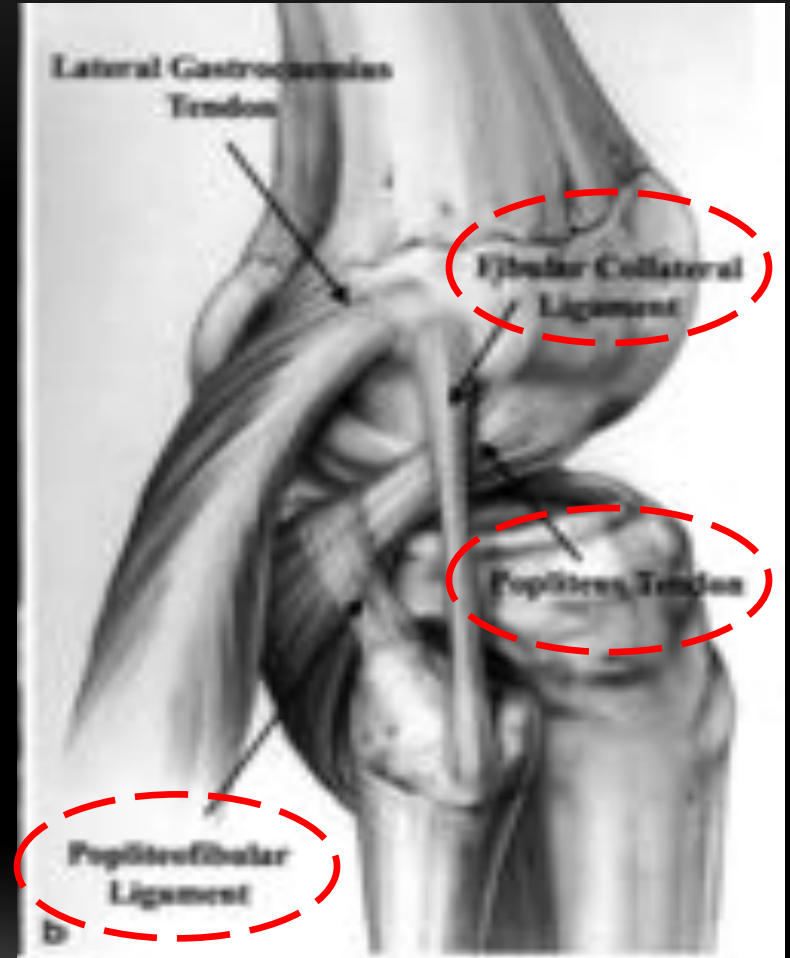
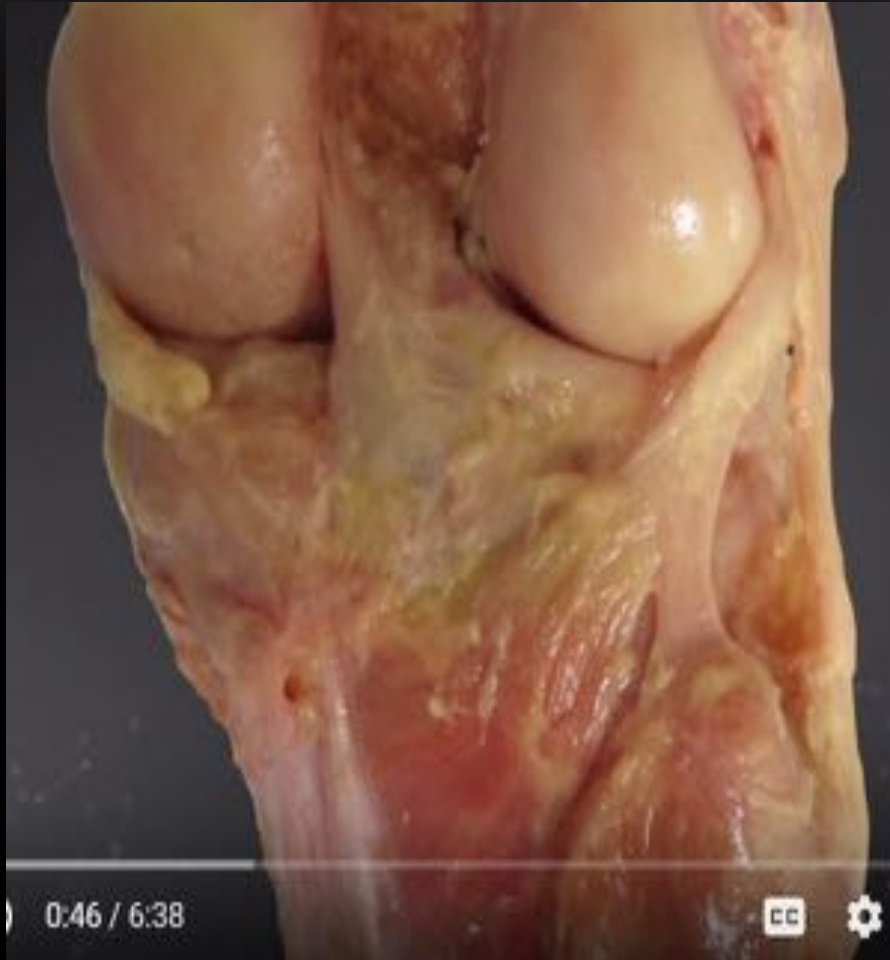
B. POL

C. PF ligament

D. Popliteus tendon



# PLC Complex





# BIOMECHANICS OF PCL AND PCL DEFICIENT KNEE

## *Primary restraint to VARUS and EXTERNAL ROTATION*

100 N posterior tibial load given

*Gollehon et al*

Isolated PLC sectioned: 3–5 mm posterior tibial translation *maximum increase at 30° knee flexion*

PCL sectioned: 8–10 mm of posterior tibial translation *(maximum increase at 90° knee flexion)*

PCL + PLC sectioned: > 15 mm translation

# BIOMECHANICS OF PLC DEFICIENT KNEE

PLC sectioned and 5 N-m external tibial torque given: *in situ forces in PCL increased by 2-6 times*

*(Fox and Harner, 1998)*



So must to reconstruct PLC when performing PCL reconstruction

**CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC ASPECTS**  
**of**  
**POSTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT**  
*And*  
**POSTERIO LATERAL COMPLEX**

*History and Examination*

# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL



**Posterior drawer teSt**

# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL



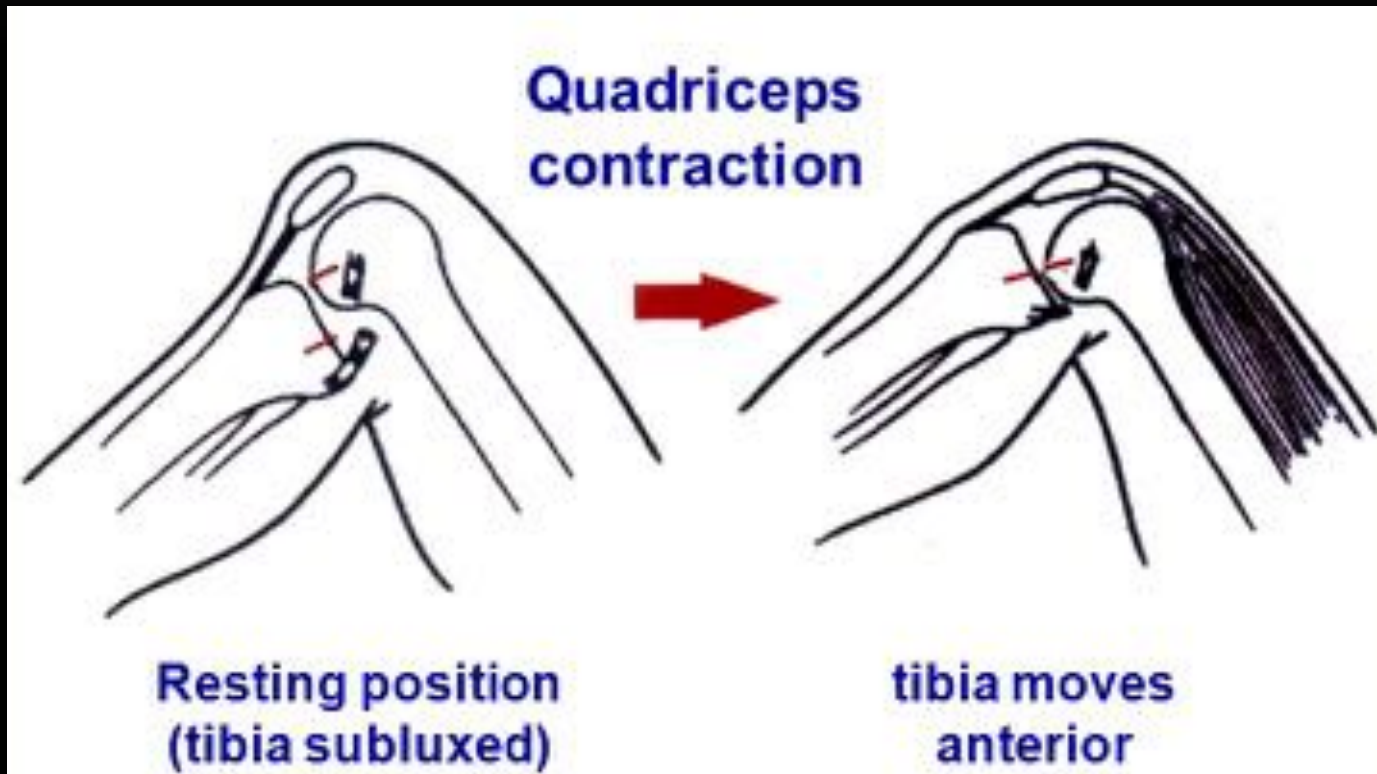
# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL



# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL



Q. The most reliable test for PCL tear is

A. Posterior drawer test

B. Godfrey's posterior sag

C. Quadriceps active test

D. Dial test



# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL + PLC

KNEE FLEXION 90°



KNEE FLEXION 30°



# CLINICAL TESTS

## TESTING FOR PCL + PLC



## CLINICAL TESTS

### TESTING FOR PCL + PLC



# CLINICAL TESTS

## ASSISTIVE TESTS

### VARUS STRESS TEST

### VALGUS STRESS TEST

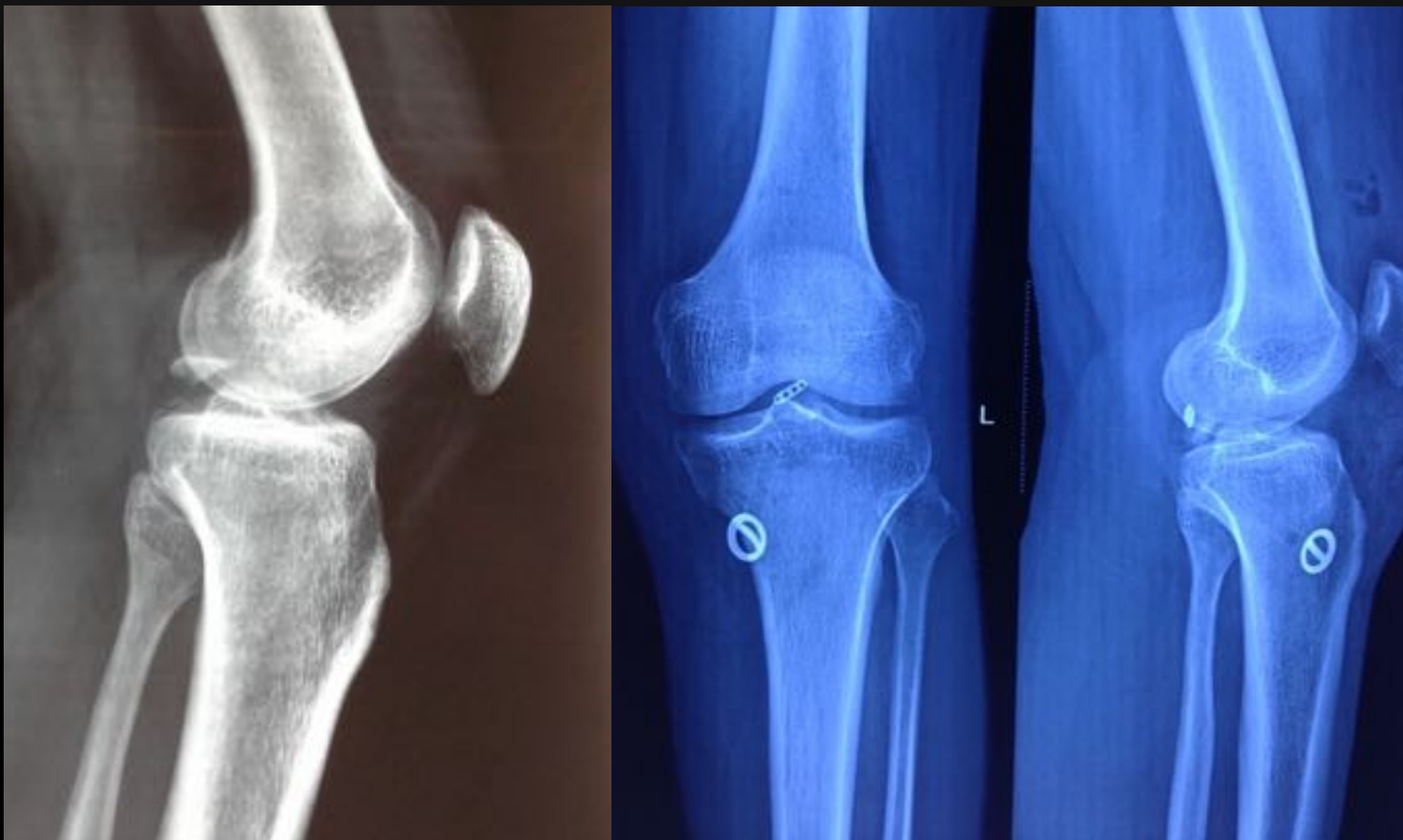


**ROLE OF IMAGING**  
**in**  
**POSTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT**  
*And*  
**POSTERIO LATERAL COMPLEX**

***RADIOGRAPHY, CT AND MRI***



# RADIOGRAPHY



Q. Arthritis secondary to a deficient PCL would generally involve

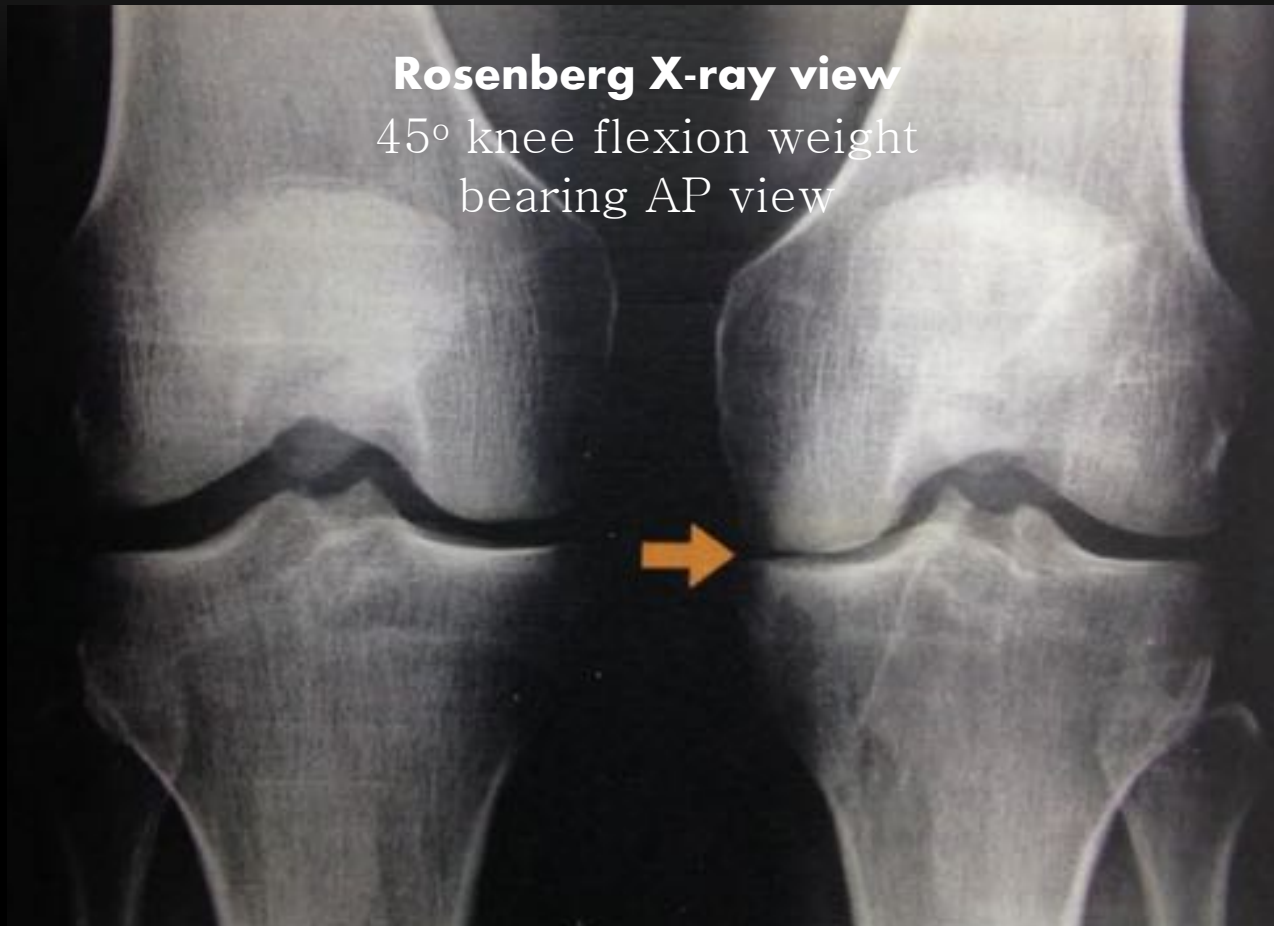
A. Patello femoral compartment

B. Anterio medial compartment

C. Both A and B

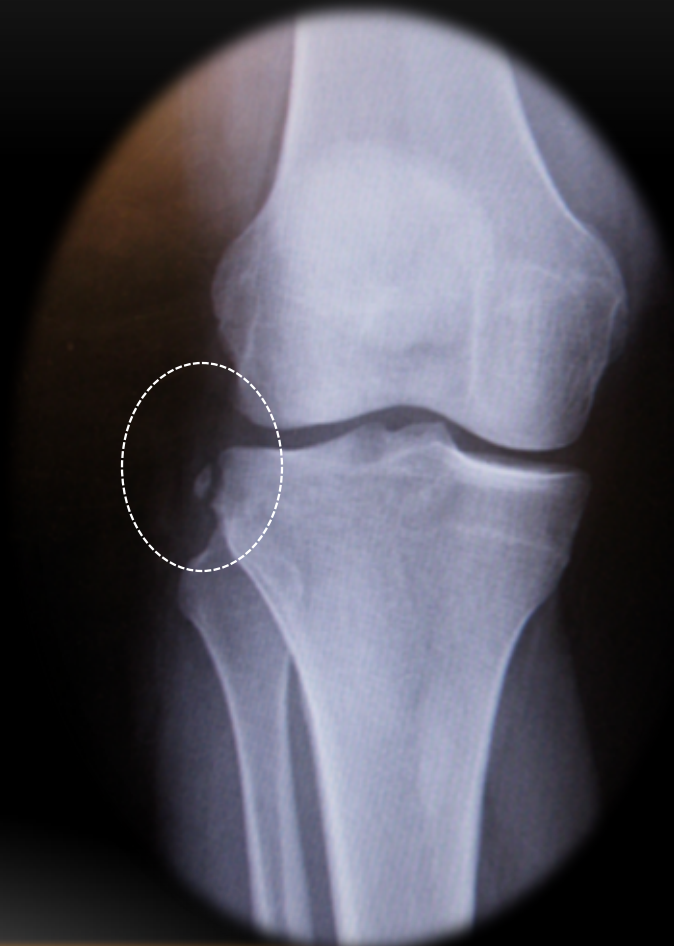
D. Postero medial compartment

# RADIOGRAPHY





# RADIOGRAPHY



# RADIOGRAPHY



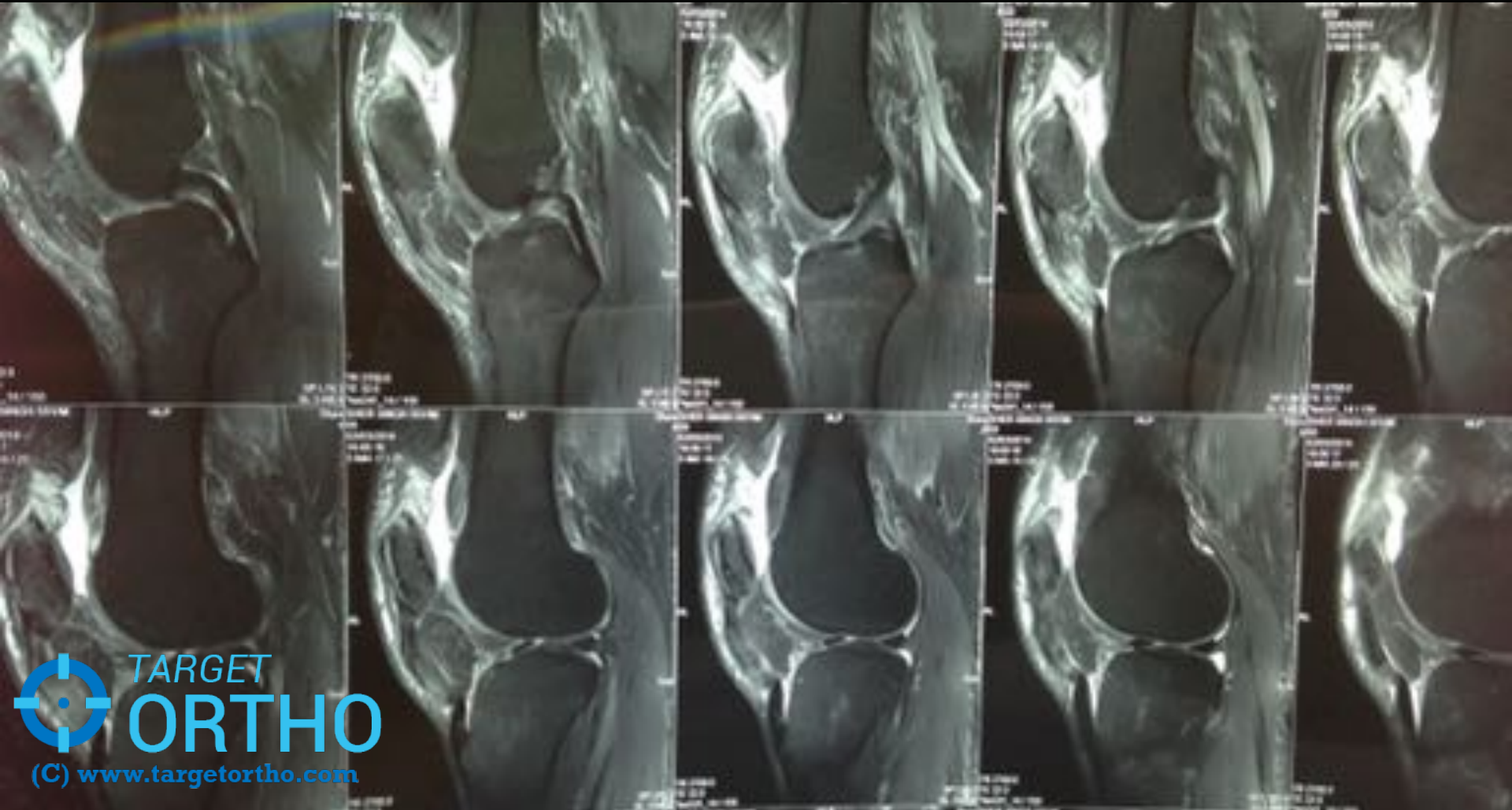
ARCuate  
SIGN

*> 1.5 T, Small FOV*

# MRI



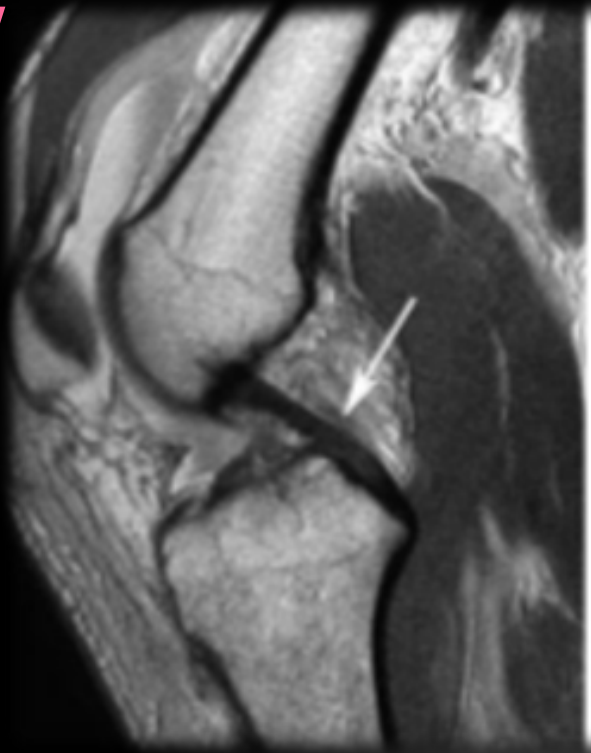
SAGITTAL OBLIQUE IMAGES



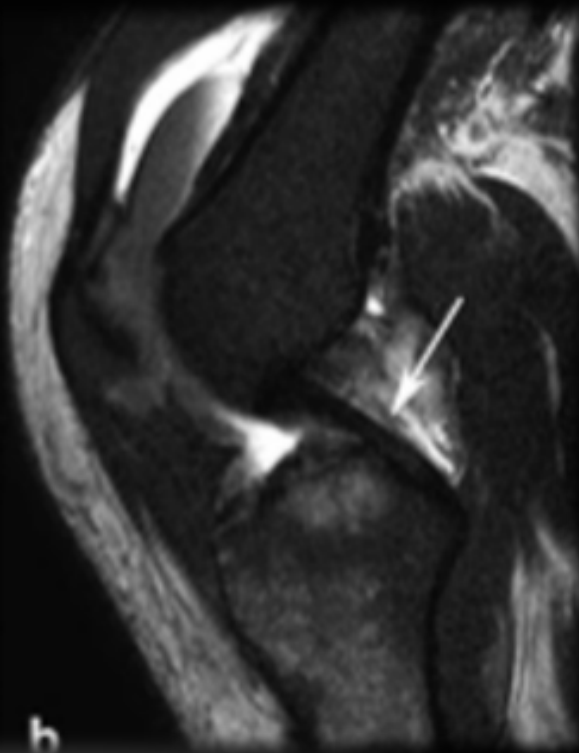
# MRI

## NORMAL PCL

T<sub>1</sub> W



T<sub>2</sub> W  
[PD]



# MRI

## ABNORMAL PCL





# MRI



**AVULSION**

**INTRA-SUBSTANCE  
TEAR**



**FULL THICKNESS  
TEAR**



# MRI

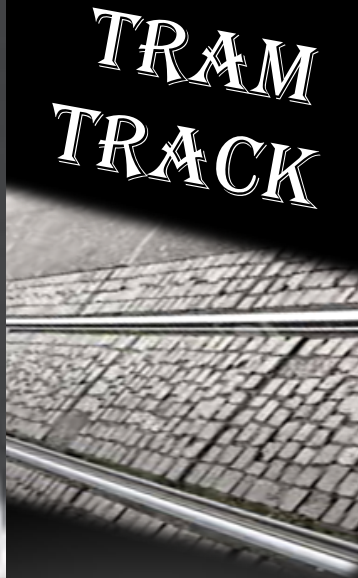
## COMPLETE vs PARTIAL TEAR

*Axial image*



# MRI

## MUCOID DEGENERATION vs PARTIAL TEAR



TARGET

ORTHO

McMinn JS et al. *AJR Am J Roentgenol.* 2013 Aug;201(2):394-9. Tram-track appearance of the posterior cruciate ligament (PCL): correlations with mucoid degeneration, ligamentous stability, and differentiation from PCL tears.

(C) [www.targetortho.com](http://www.targetortho.com)



**MRI**

## **DOUBLE PCL SIGN**



TARGET

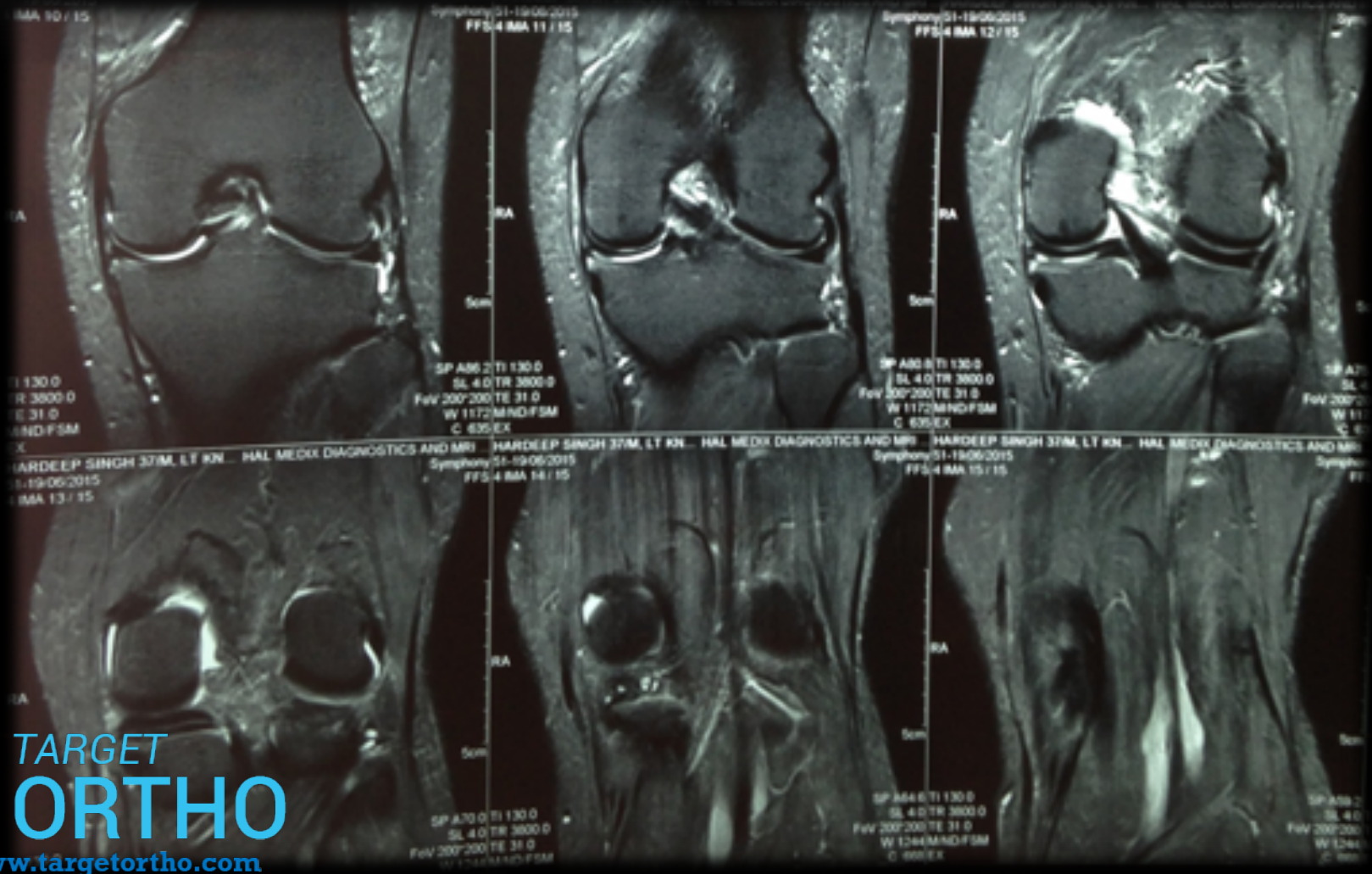
ORTHO

**BUCKET HANDLE TEAR MEDIAL MENISCUS**

(C) [www.targetortho.com](http://www.targetortho.com)

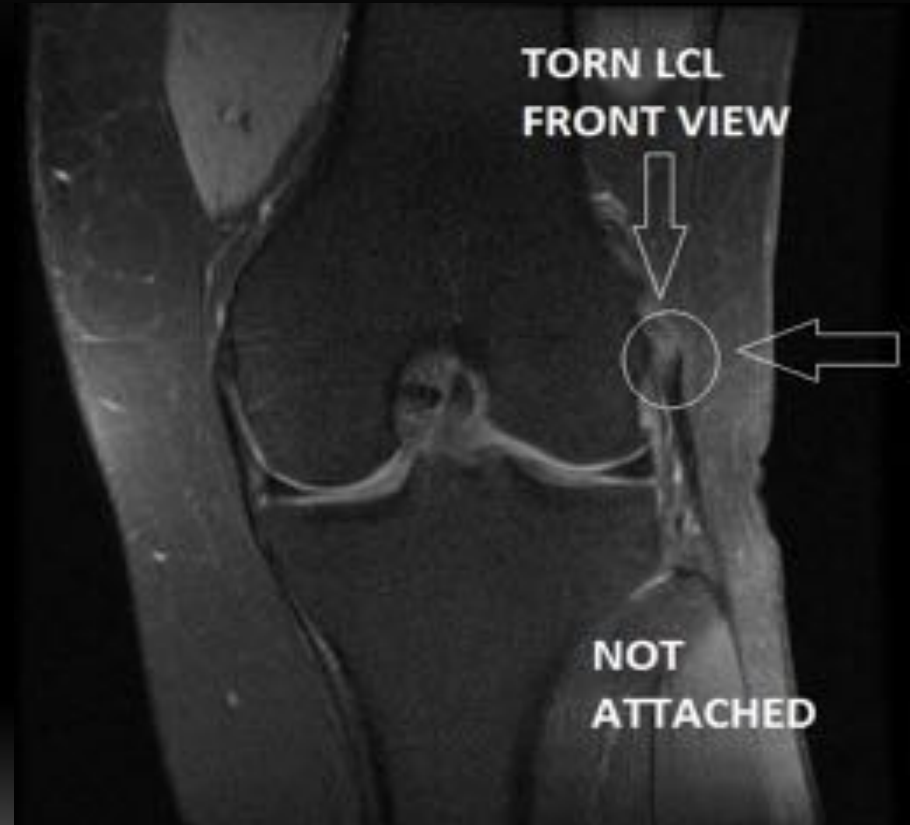
# MRI

## NORMAL PLC



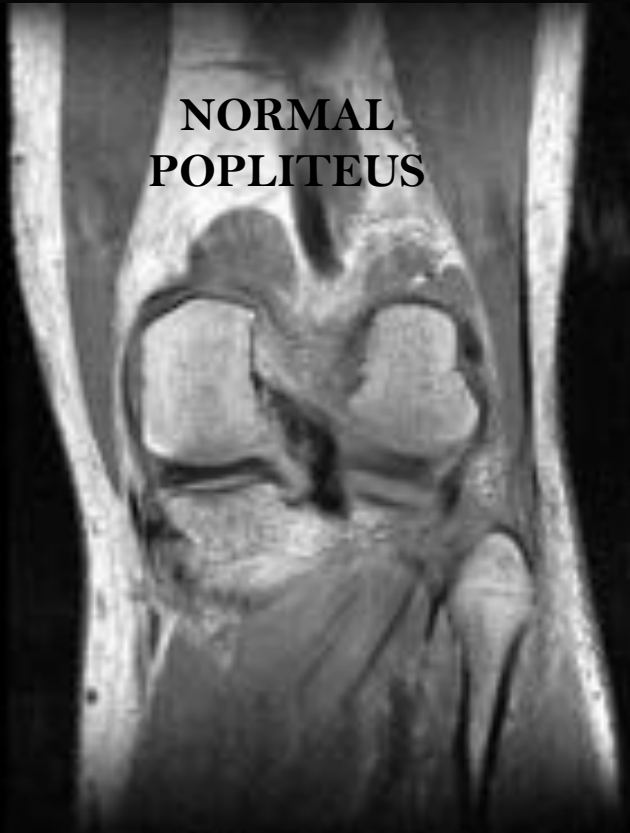
# MRI

## LCL TEAR



# MRI

## POPLITEUS TEAR



**INSTRUMENTED MEASUREMENTS**  
**in**  
**POSTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT**  
*And*  
**POSTERIO LATERAL COMPLEX**

*Arthrometry AND Stress Radiography*



# ARTHROMETRY

*Instrumented quantification of laxity*

## Posterior translation

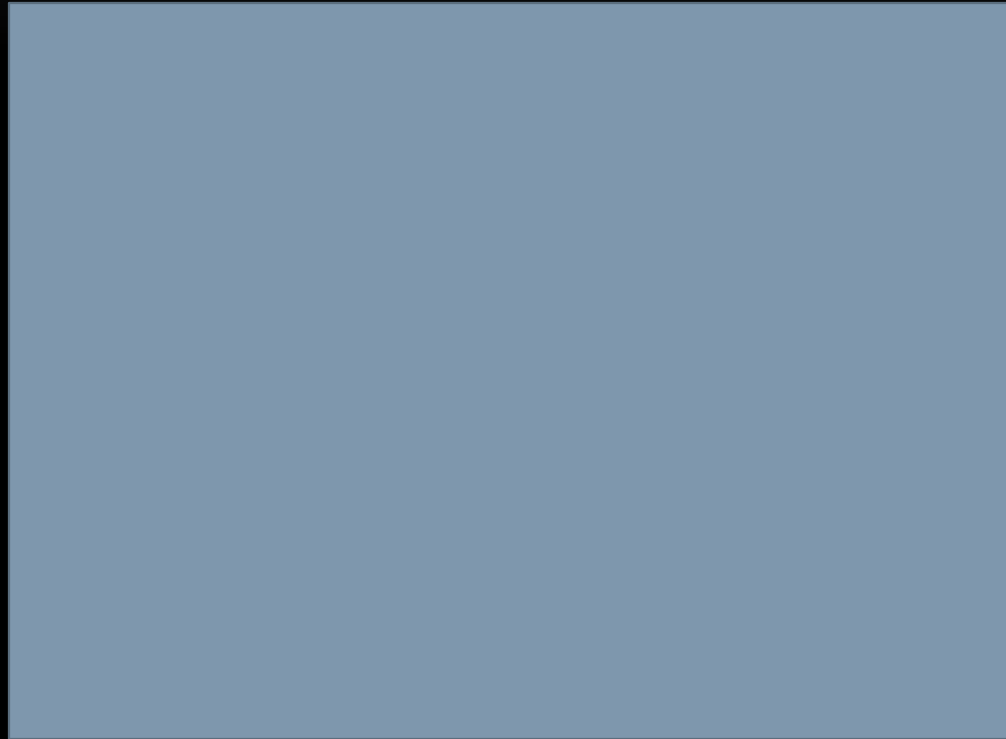
Knee ligament Testing platform  
[KT-1000/2000]  
*by Medmetric, San diego*

Knee Laxity Tester  
*by Stryker*

## Rotational assessment

Rotationometer/  
Laxiometer

# ARTHROMETRY



# ARTHROMETRY

## ROTATIONOMETER





# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

```
graph TD; A[STRESS RADIOGRAPHY] --> B[Posterior laxity]; A --> C[Varus/ Valgus laxity];
```

Posterior laxity

Varus/ Valgus laxity

# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## POSTERIOR LAXITY

- Hamstring contraction x-ray
- Gravity sag view
- Kneeling x-ray
- Telos stress view

# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## HAMSTRING CONTRACTION X RAY



# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## GRAVITY SAG VIEW



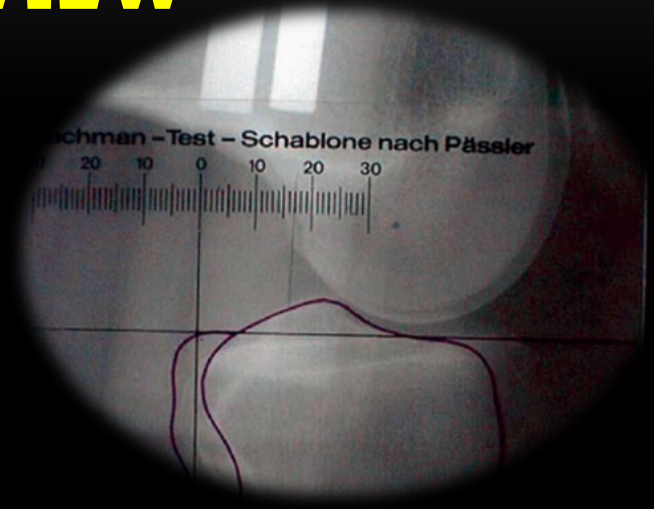
# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## KNEELING X RAY VIEW



# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## TELOS STRESS VIEW



TARGET

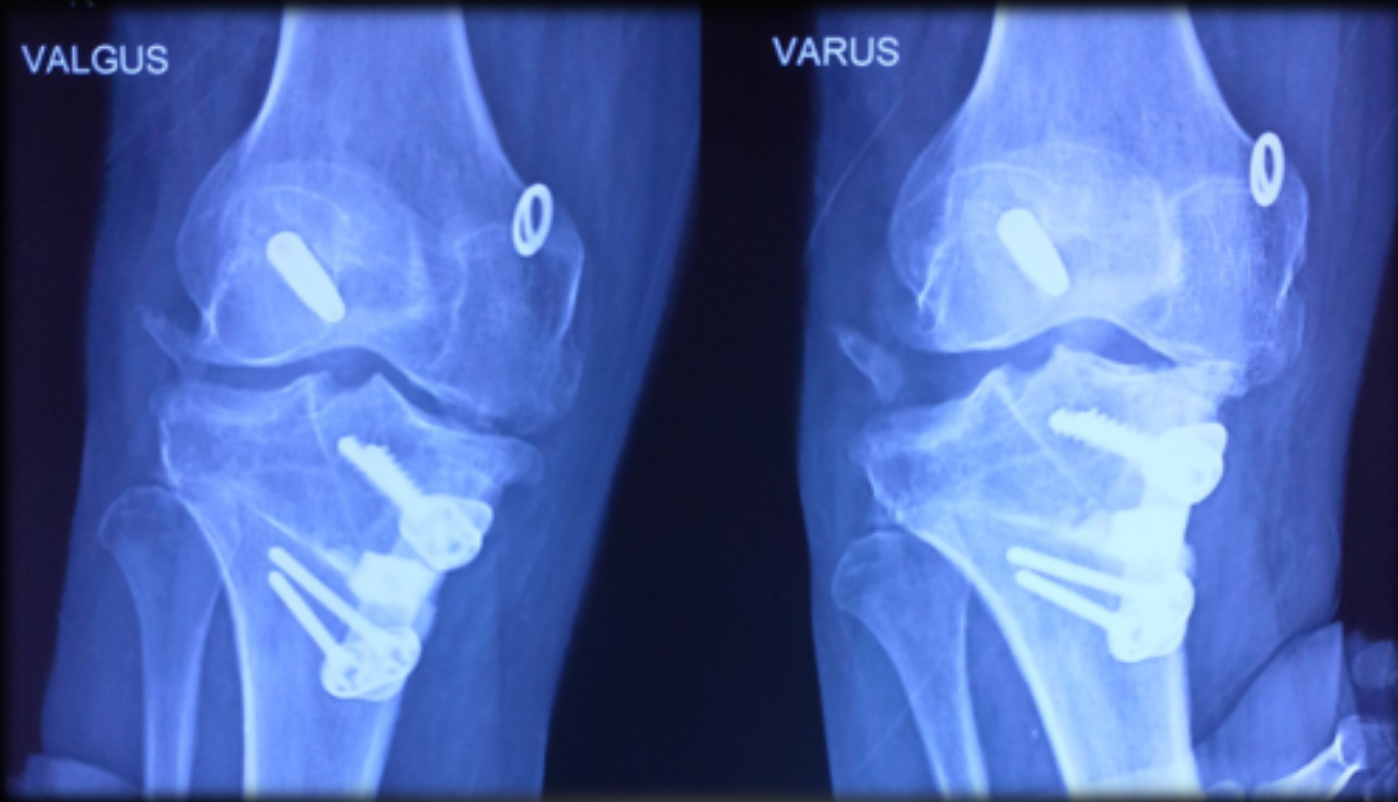
ORTHO

(C) [www.targetortho.com](http://www.targetortho.com)

**GOLD STANDARD; DEVICE NEEDED**

# STRESS RADIOGRAPHY

## VARUS/ VALGUS STRESS VIEWS



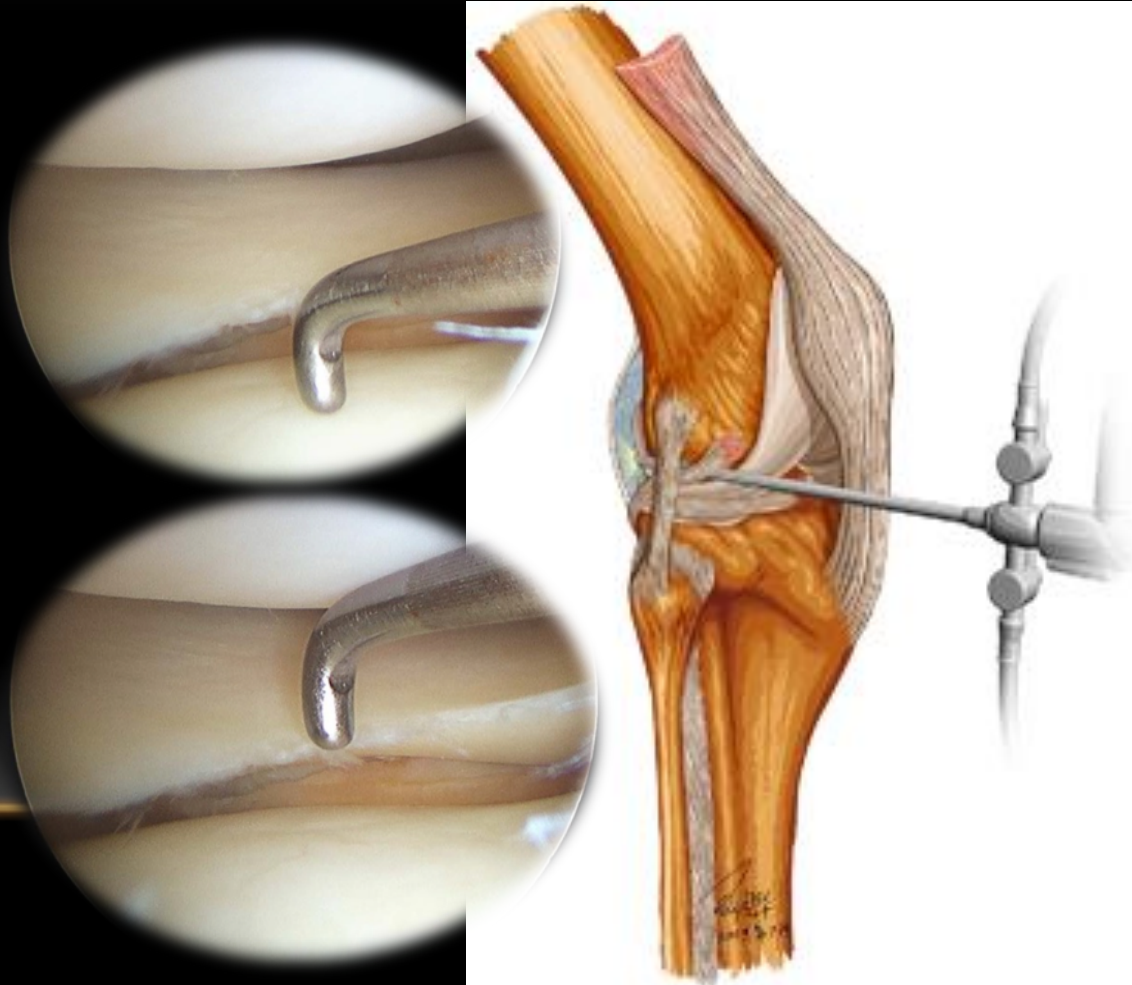


# Indirect arthroscopic evidences of PCL injury

## SLOPPY ACL SIGN



## DRIVE THROUGH SIGN

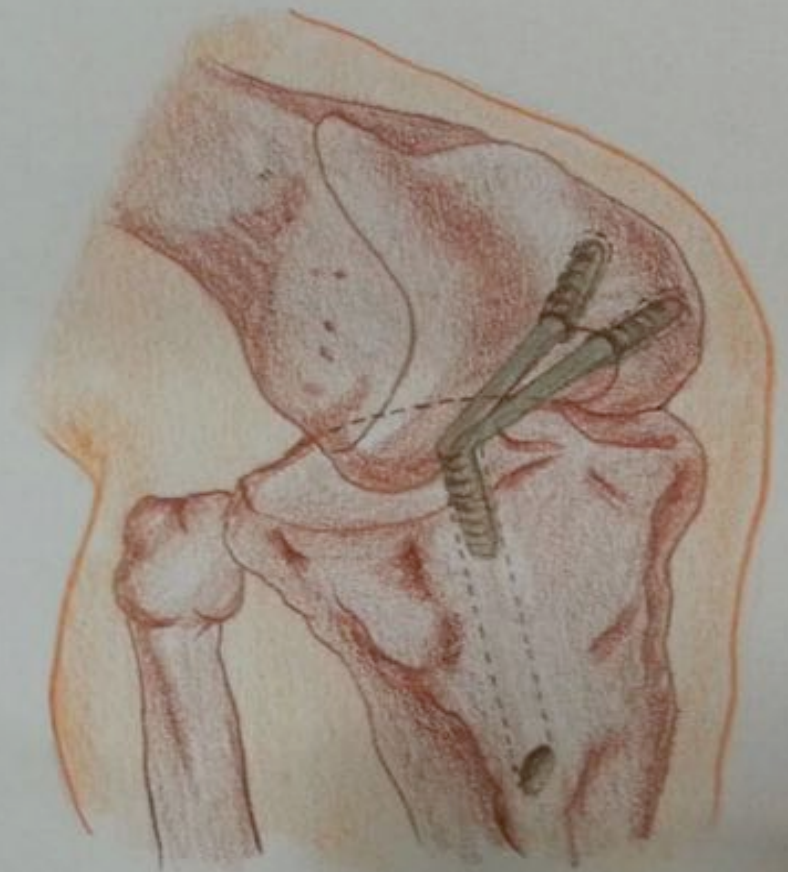


# MANAGEMENT

# When to Operate for PCL ??

- Avulsion injuries
- Isolated grade III PCL injury; acute or chronic
- Grade II in following scenarios:
  - ✓ PCL injury in setting of multi ligamentous knee injury
  - ✓ Symptomatic patient who fails to respond to conservative treatment

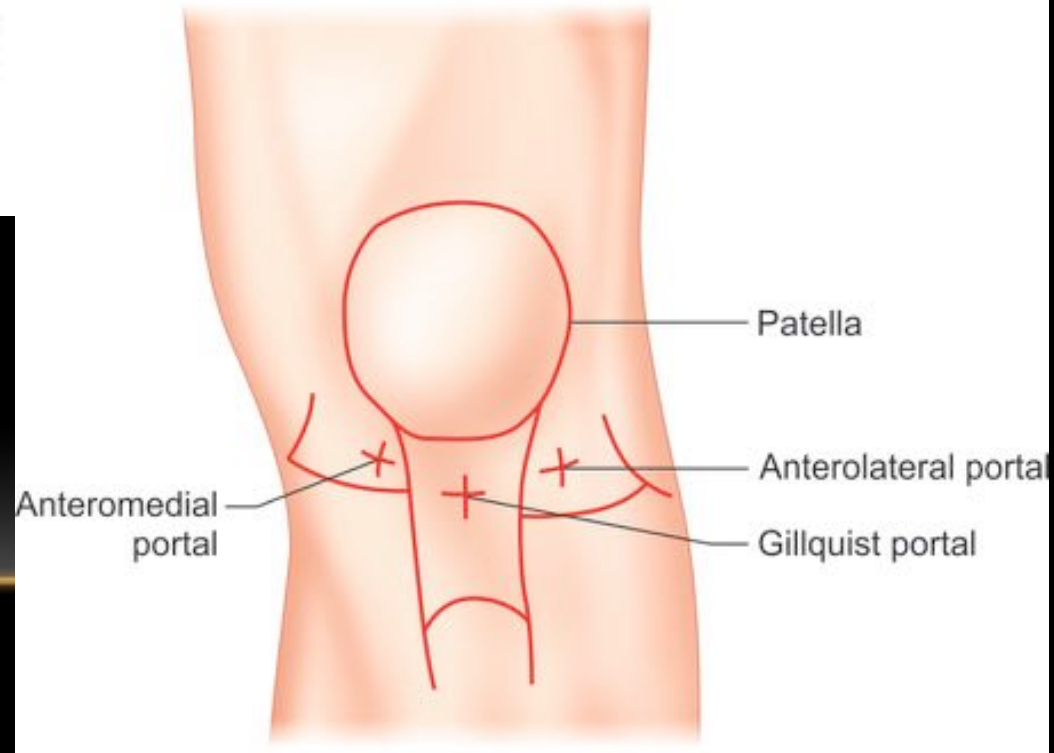
# TRANSTIBIAL (T-T) TECHNIQUE



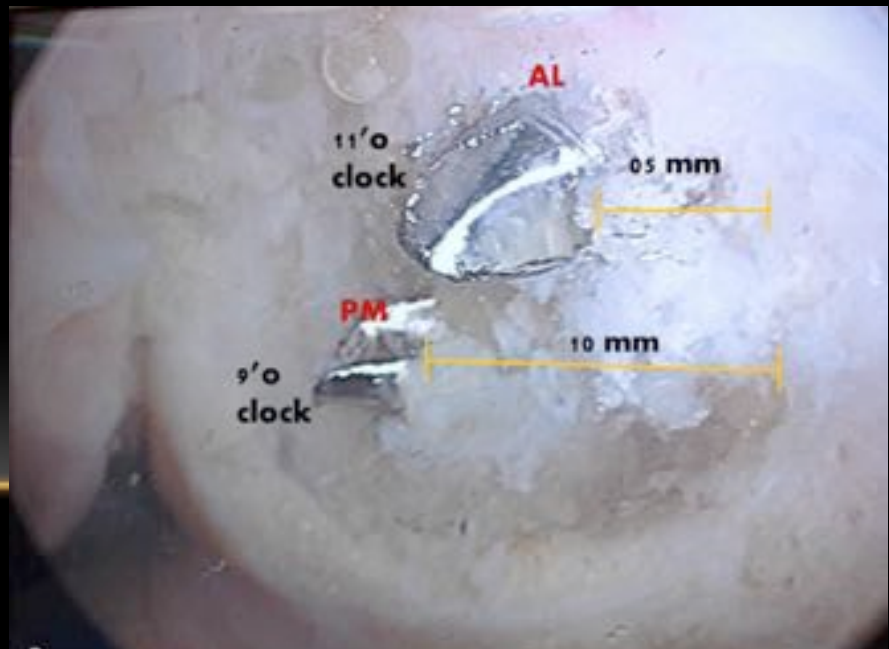
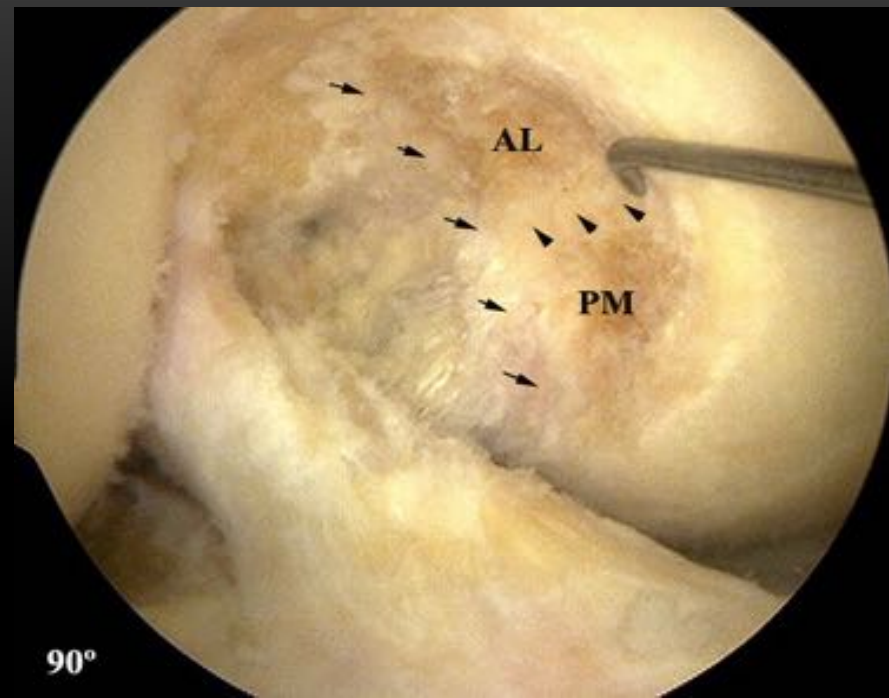
# TIBIAL INLAY TECHNIQUE



# ARTHROSCOPIC (T-T) PCL RECONSTRUCTION











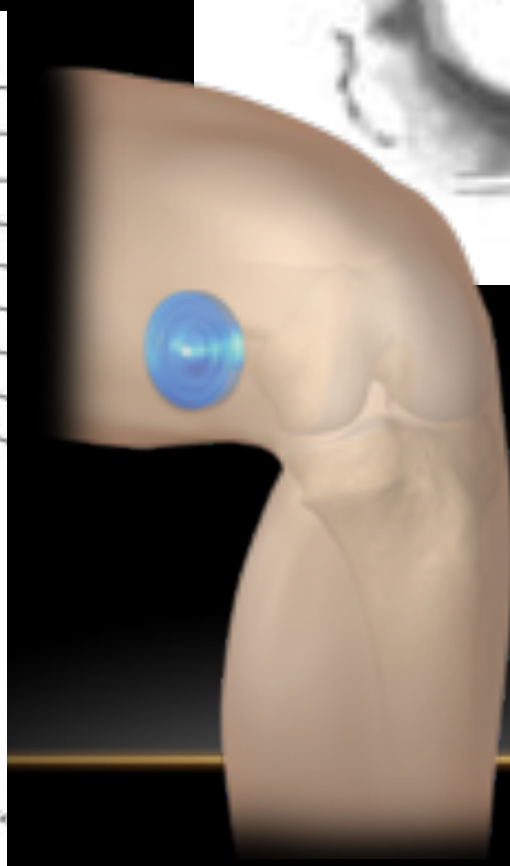
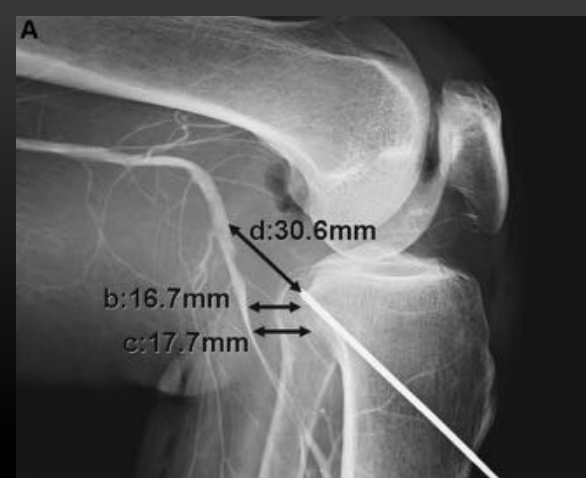
a



b



a





POSTERO MEDIAL  
SAFETY INCISION



# REHABILITATION



Prone knee bend



## GRADING PLC (Fanelli)

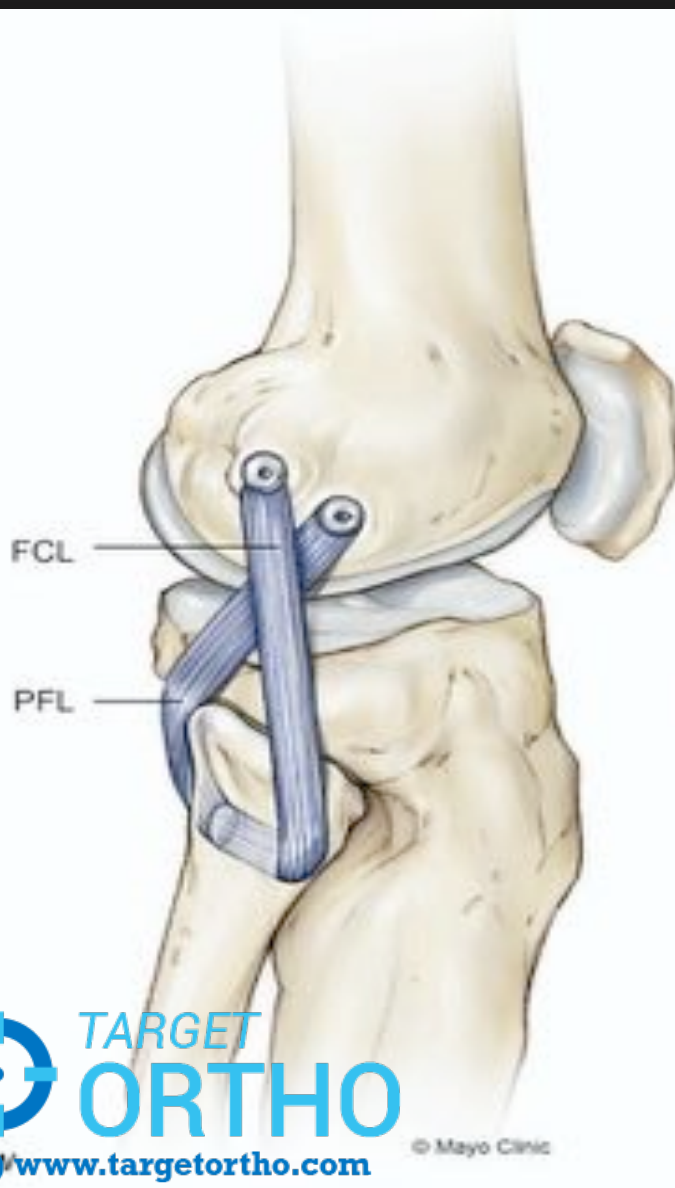
A: injury to popliteofibular ligament, popliteus tendon

B: injury to popliteofibular ligament, popliteus tendon, and FCL

C: injury to popliteofibular ligament, popliteus tendon, and FCL, lateral capsular avulsion, and cruciate ligament disruption

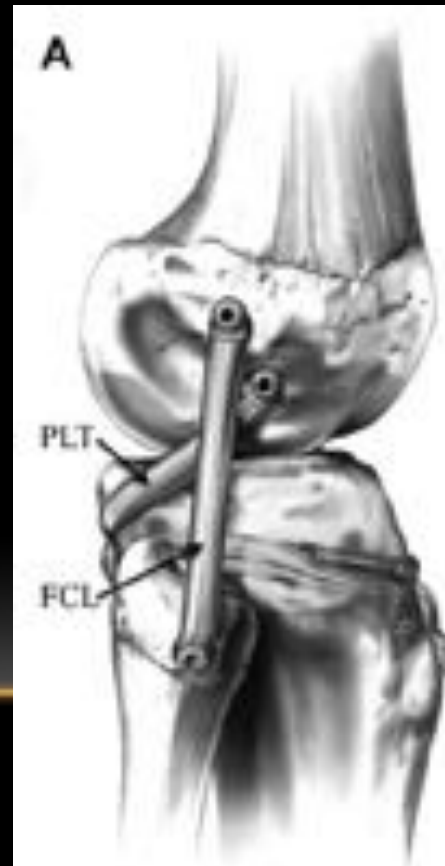
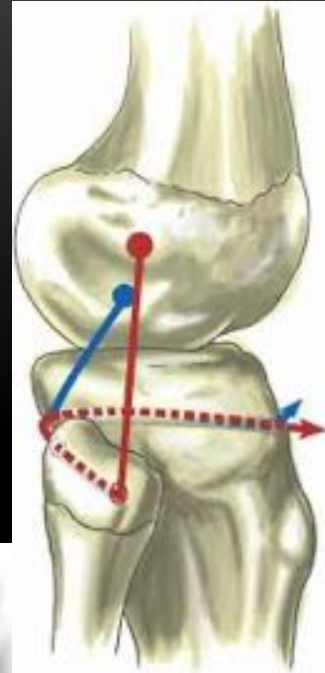


# LARSON'S TECHNIQUE (MODIFIED)





# LAPRADE's TECHNIQUE



Q. 30 years female athlete with chronic PCL PLC injury has come to you with varus thrust gait. Ideal management

A. Reconstruct the PCL and PLC

B. HTO

C. HTO and PCL PLC reconstruction in same sitting

D. Stage HTO and ligament reconstruction by 6 weeks

# ROLE OF HTO

- HTO should be done for treatment of **CHRONIC** PCL/PLC-deficient knee associated with **varus malalignment**. If the knee is still unstable, soft tissue procedures should be performed 6–8 months after correction of the malalignment.
- HTO allows the surgeon to modify both the coronal and the sagittal plane of the knee; and *an increased posterior tibial slope stabilizes the joint!*





THANK YOU