

Foot & Ankle Pain



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*Nothing to disclose

Quiz

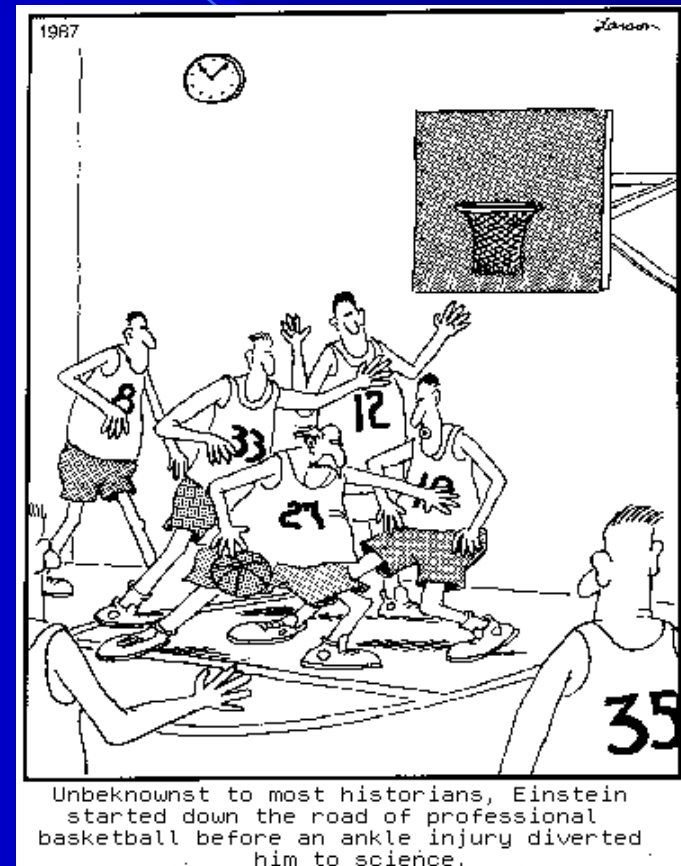
- ❑ What is the most common ligament torn in ankle sprains?
- ❑ The Ottawa ankle rules palpate the med, lateral malleoli, base of 5th MT and ???
- ❑ What percent of ankle sprains have pain after 6 months?
 - ❑ 20% 33% 56% 73%
- ❑ Which location is more common for Talar dome OCD?

EPIDEMIOLOGY

- ❑ Most Common Sports Injury
- ❑ Basketball, Soccer, Football
- ❑ 85% Ankle Injuries involve Ligament Sprain
- ❑ 2nd Most Common Office MSK Chief Complain (1st LBP)

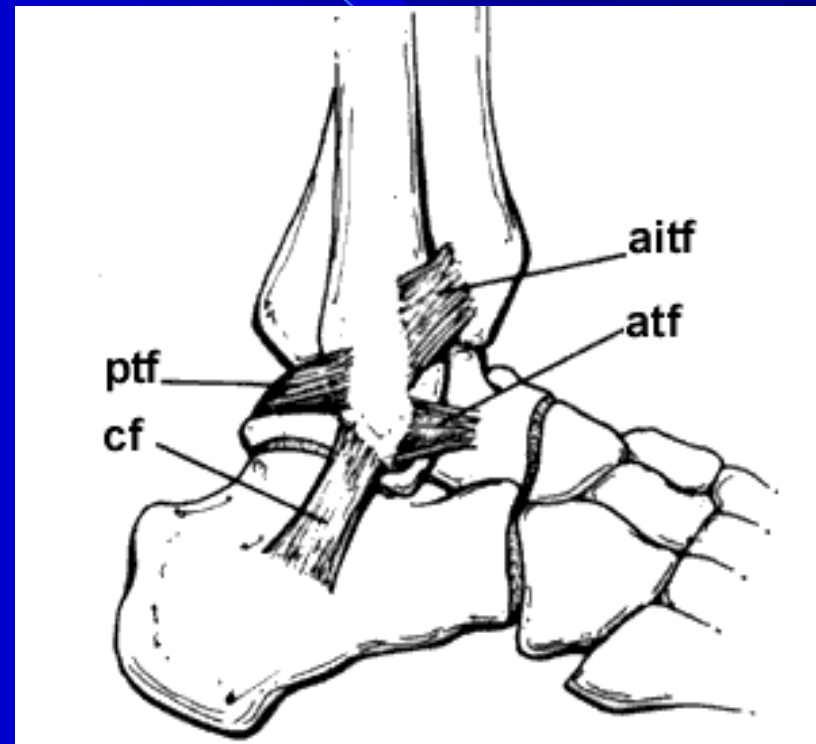
LATERAL ANKLE SPRAIN

- 85-90% Ankle Sprains
- 45% Basketball Injuries
- 17-31% Soccer Injuries



ANATOMY

- ❑ Anterior Talofibular Ligament(ATFL)
- ❑ Calcaneofibular Ligament(CFL)
- ❑ Posterior Talofibular Ligament(PTFL)



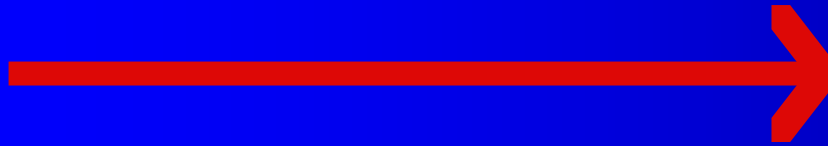
MECHANISM OF INJURY

- ❑ Unloaded Foot and Ankle
- ❑ Plantar Flexion > Neutral > Dorsiflexion
- ❑ Inversion
- ❑ 2018 Volleyball study-blocking landing on other player foot NOT in plantar flexion



PLANTAR FLEXION

INCREASING FORCE

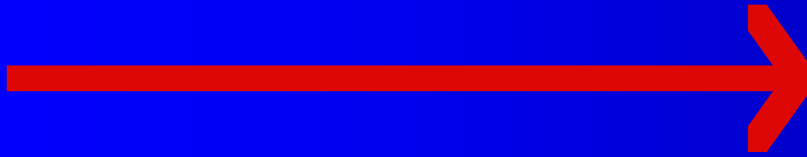


ATFL → CFL → PTFL → DELTOID

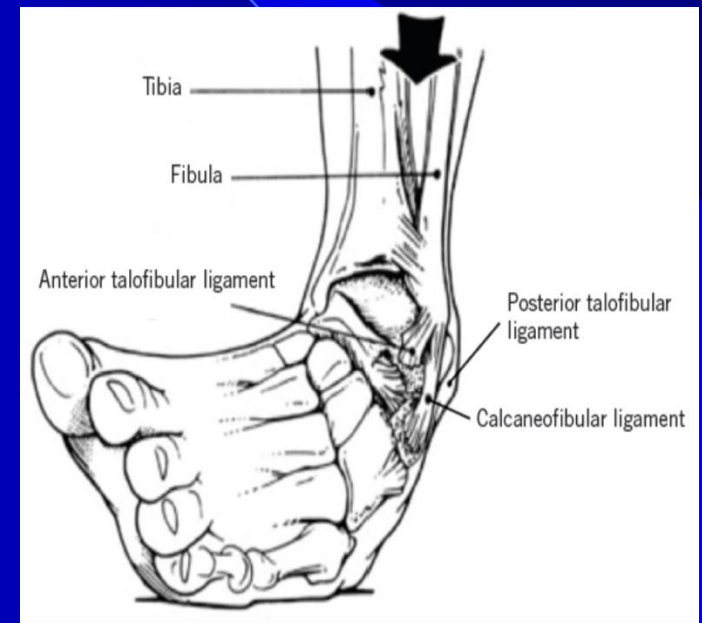


DORSIFLEXION

INCREASING FORCE



PTFL → CFL → ATFL



HISTORY

- ❑ Mechanism
- ❑ Instability
- ❑ Pop/Tear
- ❑ Pain location
- ❑ Ability to ambulate/finish activity



PHYSICAL EXAM

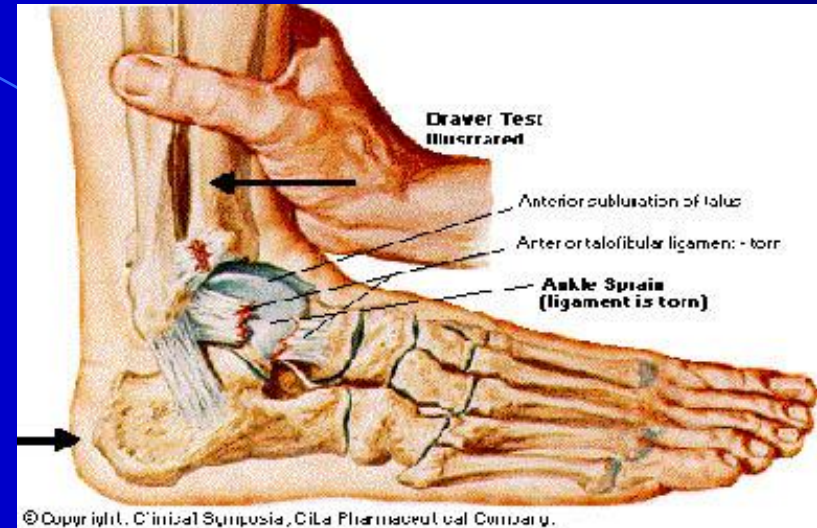
- ☐ Inspection
 - Swelling
 - Eccymosis
- ☐ Tenderness
- ☐ Neurovascular



PEX

☐ Stability Testing

- Anterior Drawer
- Talar Tilt



XRAY

- ☐ Ankle Series
 - AP
 - LATERAL
 - MORTISE
- ☐ Standing View
- ☐ Stress Views



CLASSIFICATION

▣ GRADE I

– Ligament stretch, no laxity

▣ GRADE II

– Ligament tear, mild laxity

▣ GRADE III

– Complete tear and significant laxity

TREATMENT

▣ ACUTE

- Protection
- Rest (Relative)
- Ice
- Compression
- Elevation



TREATMENT

☐ Joint protection

☐ Immobilization vs. Stabilization?

- Swedish Study 1966
Wrapping > Casting

☐ Options

- Rigid: Cast, Boot
- Semi-rigid: Air-cast, brace
- Flexible
 - DJO
 - Bioskin (Trilock)
 - ASO
- Duration; 6 weeks-6 months



TREATMENT

☐ REHAB

- ROM
- Strengthening
- Proprioception
- Sport Specific Drills

☐ SURGERY?





TREATMENT

Return To Sports

– Variable

0 days to 6 weeks

Injury Grade

– Guidelines

Intact Strength & Proprioception

– Taping vs. Bracing

P

Pain severity

- During sport participation
- Over last 24 hours

A

Ankle impairments

- Ankle range of motion
- Ankle muscle strength, endurance and power

A

Athlete perception

- Perceived ankle confidence/reassurance
- Perceived ankle stability
- Psychological readiness

S

Sensorimotor control

- Proprioception
- Dynamic postural control/balance

S

Sport/functional performance

- Hopping and jumping
- Agility
- Sport-specific activities
- Ability to complete a full training session

Prevention

- Fitness
- Proprioception
- Shoewear
- Taping
- Spraino
 - 53% lower incidence, safe
 - Low-friction patch
 - BJSM 2021



Figure 2: Spraino, Front (A) and Rear (B)



MEDIAL ANKLE SPRAIN

EPIDEMIOLOGY

- Isolated Injury <10%
- Often associated with:
 - ▣ Syndesmotic Injury
 - ▣ Severe Lateral Sprain
 - ▣ Fibular Fracture

MECHANISM OF INJURY

- Forced Eversion

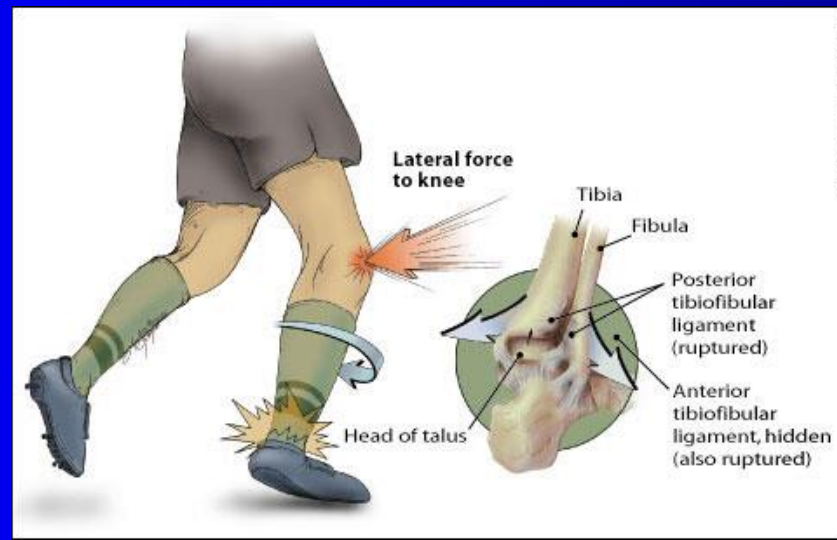


INJURY SEQUENCE

INCREASING FORCE



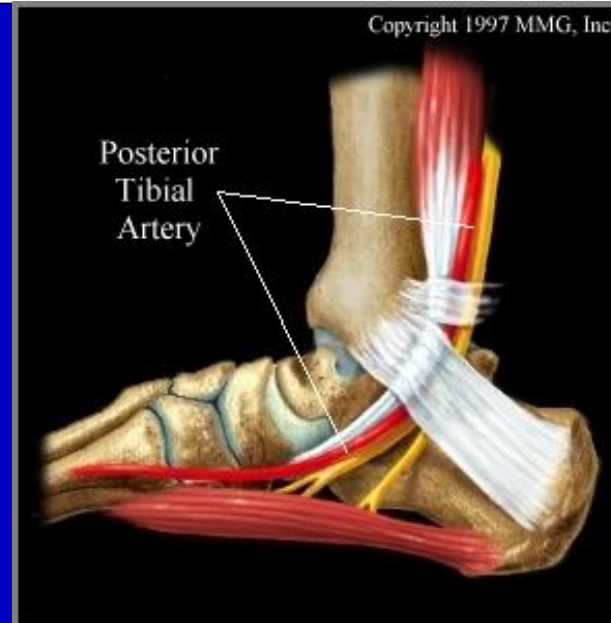
DELTOID → TIB/FIB COMPLEX → FIB FX



MEDIAL SPRAINS

PHYSICAL EXAM

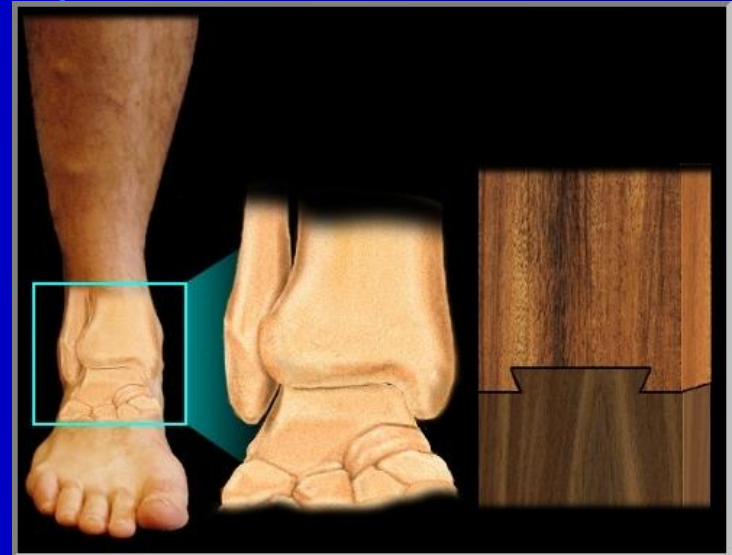
- Posterior tibialis tendon
- Nerve injury: tibial/peroneal
- Proximal Squeeze test
- External Rotation test



MEDIAL SPRAINS

❑ XRAYS

- Weight-bearing Views
- LOOK OUT FOR:
 - ❑ Mortise widening
 - ❑ Lateral malleolar fracture
 - ❑ Maissonneuve (prox. fib fx)



MEDIAL SPRAINS

▣ TREATMENT

- Similar to lateral sprains
- Typically longer recovery time
- General timeline:
 - ▣ Grade I: 2-6 weeks
 - ▣ Grade II/III: 6-8 weeks



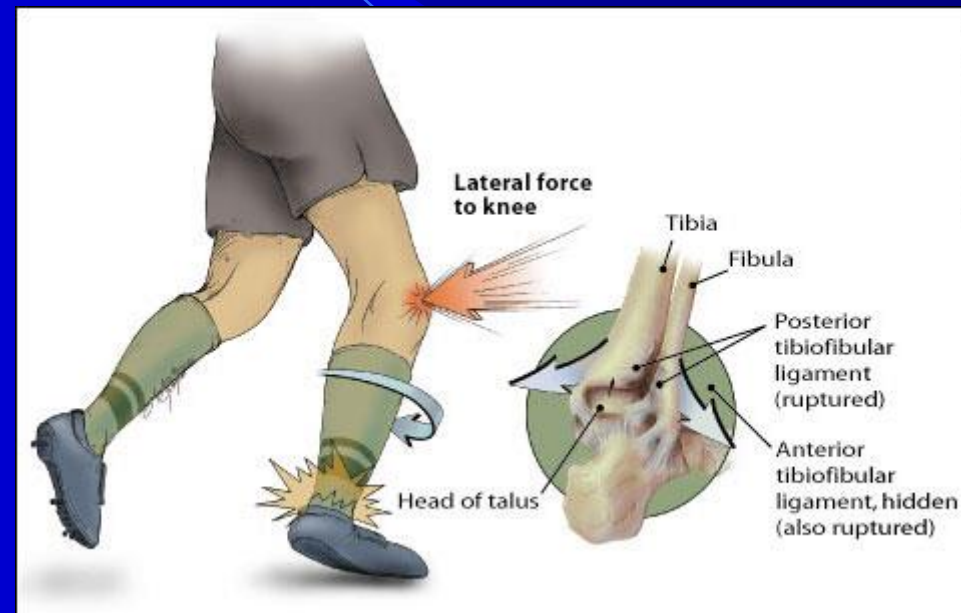
Not Just a Sprain?!

- DON' T MISS:
 - Syndesmotic injuries
 - Fractures
 - Tendon injuries



Distal Tib/Fib Syndesmosis

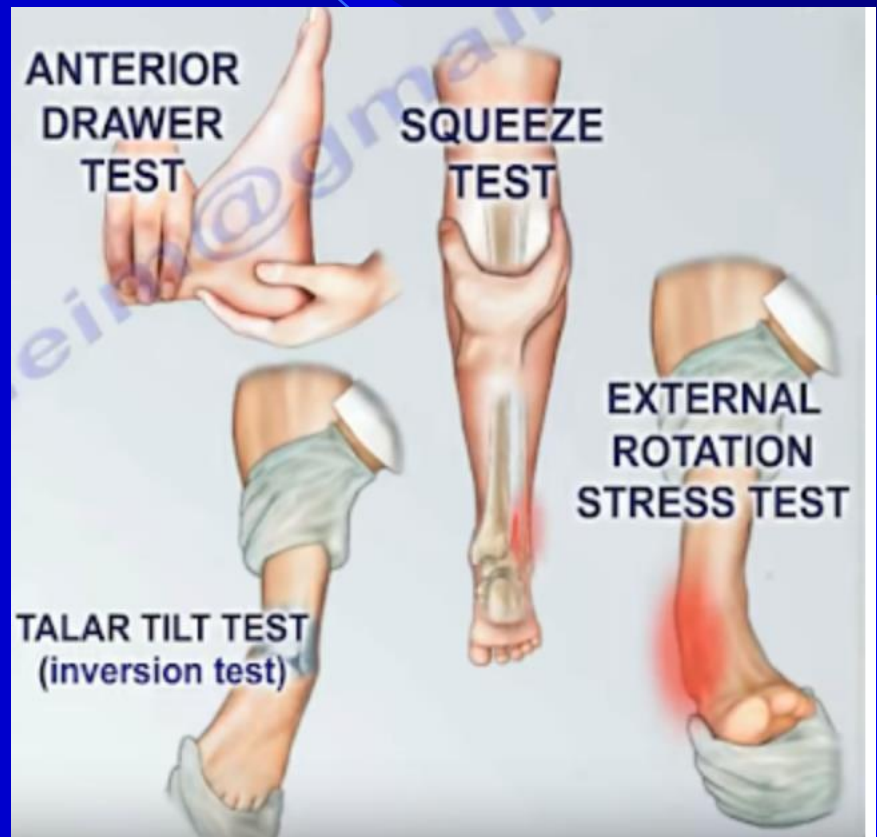
- ❑ Mechanism:
 - High Energy Medial/Lateral Sprains
- ❑ Isolated Injury Uncommon
 - Typically occurs with medial &/or lateral ankle sprains
- ❑ Anatomy
 - Anterior & Posterior Inferior Tibiofibular Ligament (AITFL, PITFL)
 - Interosseus Ligament/Membrane (IOM)



Syndesmotic Sprains

PEX

- Tenderness
- Proximal Squeeze
- External Rotation



XRAYS

- ❑ Weightbearing Views
 - AP/Lateral/Mortise
- ❑ Abnormal Mortise
 - $>6\text{mm}$ Tib/Fib Clear Space on AP/Mortise
 - $<1\text{mm}$ Tib/Fib Overlap on Mortise
 - Compare with uninjured side



Syndesmosis Sprains

▣ TREATMENT

– Normal Mortise

- ▣ Protection via Stirrup brace vs. Boot/Cast
- ▣ Weight bearing as tolerated
- ▣ Return to Sports: 1-3 months

– Abnormal Mortise

- ▣ Operative Stabilization
 - Syndesmotic Screws or Arthrex Tightrope (braided polyethylene core); Elastic hook
- ▣ Return to Sports: 4-6 months post-op



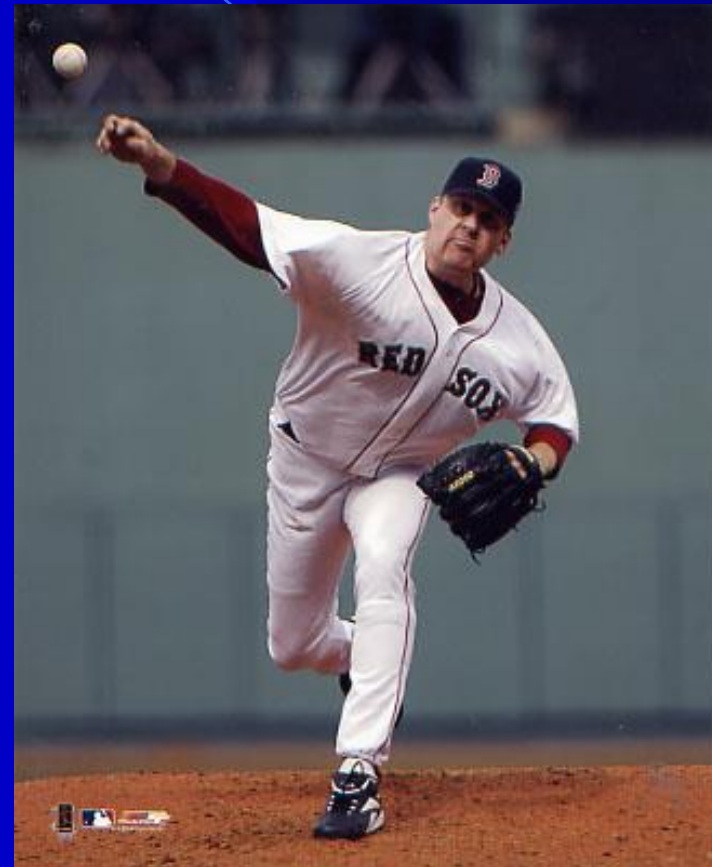
Peroneal Tendon Subluxation

❑ Diagnosis

- tenderness posterior to lateral malleolus
- Pain with resisted eversion
- Palpate subluxation with active resisted eversion

❑ Treatment

- Acute
 - ❑ Immobilize 4 weeks
- Chronic
 - ❑ Surgery



Curt Schilling bloody sock Game 6 ALCS 2004

Talus Fractures

- ▣ Lateral Process
 - Snowboarders
 - MOI: forceful inversion with dorsiflexion
 - Dx
 - ▣ lateral talar tenderness/eccymosis
 - ▣ Xrays: lateral/mortise views of ankle
 - ▣ CT scan
 - Tx
 - ▣ Small, non-displaced: cast
 - ▣ Large, displaced: ORIF



Talus Fractures

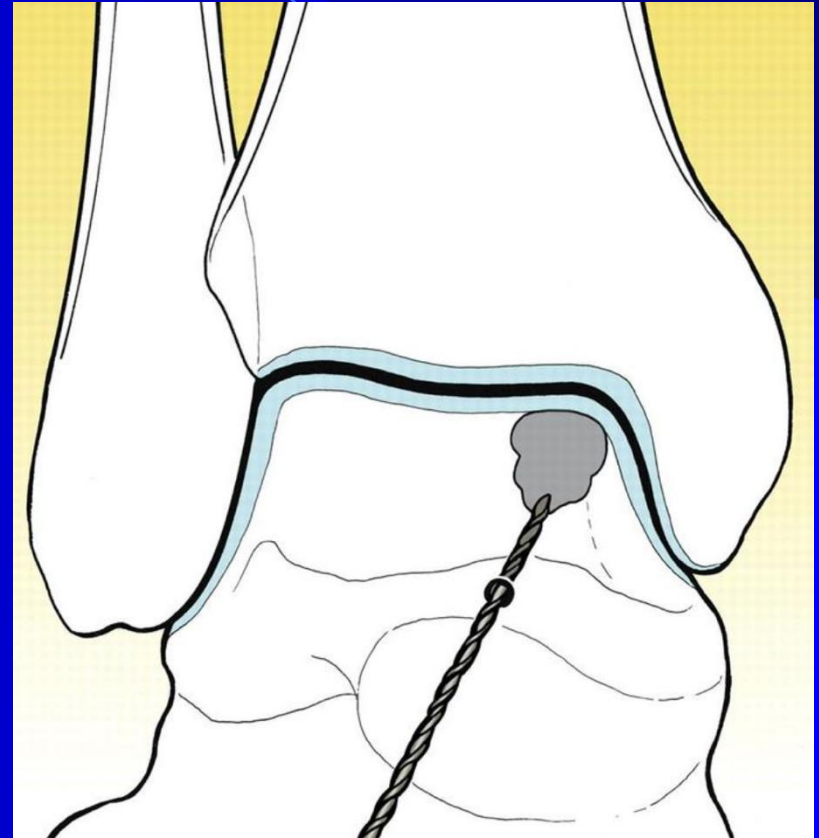
- ❑ Posterior Process (Os Trigonum)
 - Acute
 - ❑ MOI: forced plantar flexion
 - ❑ DX: posterolateral pain/tenderness, increases with plantar flexion
 - ❑ XRAY
 - 10% have separate ossicle
 - bilateral views
 - ❑ Bone Scan
 - ❑ Tx: Immobilize 4-6 weeks



Talus Fractures

❑ Osteochondral

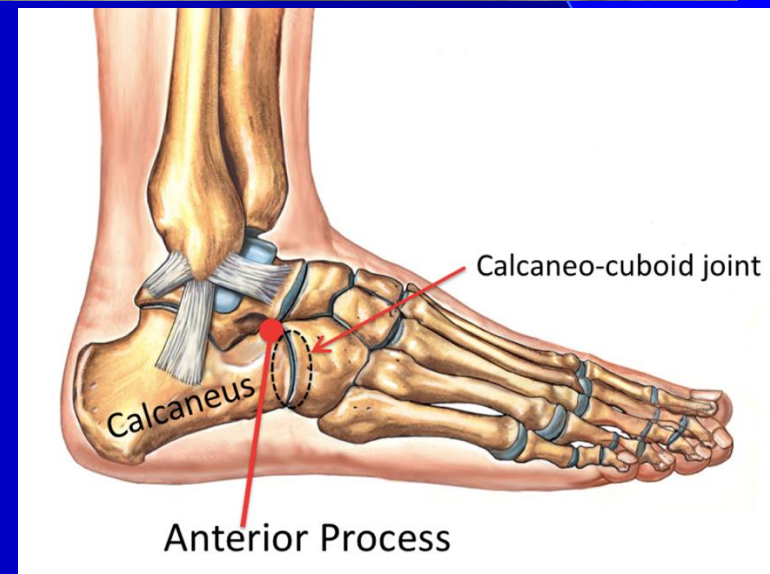
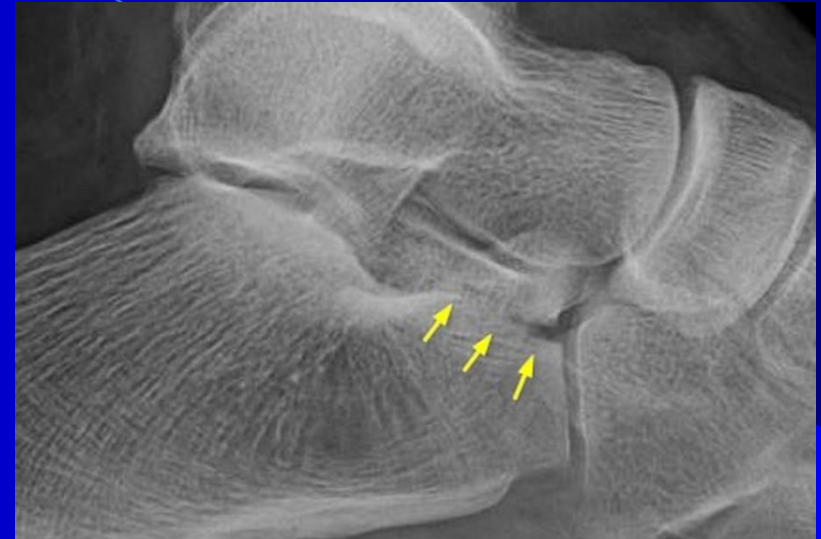
- posteromedial > anterolateral (2:1)
- MOI: inversion with impaction of talus
- PEX:
 - ❑ effusion
 - ❑ anterolateral: tender dome in plantar flexion
 - ❑ posteromedial: tough to palpate, try extreme plantar flexion
- Tx: Referral



Calcaneus Fracture

□ Anterior Process

- MOI:
 - 1) 'nutcracker' - compression across calcaneocuboid joint with forceful abduction of the foot
 - 2) distraction causing ligament to avulse bone
- PEX: swelling/tenderness 1.5-2.5 cm inferior to lateral malleolus
- XRAYS: lateral foot/ankle
- TREATMENT
 - small fx: stirrup brace
 - large fragment, displaced or >40% articular=ORIF



Ankle Sprain Masquerades

- ❑ 5th Metatarsal Fx
- ❑ Tendon Ruptures
 - Achilles
 - Post. Tibialis
 - Peroneal
 - Flexor Hallucis Longus
- ❑ Growth Plate Fracture
 - majority of tenderness above ligaments



Ottawa Ankle Rules

❑ Exclusion Criteria

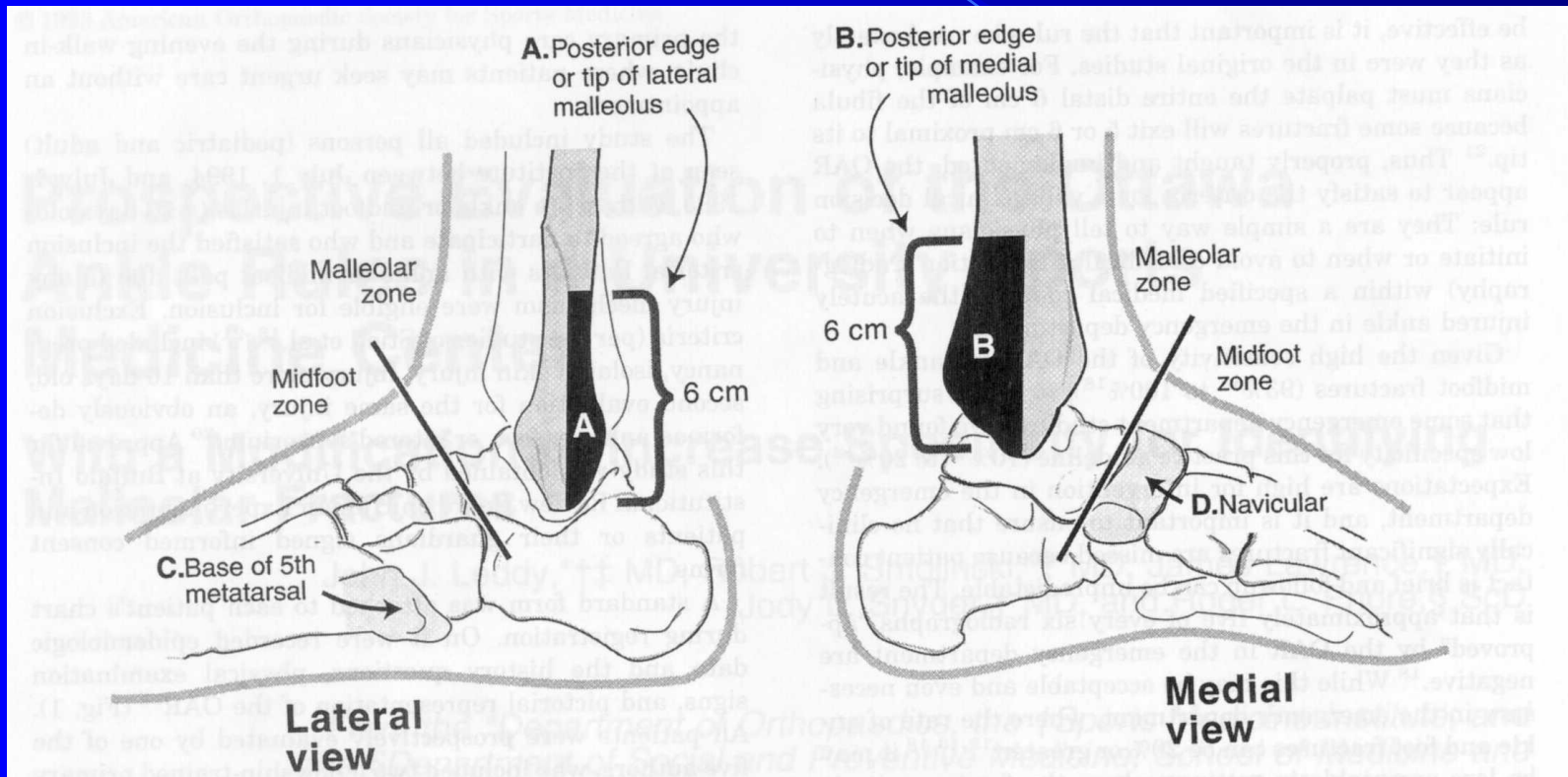
- <18 yrs, Pregnant
- Injury > 10 days old
- returned for reassessment

❑ XRAY if?

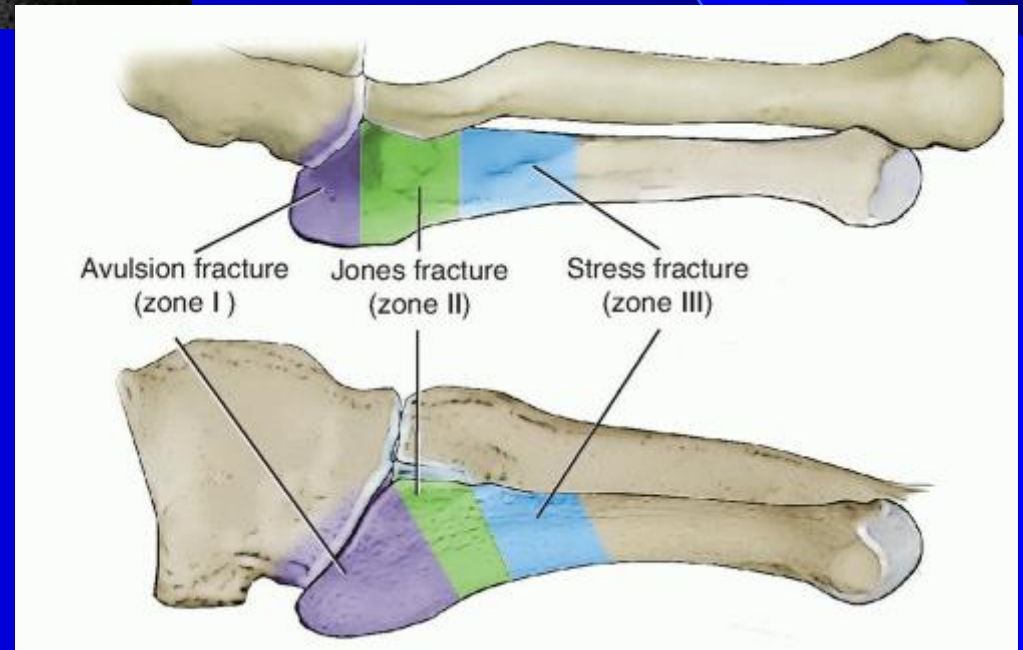
- tenderness posterior edge/tip of either Malleolus OR
- tenderness base of 5th Metatarsal, or Navicular OR
- inability to bear weight after injury AND in the Emergency Room (4 steps)

❑ 100% Sensitivity for clinically sign. fractures

Ottawa Ankle Rules



- Buffalo Rule raises specificity by only palpating bony ridge



Pain after Sprain?

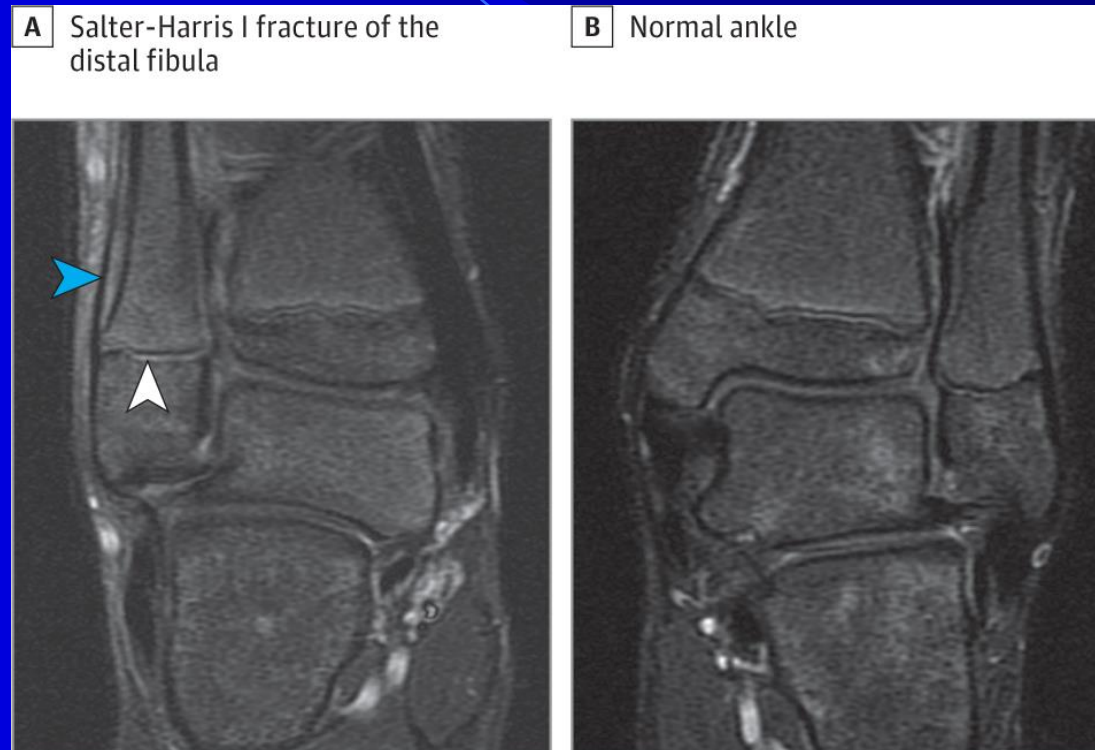
- ❑ Missed Dx: Talar dome or other Fx, etc
- ❑ 72.6% Ankle Sprains had residual symptoms 6-18 months post injury
 - Braun BL. Effects of Ankle Sprain in a General Clinic Population 6 to 18 Months after Medical Evaluation. Arch Fam Med Apr 1999



Salter-Harris type 1 Distal Fib (SH1DF)

□ SH1DF

- 2016 Peds JAMA study
- 5-12 y/o with lateral ankle injury suspected SH1DF
- MRI
 - 3% SH1DF
 - 80% ligament
 - 22% Bone contusions
 - RTP similar for SH1DF fx and no fx



Quiz

- ❑ What is the most common ligament torn in ankle sprains?
 - ❑ ATFL
- ❑ The Ottawa ankle rules palpate the med, lateral malleoli, base of 5th MT and ???
 - ❑ Navicular
- ❑ What percent of ankle sprains have pain after 6 months?
 - ❑ 73%
- ❑ Which location is more common for Talar dome OCD?
 - ❑ Posteromedial > Anterolateral (2:1)

References

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