The Adult Acquired Flatfoot

PATHOMECHANICS

CLINICAL EVALUATION

TREATMENT GUIDELINES

Douglas H. Richie Jr. D.P.M.

Associate Clinical Professor, Dept. Of Applied Biomechanics, California School of Podiatric Medicine
Fellow, American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine
E-MAIL: drichiejr@aol.com
Studies of AFO Treatment of Adult Acquired Flatfoot


Lin JL, Balbas J, Richardson EG. Results of non-surgical treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon dysfunction: a 7- to - 10 year follow up. Foot Ankle Int 29 (8): 781-786, 2008

BACKGROUND: Abnormal gliding of the posterior tibial tendon may lead to mechanical trauma, degeneration, and eventually posterior tibial tendon dysfunction. Our study analyzed the gliding resistance of the posterior tibial tendon in intact feet and in feet with simulated flatfoot deformity. METHODS: An experimental system was developed that allowed direct measurement of gliding resistance at the tendon-sheath interface. Seven normal fresh-frozen cadaver foot specimens were studied, and gliding resistance between the posterior tibial tendon and sheath was measured. The effects of ankle and hindfoot position and the effect of flatfoot deformity on gliding resistance were analyzed. Gliding resistance was measured for 4.9 N applied load to the tendon. RESULTS: Mean gliding resistance for the neutral position was 77 +/- 13.1 (x10(-2) N). Compared to neutral position, dorsiflexion increased gliding resistance and averaged 130 +/- 38.9 (x10(-2) N), and plantarflexion decreased gliding resistance and averaged 35 +/- 12.6 (x10(-2) N). Flatfoot deformity increased gliding resistance compared to normal feet, averaging 104 +/- 17.0 (x10(-2) N) for neutral, 205 +/- 55.0 (x10(-2) N) for dorsiflexion, and 58 +/- 21.3 (x10(-2) N) for plantarflexion. CONCLUSIONS: The findings indicate that patients with a preexisting flatfoot deformity may be predisposed to develop posterior tibial tendon dysfunction because of increased gliding resistance and trauma to the tendon surface.
Effects of foot orthoses on the work of friction of the posterior tibial tendon.


Biomechanics Laboratory, Division of Orthopedic Research, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN 55095, USA.

BACKGROUND: Posterior tibial tendon dysfunction is a significant contributor to flatfeet. Non-operative treatments, like in-shoe orthoses, have varying degrees of success. This study examined changes to the work of friction of the posterior tibial tendon under three conditions: intact, simulated flatfoot, and flatfoot with an orthosis. It was hypothesized that work of friction of the posterior tibial tendon would significantly increase in the flatfoot, yet return to normal with an orthosis. Changes to bone orientation were also expected.

METHODS: Six lower limb cadavers were mounted in a foot simulator, that applied axial and a posterior tibial tendon load. Posterior tibial tendon excursion, gliding resistance, and foot kinematics were monitored, and work of friction calculated. Each specimen moved through a range of motion in the coronal, transverse, and sagittal planes.

FINDINGS: Mean work of friction during motion in the coronal plane were 0.17 N cm (SD 0.07 N cm), 0.25 N cm (SD 0.09 N cm), and 0.23 N cm (SD 0.09 N cm) for the intact, flatfoot, and orthosis conditions, respectively. Motion in the transverse plane yielded average WoF of 0.36 N cm (SD 0.28 N cm), 0.64 N cm (SD 0.25 N cm), and 0.57 N cm (SD 0.38 N cm) in the same three conditions, respectively. The average tibio-calcaneal and tibio-metatarsal valgus angles significantly increased in the flatfoot condition (5.8 degrees and 9 degrees, respectively). However, the orthosis did slightly correct this angle.

INTERPRETATION: The prefabricated orthosis did not consistently restore normal work of friction, though it did correct the flatfoot visually. This implies that patients with flatfeet may be predisposed to developing posterior tibial tendon dysfunction due to abnormal gliding resistance, though bone orientations are restored.
Dynamical Influence of a Richie Brace Intervention: A Case Study

Christopher L. MacLean, Ph.D. (Candidate)
Paris Orthotics Lab Division
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada
Anatomy

• Posterior tibialis:
  – Origin:
    • Proximal, posterior aspects of the:
      – Tibia,
      – Fibula, and
      – Interosseous membrane.
• Posterior tibialis:
  – Courses:
    • Inferiorly and passes around the medial malleolus, posteriorly.
Anatomy

• Insertion:
  – Terminates with insertions on the:
    • Navicular tubercle,
    • Plantar aspect of the cuneiforms,
    • Bases of the metatarsals 1-3,
    • Cuboid, and
    • Calcaneus.
Function

- **PT:**
  - **Eccentric:**
    - Talocrural dorsiflexion,
    - Subtalar joint abduction and eversion, and
    - Midtarsal eversion, dorsiflexion and abduction.
  - **Concentric:**
    - Talocrural plantar flexion,
    - Subtalar joint adduction and inversion, and
    - Midtarsal adduction and inversion.
Loading Response (0-20%)
Midstance (20-60%)
Terminal Stance (60-100%)

Perry, 1992
The graph illustrates the force (GRF) distribution for eccentric and concentric phases of movement. The upper part of the graph shows the force-time curve for GRF vertically (GRF_vert) with a peak force at approximately 750 Newtons. The lower part of the graph highlights the force exerted by the Posterior Tibialis muscle (N=25) with a peak at 40 Newtons.
Healthy vs. PTD Walking Kinematics

- **PTD:**
  - Rearfoot (RF relative to Leg):
    - **SP:**
      - ↓ plantar flexion at terminal stance.
    - **FP:**
      - no difference in rearfoot eversion/inversion.
    - **TP:**
      - ↑ abduction at terminal stance.

*Rattanaprasert et al., 1999*
Healthy vs. PTD Walking Kinematics

- **PTD:**
  - Forefoot (FF relative to RF):
    - **SP:**
      - ↓ dorsiflexion in early stance, and
      - marked ↑ in mid-late stance phase.
    - **FR:**
      - marked ↑ in eversion velocity from heel strike to 20% stance.
    - **TP:**
      - marked ↑ in FF abduction in terminal stance.

*Rattanaprasert et al., 1999*
Interventions

• Strengthening Exercises:
  – Foot adduction,
  – Heel raise, and
  – Foot supination.

• Custom Foot Orthotic Intervention:
  – Increased PT activation.

Kulig et al., 2004 & 2005
Case Description

• 58-year old male,
• 82kg (180lbs) and 5’10’’,
• Diagnosed with severe B/L PTTD by a DPM in Boston,
• Compared 4 conditions:
  – Shod,
  – Shod + Root Functional,
  – Shod + PTTD device, and
  – Shod + Richie Brace.
Rearfoot Analysis
Rearfoot Angle Frontal

deg (ev/-/in+)

Percent Stance

Shod_mn
Rich_mn
Rearfoot Eversion Velocity

deg/s (ev-/in+) vs Percent Stance

Shod_mn, Rich_mn, Healthy
Rearfoot Eversion Velocity

- SHOD
- ROOT
- PTTD
- RICH
Impulse

• Angular impulse = integral(Moment) dt = change of angular momentum

• Typically, a reduction in the resultant joint moment and rotational joint impulse is associated with a reduction in joint loading (Nigg et al, 2004).
Rearfoot Angle Frontal

Rearfoot eversion excursion/ROM reduced, and

Rearfoot eversion increased throughout stance.

Calcaneal eversion velocity reduced.

Tibial adduction increased.
Rearfoot Angle Transverse

Rearfoot abduction angle reduced in initial 50% of stance.

Calcaneal TP motion unchanged.

Tibial internal rotation reduced.
Knee Analysis
Knee Angle Frontal

Knee abduction (valgus) angle reduced slightly (1-2°) throughout.

Tibial adduction increased.

Thigh adduction increased slightly (more fluid motion).
Knee Angle Transverse

Knee IR angle reduced during loading response.

Tibial internal rotation (IR) reduced.

Thigh internal rotation unchanged.
Tibial Angle Transverse

----- SHOD
----- ROOT
----- PTTD
----- RICH

deg (ef-ff+)

0% 50%
Impulse

• Angular impulse = \[ \text{integral}(\text{Moment}) \ \text{dt} = \text{change of angular momentum} \]

• Typically, a reduction in the resultant joint moment and rotational joint impulse is associated with a reduction in joint loading (Nigg et al, 2004).
Rearfoot Angle Frontal

Rearfoot eversion excursion/ROM reduced, and

Rearfoot eversion increased throughout stance.

Calcaneal eversion velocity reduced.

Tibial adduction increased.
Rearfoot Angle Transverse

Rearfoot abduction angle reduced in initial 50% of stance.

Calcaneal TP motion unchanged.

Tibial internal rotation reduced.
Rearfoot Angle Transverse

Percent Stance

deg (adb-/add+)

Shod_mn
Rich_mn
Healthy
Knee abduction (valgus) angle reduced slightly (1-2°) throughout.

Tibial adduction increased.

Thigh adduction increased slightly (more fluid motion).
Knee Angle Transverse

Knee IR angle reduced during loading response.

Tibial internal rotation (IR) reduced.

Thigh internal rotation unchanged.
Tibial Angle Transverse

----- SHOD
----- ROOT
----- PTTD
----- RICH

deg (e-l+f+)

0% 50%
Tibial Velocity Transverse

----- SHOD
----- ROOT
----- PTTD
----- RICH
Take Home Message

• In the case subject:

1. At the ankle, the subject exhibited:
   • ↓s in rearfoot eversion (pronation) velocity, excursion, moment and impulse.
   • Small ↑s in rearfoot eversion angle throughout stance.
Take Home Message

• In the case subject (cont’d):

2. At the knee, the subject exhibited:
   • ↓s in knee internal rotation,
   • ↓s tibial internal rotation angle and velocity, and
   • ↓s in knee abduction (valgus) of 1-2° which may be clinically significant.
Take Home Message

• In the case subject (cont’d):

  3. Sagittal plane dynamics were not influenced in this subject:
     • Terminal phase ankle plantar flexion unchanged, and
     • Terminal phase rearfoot adduction unchanged (Rattanaprasert et al., 1999).
Take Home Message

• More research required:

4. To investigate dynamics between RF and FF (information on TS is lacking):
  • Frontal plane: Is FF inversion increased?
  • Sagittal plane: Is FF plantar flexion increased?
  • Transverse: Is FF adduction increased?
  • Problem: Difficult to measure in-shoe…
Adult Acquired Flatfoot 
Etiology and Clinical Evaluation

Douglas H. Richie Jr., DPM 
Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor-Department of Applied Biomechanics 
California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt College 

Private Practice: Seal Beach Podiatry Group, Inc. 
550 Pacific Coast Highway Suite 209 
Seal Beach, California 90740 USA 
562-493-2451 DRichieJr@aol.com
## DEMOGRAPHICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Avg. Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holmes &amp; Mann, 1992</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chao, 1996</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomeroy, 1996</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitaoka, 1997</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weil, 1999</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lombardi, 1999</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Historical Overview

Early Reports
- Key, 1953
- Anzel, 1959
- Kettelkamp, 1969

Tibialis Posterior Tendon Rupture
- Mann & Specht, 1982
- Jahss, 1982
- Johnson, 1983
- Fredenburgh, 1983
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

Q: What is the most powerful dynamic support of the arch of the foot?

A: The plantar fascia – via the windlass mechanism
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

Q: If the PT tendon is less significant, why would its loss lead to devastating collapse of the arch?

A: The loss of protection of the spring ligament complex leads to a cascade of ligamentous failure in the hindfoot and ankle.
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

Definition

A symptomatic, progressive flatfoot deformity resulting from loss of function of the tibialis posterior muscle/tendon and/or the loss of integrity of the ligamentous structures supporting the joints of the arch and hindfoot.
Biomechanics and Clinical Analysis of the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

Douglas H. Richie Jr, DPM, FACFAS*

Department of Applied Biomechanics, California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt College, 370 Hawthorne Avenue, Oakland, California 94609, USA

Adult-acquired flatfoot (AAF) is defined as a symptomatic, progressive deformity of the foot caused by a loss of dynamic and static supportive structures of the medial longitudinal arch [1]. The name of this condition and its definition are the result of an accumulation of understanding of a pathology once thought to be merely an inflammation of the posterior tibial tendon.

AAF rarely was reported in the medical literature until the early 1980's. In 1983, Johnson [2] pointed out that symptomatic acquired flatfoot in adults caused by a rupture of the posterior tibial tendon was "not commonly recognized despite numerous reports describing the problem." Scrutiny of these reports published before 1982 underscore the early misconceptions and the evolution of understanding about the patho-etiology of adult acquired flatfoot deformity.

In their current concepts review of adult flatfoot caused by dysfunction of the posterior tibial tendon, Pomeroy and colleagues [3] trace the first reports in the literature to papers by Kulowski [4], Fowler [5], and Williams [6]. All of these were reports of patients with either tenosynovitis or tenovaginitis of the posterior tibial tendon. This represents an interpretation that papers reporting inflammation of the posterior tibial tendon were actually early reports of AAF deformity. Yet, none of these papers described a progressive planovalgus deformity associated with posterior tibial tendonitis.

The first paper documenting partial rupture of the posterior tibial tendon was published by Key in 1953 [7]. Again, progressive flatfoot deformity was not mentioned. In 1959, the incidence of posterior tibial tendon rupture treated at the Mayo Clinic was reported for the time period 1945 to 1954

* Seal Beach Podiatry Group Incorporated, 550 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 209, Seal Beach, CA 90740, USA.
E-mail address: dr_dickjr@aol.com
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

Pathomechamistics

Loss of the dynamic and static supportive structures of the arch hindfoot and ankle
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

*Dynamic supporting structures of the arch*

- Plantar Aponeurosis
- Posterior Tibial Tendon
- Plantar Intrinsic Musculature

*Static supportive structures of the arch*

- Spring Ligament Complex
- Superficial Deltoïd Ligament
- Long and Short Plantar Ligaments
- Plantar Aponeurosis
Bracing the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

RECENT INSIGHTS

Not solely due to TPD
Isolated loss of the PT tendon without ligamentous disruption will not lead to a progressive flatfoot deformity.
The adult acquired flatfoot deformity cannot be reproduced experimentally by releasing the tibialis posterior tendon alone.

Ligament Attenuation in Flatfoot

Spring Ligament Complex
Plantar Aponeurosis
Deltoid
Talo-Calcaneal
Long & Short Plantar
Medial Calcaneo-Cuboid

Deland, 1992
“In conclusion, we have shown that, to create flattening of the plantar arch, there is a need to cut the medial structures, including the spring and plantar ligaments and possibly the plantar fascia.”
Tendon vs Ligament

- Eight Lower Leg Specimens
- All tendons vs all minus PTT
- Create AAF: cutting spring lig.
- Restore PTT to AAF model

Intact osteo-ligamentous structures can maintain alignment after initial loss of PTT

With creation of a flatfoot (cut lig.) restoring PTT function could not significantly improve alignment

PTT had greatest influence on hindfoot kinematics during heel rise

“Bracing should provide support during heel rise.”

EMG (%MMT)

Soleus N=51

Gastrocnemius N=27

Posterior Tibialis N=25 (13,12)

Flexor Digitorum Longus N=8

Flexor Hallucis Longus N=9

Peroneus Longus N=28

Peroneus Brevis N=19

Loading Response (0-20%)
Midstance (20-60%)
Terminal Stance (60-100%)

Perry, 1992
What part of gait cycle is PT and ligament function most critical?
“In this study, strain in the deltoid ligament was shown to increase significantly during the heel rise portion of the joint cycle after a properly positioned triple arthrodesis was performed. This finding is supported by the fact that the posterior tibial tendon has been shown to be most active during early heel rise.”

17 Patients – TP tendon transfer
5 Year follow up
47% Had Grade 4-5 eversion
No clinical flatfoot
6% Forefoot abduction
82% Single-heel rise

“The development of a flatfoot in tibialis posterior tendon dysfunction is therefore unlikely to be the result of lack of “sling” support on the medial longitudinal arch from the tibialis posterior tendon only.”

“Our hypothesis suggests that the treatment of Stage II tibialis posterior tendon dysfunction should be aimed primarily at correcting the biomechanics of the foot and not at tendon transfer....”
Bracing the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

RECENT INSIGHTS

Not solely due to TPD

Pre-existing flatfoot
Causative Factors

Congenital Pes Planus and TPD:

- Mann and Thompson (1985) 30%
- Jahss (1991) 100%
- Dyal et al (1997) 98%
### Stages of TPD

*from Johnson & Strom, Modified by Myerson et al.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>PATHOLOGY</th>
<th>CLINICAL SIGNS</th>
<th>REARFOOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Tenosynovitis</td>
<td>Swelling, Tenderness</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Attenuation or Rupture</td>
<td>Archcollapse, FF abduction, too many toes can or cannot heelrise</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Complete Rupture</td>
<td>Lateral foot pain increased heel valgus cannot heel rise</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>Valgus talocrural jt.</td>
<td>DJD of Rearfoot Fibular Mall.Fx.</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adult Acquired Flatfoot

- Symptomatic vs. Asymptomatic Foot
- Radiographic Comparison?

Radiographs of 43 pts. PTTD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NORMAL</th>
<th>MILD DEFORMITY</th>
<th>MODERATE</th>
<th>SEVERE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sx Feet:</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asx Feet:</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“The inter observer measurements were found to be highly correlated to the P=0.0001 level in all cases. This indicates that the asymptomatic feet demonstrated values not so different from the symptomatic side.”

Function of Tibialis Posterior

- Plantarflexor of ankle?
- Supinator of foot?
- Restrain or “brake” internal leg rotation?
Illustration of the foot in the apparatus used to test the range of motion of the subtalar, talonavicular, and calcaneocuboid joints as well as excursion of the posterior tibial tendon.
## Subtalar Supination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Muscles</th>
<th>Supination Moment Arm</th>
<th>Excursion (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tib. Post</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDL</td>
<td>.75</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHL</td>
<td>.62</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TA</td>
<td>.59</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastroc/Soleus</td>
<td>.24</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Hintermann and Nigg, 1994*
## Ankle Flexion-Extension

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Moment Arm</th>
<th>Excursion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TA</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDL</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TP</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Hintermann, 1994*
Ankle Plantarflexion
Moment Arm

Posterior Tibial Tendon

Tendo Achilles
Healthy vs. PTD Walking Kinematics

- PTD:
  - Forefoot (FF relative to RF):
    - SP:
      - ↓ dorsiflexion in early stance, and
      - marked ↑ in mid-late stance phase.
    - FR:
      - marked ↑ in eversion velocity from heel strike to 20% stance.
    - TP:
      - marked ↑ in FF abduction in terminal stance.

Rattanaprasert et al., 1999
Single Foot Raise

*In adult acquired flatfoot:*

- No restraint to MTJ
- Gastroc-Soleus plantarflexes rearfoot instead of met heads
- Lack of leverage & pain inhibits heel lift
Vascularity

Frey, JBJS 72A: 884, 1990

TP Tendon

- No mesotendon distally
- Blood supply: PT & DP art.
- Hypovascular zone begins 40mm prox. to navicular, extends 14mm prox.
Tibialis Posterior Tendon

Insertions

Anterior - Navicular tuberosity
N-C joint capsule
1st cuneiform

Middle - 2nd cuneiform
3rd cuneiform
cuboid, PL tendon
2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th mets

Posterior - Sustentaculum Tali
“the present study, however, reveals that the tibialis posterior muscle in man has a multi pennate origin from the fibula, and that the fibular sided fibers of the muscle are very numerous but very short. On this account, the fibular-sided fibers of the muscle are more powerful than the tibial”

Two Lever Theory

“Between these two unequal levers (unequal in bulk, length and strength) lies the talus. When the foot is dorsiflexed at the ankle, the talus becomes firmly lodged in the tibiofibular socket and serves as part of the proximal lever or the leg”

Kelikian, 1985
Transverse Plane

Internal rotation of tibia = Internal rotation of talus
Interventions

• Strengthening Exercises:
  – Foot adduction,
  – Heel raise, and
  – Foot supination.

• Custom Foot Orthotic Intervention:
  – Increased PT activation.

_Kulig et al., 2004 & 2005_
WHAT EXERCISE ISOLATES, AND ACTIVATES THE TIBIALIS POSTERIOR BEST?

- Foot Adduction
- Foot Plantarflexion - Inversion
- Single foot heel rise

MRI: measures changes in muscle activation

- Measures changes associated with cell metabolism and muscle fluid uptake
- Signal intensity changes with increased lactate, phosphate and sodium
- Verified by comparison EMG recordings
- T2 weighted images: increased water content = lighter image = increased muscle activity
- Signal intensity can be measured objectively with cursor and software

RESULTS

TP  Increased SI

Adduction  50%
Heel raise  27%
Suppination  26%

Increased SI

(Other muscles)
Less than 5%

Soleus 35%, PL 57%,
Gastroc 99%
Less than 10%

Do foot orthoses improve recruitment of the Tibialis Posterior?

- 6 ASx subjects with pes plano valgus
- Foot adduction exercises barefoot vs Superfeet pre-fab orthosis
- MRI after 3 sets of 30 exercises

RESULTS

“A comparison of the signal intensities recorded after each exercise condition identified that tibialis posterior activity was nearly twofold higher when exercising with an orthosis compared with barefoot (54 vs 29% Signal Intensity)”

“From the results of this study we suggest that people with pes planus wear a foot orthosis, even while performing the adduction exercises”

Nonsurgical management of posterior tibial tendon dysfunction with orthoses and resistive exercise: a randomized controlled trial.

Kulig K, Reischl SF, Pomrantz AB, Burnfield JM, Mais-Requejo S, Thordarson DB, Smith RW

Kulig et al. PHYS THER.2009; 89: 26-37

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: Tibialis posterior tendinopathy can lead to debilitating dysfunction. This study examined the effectiveness of orthoses and resistance exercise in the early management of tibialis posterior tendinopathy. SUBJECTS: Thirty-six adults with stage I or II tibialis posterior tendinopathy participated in this study. METHODS: Participants were randomly assigned to 1 of 3 groups to complete a 12-week program of: (1) orthoses wear and stretching (O group); (2) orthoses wear, stretching, and concentric progressive resistive exercise (OC group); or (3) orthoses wear, stretching, and eccentric progressive resistive exercise (OE group). Pre-intervention and post-intervention data (Foot Functional Index, distance traveled in the 5-Minute Walk Test, and pain immediately after the 5-Minute Walk Test) were collected. RESULTS: Foot Functional Index scores (total, pain, and disability) decreased in all groups after the intervention. The OE group demonstrated the most improvement in each subcategory, and the O group demonstrated the least improvement. Pain immediately after the 5-Minute Walk Test was significantly reduced across all groups after the intervention. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION: People with early stages of tibialis posterior tendinopathy benefited from a program of orthoses wear and stretching. Eccentric and concentric progressive resistive exercises further reduced pain and improved perceptions of function.
Adult Acquired Flatfoot
Stage II Disease: Critical Changes

- Progressive ligament rupture
- Loss of movement transfer
Spring Ligament Complex

- 38 fresh frozen cadaver dissections
- Details of ligament components
- Relationship to TP tendon
- Relationship to T-N joint
- Histology, microvasculularity, biomechanics

*Davis WH, Sobel M, DiCarlo EF, Torzill: PA: Gross, Histological and microvascular anatomy and biomechanical testing of the spring ligament complex. Foot and Ankle 17: 95, 1996*
Components Spring Ligament Complex

1. Superomedial calcaneonavicular ligament (SMCN)

*Origin:* sup. med. sust. tali and

*Includes:* tri art facet ant edge of ant facet of calc.

*Insertion:* Sup, med & inferior art. Surface of navicular

*Funct:* medial & plantar art. sling for talar head (load bearing)
Components Spring Ligament Complex

3. Posterior tibial tendon

2 attachments to SMCN ligament:

Superior
Inferior

Function:
prevent medial/plantar talar head migration
Components Spring Ligament Complex

4. *Superficial deltoid ligament*

**Components:** Ant. tibiotalar, tibionavicular, tibiocalcaneal

**Insert:** entire length SMCN lig.

**Funct:** form concavity around head of talus
Function of Spring Ligament Complex

(Davis, et al, 1996)

1. Create a talar acetabulum
2. Restrain multi-planar talar motion
3. No elastin - no “spring”
4. Functions as “articular sling”
5. Cannot hold up arch alone

Fig. 4. Artist’s rendition of the SMCN ligament and ICN ligament with the bony components (right foot with talus removed).
Spring Ligament Tears

Classification

1. Longitudinal Tear or partial tear: located at midsbubstance, origin or insertion
2. Tear with stretch (lax)
3. Complete rupture

Bracing the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

RECENT INSIGHTS

- Not solely due to TPD
- Pre-existing flatfoot
- Tibia is dominant lever
- Pivotal joint is Talo-Navicular
- Ligament Disruption = Movement Transfer Disruption
Movement Coupling

Between two body segments a motion occurring about one axis of rotation relative to a simultaneous rotation about a second axis.
COUPLING

Foot Pronation  ←  Leg Rotation
MOVEMENT COUPLING

Coupling Coefficient = \frac{\text{Rotation (Axis A)}}{\text{Rotation (Axis B)}}

1:1 Ratio = \text{High Coupling Coefficient}

“Rigid Coupling”
Mitered Joint Model

- 1:1 Coupling int/ext : inv/ev
- Transformation at subtalar joint
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>TRANSFER COEFFICIENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olerud, Rosendahl</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hintermann, Nigg</td>
<td>0.46 (ev), 0.74 (inv)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lundberg</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Vitro Study

• 14 cadaver specimens
• Measurements of foot inversion/eversion to tibial rotation
• In a neutral ankle position

Transfer co-efficients ranged between 0.14 and 0.66 “It can be concluded that the ankle joint complex does not act as a universal joint”

Movement Coupling

How can the tibia externally rotate while the calcaneus remains everted (does not move)?

- Tibia can internally rotate on talus
- Rearfoot complex can internally rotate as one unit on the forefoot (transverse plane MTJ motion)
Transverse Plane Movements In Gait

**Ankle**

18°  
McCullough, Burge

15°  
Nester

**Midtarsal**

10.6°  
Nester
Transverse Plane Motion at the Ankle Joint

- In vivo kinematic study, 25 subjects
- Static and dynamic conditions
- Mean Ankle/STJ ROM:
  - 27.2° transverse plane
  - 7.6° frontal plane
- Ankle transverse ROM: >15°

“...the ankle and subtalar joints contribute approximately equal amounts of transverse plane motion to the overall function of the ankle/subtalar complex.”

Transverse Plane Motion at the Ankle Joint

“The angulation of the ankle/subtalar axis to the transverse plane calculated from the data from the static study was consistently high, ranging from 53.2° to 88.9°, and this reflects the predominance of transverse plane motion at the complex.”

Mean ankle/subtalar complex axis (74.3°) from static study.

Mean subtalar joint axis (33.5°) taken from comparable data from Lundberg et al.
There is significant evidence to suggest that ligaments rather than articular surfaces are responsible for the movement transfer coupling mechanisms between the foot and the leg.

Hintermann, Sommer, and Nigg, 1995
Hintermann, Nigg and Cole, 1994
Hintermann, Nigg, Cole and Sommer, 1994
Movement Coupling

- 8 cadaver models
- 0N, 200N, 400N, & 600N loads
- Sequential ligament release:
  - ATF
  - CF
  - PTF
  - Deltoid
  - STJ Interosseus

Movement Coupling

• 8 cadaver models
• 0N, 200N, 400N, & 600N loads
• Sequential ligament release:
  
  ATF
  CF
  PTF
  Deltoid
  STJ Interosseus

Movement Transfer
Effects of Ligament Transection:

DF Ankle → Tib Rot → Calc Inv-Ev

Transect:  Lat Lig : No Change
Deltoid : Sig loss Mov Trans
Deltoid & Interosseos : Total loss Mov Trans

Movement Coupling

“These results indicate that the foot becomes partially mechanically disconnected from the tibia by transection of the medial ankle ligaments and even further disconnected after transection of the subtalar interosseous ligament.”

Hintermann, B., Sommer, C., and Nigg B.M.: Influence of ligament transection on tibial and calcaneal rotation with loading and dorsi-plantar flexion. Foot Ankle 16:567, 1995
Forces Causing Flatfoot

1. Axial load
2. Gastroc – Soleus
3. Other muscles (incl. PB)

Kitaoka, 1997
Medial Displacement
Calcaneal Osteotomy

- Reduces flatfoot force of achilles
  (Nyska, Parks, Chu, Myerson, 2001)

- GRF directed medial, decrease length of SMCN ligament
  (Otis, 1999)

- Decreased deltoid lig. Strain
  (Resnick, 1995)
Combination Procedures

Medial Displacement Calc.
Ostectomy and FDL Transfer


Talar 1st Met: 21° → 8°
T-N Coverage: 34° → 21
Lat. Talar 1st Met: -22° → -9°

Subjective Improvement: No data

Myerson, et al. 1995
Medial Displacement / Calcaneal Osteotomy

- 10 cadaver specimens
- Physiologic loads: PL, PB, FHL, FDL, Achilles
- AP & Lat Radiographs
- Flatfoot: Cut PTT, spring lig, pl fascia with 7,000 axial comp. cycles

Medial Displacement / Calcaneal Osteotomy

*Results*

- Flatfoot without Achilles vs.
- Flatfoot with Achilles load vs.
- Flatfoot with Achilles load with MDCO

Significant improvement of: cuniform height, T-N angle
Talar – 1st met angle

“Loading of the Achilles increased the deformity. MDCO significantly decreased the arch flattening effect of the achilles.”

Adult Acquired Flatfoot
Ligament Insufficiency: Why does it matter?
After medial displacement calcaneal osteotomy, strain decreased at the attachment point of the deltoid ligament.
"The results favor medializing the calcaneus following arthrodesis to protect the deltoid complex."

“The medial displacement calcaneal osteotomy resulted in decreased length and, likely, less tension in the spring ligament.”
“With less stress on the ligament, plication of the ligament could be performed to help correct deformity, theoretically without increasing load in this ligament.”

“The results of this study suggest that (lateral column lengthening) may not be counted on to decrease spring ligament tension below normal levels.”

Before Evans Graft  
After Evans 8mm Wedge

“Therefore, after a simulated subtalar fusion, the (spring) ligament is still responsive to load and not as protected as after simulated talonavicular fusion.”

Pathomechanics of the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

**RECENT INSIGHTS**

- Not solely due to TPD
- Pre-existing flatfoot
- Tibia is dominant lever
- Pivotal joint is Talo-Navicular
Movement Coupling

Insight provided by experimental studies of tarsal joint fusion

The illustration shows the experimental setup (EI = eversion-inversion; DP = dorsiflexion/plantarflexion; TR = tibial rotation)
Tibial Rotation with Axial Loads

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ankle Load (600 N)</th>
<th>Int Tibial Rotation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>2.2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ankle fused</td>
<td>1.7°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STJ fused</td>
<td>1.4°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-N fused</td>
<td>0.9°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STJ &amp; T-N fused</td>
<td>0°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Hintermann and Nigg, 1995*
### Motion after Arthrodesis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joint Fused</th>
<th>Retained ROM</th>
<th>Excursion of TP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-N</td>
<td>10% STJ, 10% CC</td>
<td>25% retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-C</td>
<td>100% STJ, 67% TN</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STJ</td>
<td>26% TN 56% CC</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Astion DJ, Deland JT, Otis JC: Motion of the hindfoot after simulated arthrodesis. JBJS 79-A: 241, 1997_
ARTHRODESIS

- 5 cadaver specimens
- Sequential ligament release: flatfoot
- Radiographic measurement of selective hindfoot fusions
- T-N joint played pivotal role in correction

## Correction of Flatfoot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radiograph</th>
<th>Pre Release</th>
<th>Fusion of:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C-C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lat T-N angle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-P T-N angle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindfoot valgus angle</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

O’Malley et al, 1995

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fuse Joint:</th>
<th>Reduction of Motion at:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C - C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C - C</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STJ</td>
<td>N.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T - N</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“In the present study, arthrodesis of the talonavicular joint almost completely eliminated motion at the other hindfoot joint. The reduction of hindfoot motion was far greater than the following fusion of the subtalar and calcaneal cuboid joint”
“It can be assumed that the talonavicular joint participates in all hindfoot motions more than the two other major hindfoot joints. It thus appears that the talonavicular joint is the keystone to motion at the hindfoot”

Medial Calcaneal Displacement

- 129 Patients.
- Mean follow up, 5.2 years post op
- 118 Patients entirely satisfied, 7 patients partially satisfied, 4 patients dissatisfied.
- 125 Patients (97%) experienced pain relief.
- 121 Patients (94%) showed improvement of function.

Myerson MS, Badekas A, Schon LC: Treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon deficiency with flexor digitorum longus tendon transfer and calcaneal osteotomy. Foot & Ankle Int, 25: 445-450
Medial Calcaneal Displacement

“With completely ruptured tendons, fibrotic muscles, torn or incomplete ligaments, and typically more substantial preoperative deformity and dysfunction, a more guarded prognosis would be appropriate with this procedure.”

“The best way to study this proc would be to derive a sub classification of stage II deformity. A new system that looks at clinical features and radiographic angles may provide a better means of separating early stage II from late stage II deformity.”

Myerson MS, Badekas A, Schon LC: Treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon deficiency with flexor digitorum longus tendon transfer and calcaneal osteotomy. Foot & Ankle Int, 25: 445-450
Medial Calcaneal Displacement

- 129 Patients.
- Mean follow up, 5.2 years post op
- 118 Patients entirely satisfied, 7 patients partially satisfied, 4 patients dissatisfied.
- 125 Patients (97%) experienced pain relief.
- 121 Patients (94%) showed improvement of function.

Myerson MS, Badekas A, Schon LC: Treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon deficiency with flexor digitorum longus tendon transfer and calcaneal osteotomy. Foot & Ankle Int, 25: 445-450
Medial Calcaneal Displacement

“With completely ruptured tendons, fibrotic muscles, torn or incomplete ligaments, and typically more substantial preoperative deformity and dysfunction, a more guarded prognosis would be appropriate with this procedure.”

“The best way to study this proc would be to derive a sub classification of stage II deformity. A new system that looks at clinical features and radiographic angles may provide a better means of separating early stage II from late stage II deformity.”

Myerson MS, Badekas A, Schon LC: Treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon deficiency with flexor digitorum longus tendon transfer and calcaneal osteotomy. Foot & Ankle Int, 25: 445-450
# Stages of TPD

*from Johnson & Strom, Modified by Myerson et al.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>PATHOLOGY</th>
<th>CLINICAL SIGNS</th>
<th>REARFOOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Tenosynovitis</td>
<td>Swelling, Tenderness</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Attenuation or Rupture</td>
<td>Archcollapse, FF abduction, too many toes can or cannot heelrise</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Complete Rupture</td>
<td>Lateral foot pain increased heel valgus cannot heel rise</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>Valgus talocrural jt.</td>
<td>DJD of Rearfoot Fibular Mall. Fx.</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PTTD – Stage 2A

“Stage 2A is usually characterized by medial rearfoot pain, edema, and tenderness along the course of the posterior tibial tendon and mild valgus of the heel, with or without lowering of the medial longitudinal arch. There may be some abduction of the forefoot on the rearfoot. Although patients with stage 2A PTTD may be able to perform a single heel raise, they are more likely to have difficulty and pain completing this maneuver. Subtalar joint motion is supple with increased eversion.”
PTTD – Stage 2B

“The findings in 2B PTTD are similar to those in Stage 2A, with the addition of lateral pain (sinus tarsi, subfibular, cuboid), more severe valgus deformity, collapse of the medial longitudinal arch and obvious abduction of the forefoot on the rearfoot. Forefoot supinatus may be present in Stage 2B.”
CONSERVATIVE TX

Stage I: Cast Immobilization
Stage I & mild Stage II: Semi-rigid orthosis in running shoe
Stage II: UCBL orthosis
Stage III: Short articulated AFO
Stage IV: Medial T-strap double upright orthosis or a patellar-tendon bearing orthosis

Goals of Non-Operative Treatment

Primary: Decrease pain and edema
- Allows further diagnostic work up
- More accurate impression casting
- More accurate shoe fitting

Secondary: Improve mobility prevent further disability
Adult Acquired Flatfoot: Treatment Guidelines

Phase I

PRICE
- PROTECTION
- REST
- COMPRESSION
- ELEVATION
Adult Acquired Flatfoot: Treatment Guidelines
Phase II

Clinical Tests for Ligament Integrity of the Hindfoot

Ligaments Intact: Custom Functional Foot Orthosis
Ligaments Disrupted: Custom Ankle Foot Orthosis

Stage II: Articulated Hinged AFO
Stage II and IV: Solid AFO
Adult Acquired Flatfoot: Treatment Guidelines
Phase II

Stage II and III: Goal to move from AFO to FO
Functional Rehabilitation Program

Foot Adduction concentric exercises
Balance and Proprioception
Adult Acquired Flatfoot: Treatment Guidelines

Phase II

Shell: Semi-Rigid to Flexible
Casting: Neutral Suspension Cast
MUST REDUCE SUPPINATUS

Prescription:
- 20-26 mm Heel Cup
- 6 mm medial heel skive
- Lateral Flange
- Accommodate T-N joint
ANKLE SPRAIN

Initial Treatment:

P - Protection
R - Rest
I - Ice
C - Compression
E - Elevation
## Stages of TPD

from Johnson & Strom, Modified by Myerson et al.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAGE</th>
<th>PATHOLOGY</th>
<th>CLINICAL SIGNS</th>
<th>REARFOOT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>Tenosynovitis</td>
<td>Swelling, Tenderness</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>Attenuation or Rupture</td>
<td>Archcollapse, FF abduction, too many toes can or cannot heel rise</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>Complete Rupture</td>
<td>Lateral foot pain increased heel valgus cannot heel rise</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>Valgus talocrural jt.</td>
<td>DJD of Rearfoot Fibular Mall. Fx.</td>
<td>Rigid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RECOMMENDATIONS

- Need clinical tests for ligament rupture in hindfoot
- Future research in movement coupling
- Research into role of ligaments and surgical reconstruction
After PTT Rupture:
-Which ligaments rupture?
-What sequence?
-How do you assess?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>STAGE I</th>
<th>STAGE II LIG INTACT</th>
<th>STAGE II LIG DISRUPT</th>
<th>STAGE III RIGID DEFORMITY</th>
<th>STAGE IV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pain, Swelling Medial Ankle</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visible Valgus progression L v. R</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to Independent Heel Rise</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss Grade of Inversion Strength</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Metatarsal Rise – Positive</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hubscher Maneuver Pos. for lig Disrupt</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supination Lag Positive</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rigid Hindfoot</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valgus Talo-Crural Joint</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Single Foot Raise

*In adult acquired flatfoot:*

- No restraint to MTJ
- Gastroc-Soleus plantarflexes rearfoot instead of met heads
- Lack of leverage & pain inhibits heel lift
MANUAL MUSCLE TESTING

Tibialis Posterior

- Plantarflexed foot
- Press against plantar half of 1st met head
- Patient actively inverts
FIRST METATARSAL RISE *

Synovitis 1
Attenuation 6
Long. Tears 3
Mid-substance 5
Complete rupture 6

* positive in all 21 feet

External Rotation of the Heel

Normal TP Function

TP Dysfunction
FIRST METATARSAL RISE *

Synovitis 1
Attenuation 6
Long. Tears 3
Mid-substance 5
Complete rupture 6

* positive in all 21 feet

SUPINATION LAG

- Pt. seated, feet hang in air
- Feet plantarflexed
- “Bring soles together”

Proprioception and Joint Position

Proprioception appears to be compromised in a joint which is positioned at end range of motion.

Effects of Foot Orthoses on Patients with Chronic Ankle Instability

Douglas H. Richie, Jr., DPM*

Chronic instability of the ankle can be the result of mechanical and functional deficits. An acute ankle sprain can cause mechanical and functional instability, which may or may not respond to standard rehabilitation programs. Chronic instability results when there is persistent joint laxity of the ankle or when one or more components of neuromuscular control of the ankle are compromised. A loss of balance or postural control seems to be the most consistent finding among athletes with chronic instability of the ankle. Recent research in patients with acute and chronic ankle instability has revealed positive effects of foot orthoses on postural control. This article reviews the current research relevant to the use of foot orthoses in patients with chronic ankle instability and clarifies the suggested benefits and the shortcomings of these investigations. (J Am Podiatr Med Assoc 97(1): 19-30, 2007)
AFO’s and TPD

- 49 pts: 40 feet AFO, 13 feet UCBL
- 37 female, 12 male Avg. age 66 yrs.
- Mean follow up: 20.3 months
- Period of use: 14.9 months
- Daily use: 12.3 hrs.

RESULTS

- 49 pts.
- 67% good to excellent results (functional scoring)
- Five patients underwent surgery
- 33% had discontinued use of AFO and remained Asx


Lin JL, Balbas J, Richardson EG. Results of non-surgical treatment of stage II posterior tibial tendon dysfunction: a 7- to - 10 year follow up. Foot Ankle Int 29 (8): 781-786, 2008

SUMMARY OF STUDIES OF AFO BRACING FOR PTWD

Patients able to discontinue brace:

- Chao: 12%
- Lin: 67%
- Alvarez: 80%

Augustin AOFAS scores: 37.7 increased to 70.7

Lin AOFAS scores: 42.6 increased to 78.4
Dynamical Influence of a Richie Brace Intervention: A Case Study

Christopher L. MacLean, Ph.D. (Candidate)
Paris Orthotics Lab Division
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada
Case Description

• 58-year old male,
• 82kg (180lbs) and 5’10”,
• Diagnosed with severe B/L PTTD by a DPM in Boston,
• Compared 4 conditions:
  – Shod,
  – Shod + Root Functional,
  – Shod + PTTD device, and
  – Shod + Richie Brace.
Rearfoot Analysis
Rearfoot Angle Frontal

Shod_mn
Rich_mn
Rearfoot Eversion Velocity

Percent Stance

deg/s (ev/-in+)

Shod_mn
Rich_mn
Healthy
Rearfoot Eversion Velocity

--- SHOD
--- ROOT
--- PTTD
--- RICH
Knee Analysis
Knee Angle Transverse

Knee IR angle reduced during loading response.

Tibial internal rotation (IR) reduced.

Thigh internal rotation unchanged.
Tibial Velocity Transverse

- SHOD
- ROOT
- PTTD
- RICH

deg/s (e1/-l1+)
Knee Angle Frontal

Knee abduction (valgus) angle reduced slightly (1-2°) throughout.

Tibial adduction increased.

Thigh adduction increased slightly (more fluid motion).
Tibial Velocity Transverse

--- SHOD
--- ROOT
--- PTTD
--- RICH

deg/s (ef-/ir+)
Take Home Message

• In the case subject:

1. At the ankle, the subject exhibited:
   • $\downarrow$s in rearfoot eversion (pronation) velocity, excursion, moment and impulse.
   • Small $\uparrow$s in rearfoot eversion angle throughout stance.
Take Home Message

• In the case subject (cont’d):

2. At the knee, the subject exhibited:
   • ↓s in knee internal rotation,
   • ↓s tibial internal rotation angle and velocity, and
   • ↓s in knee abduction (valgus) of 1-2° which may be clinically significant.
Take Home Message

• In the case subject (cont’d):

3. Sagittal plane dynamics were not influenced in this subject:
   • Terminal phase ankle plantar flexion unchanged, and
   • Terminal phase rearfoot adduction unchanged (Rattanaprasert et al., 1999).
## Ankle Flexion-Extension

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Moment Arm</th>
<th>Excursion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TA</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FDL</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TP</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Hintermann, 1994_
Vascularity

Frey, JBJS 72A: 884, 1990

TP Tendon

• No mesotendon distally
• Blood supply: PT & DP art.
• Hypovascular zone begins 40mm prox. to navicular, extends 14mm prox.
Tendon of Tibialis Posterior

1. Zone of hypovascularity from tip of malleolus: 14 mm prox → 10 mm distal

2. Abrupt change of direction

3. 1st Pulley: Malleolar groove
   2nd Pulley: Navicular
Bracing the Adult Acquired Flatfoot

**RECENT INSIGHTS**

- Not solely due to TPD
- Pre-existing flatfoot
- Tibia is dominant lever
Two Lever Theory

“The ankle connects two unequal levers, the leg and the foot. The longer lever contains only a pair of bones, the tibia and fibula. The more massive tibia conveys most of the body weight directly on the talus and acts as a solid lever in ankle injuries. The foot, on the other hand, is composed of numerous small bones intercepted by joints, which weaken it as a lever.”

Kelikian, 1985
Subtalar Stability
Role of Ligaments

- CFL, Ant & Post ITCL and Post Talo Calc Lig all contribute to stability in all positions
- Ant & Post ITCL most important