

**fore**

# The Severe Pilon Fusion

Atlanta Trauma Symposium  
April 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014

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Emory University  
Grady Memorial Hospital



1 of 2



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 Dr. Floyd told us how easy it is.



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 Dr. Min – Showed us how good he is



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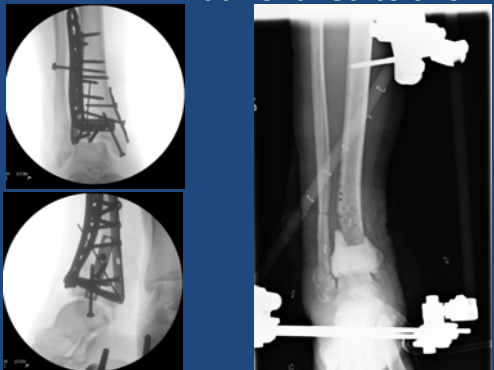
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Dr. Min – What he failed to show



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Dr. Harris will tell us that he hates hard cases. "A BKA only takes 45 mins" - Old Man Harris



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Old Man Harris Can't Fool Us



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### How Good Are We

- Pollak et al, JBJS 2003
  - Significant Limitations at a mean of 3.2 years
    - 35% stiffness
    - 29% swelling
    - 33% on-going pain
    - 43% have NOT returned to work
  - SF-36 Scores are WORSE than
    - Diabetes, MI, AIDS, HTN, and Pelvic Fracture Patients
    - Slightly better than ESRD patients
- Horisberger et al, JOT 2009
  - Injury severity is predictive of Traumatic Arthritis
- Schenker et al, in review 2016
  - 37 patients identified as failure (>3mo) (Amputation, Arthrodesis, Arthroplasty)
  - 3 factors are predictive
    - Postop Infection
    - Anterior Plafond Impaction
    - Overall Radiographic Severity

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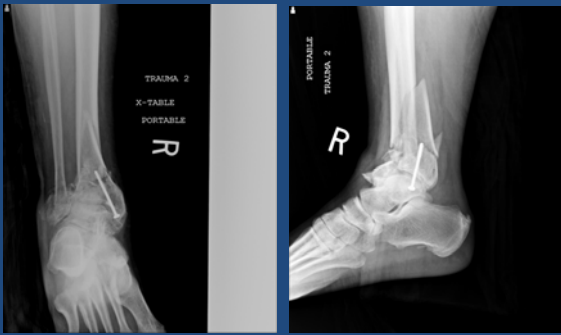
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### Case – 60 y/o Delta Agent



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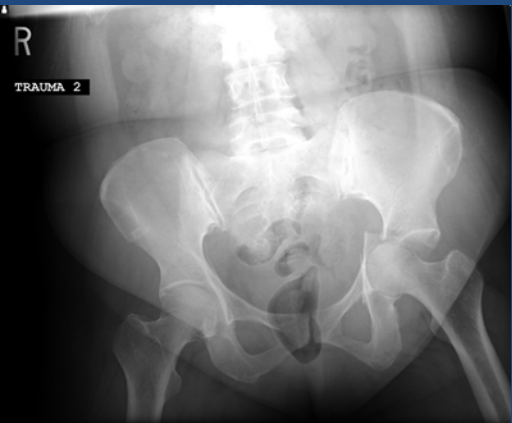
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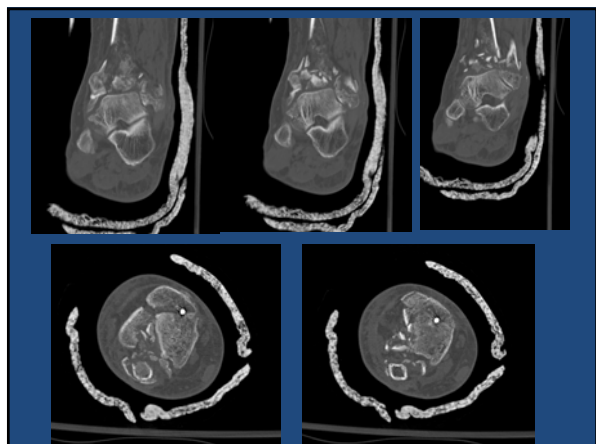
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### Goals For Our Patient

- Healed
- Not Infected
- Pain-Free Ambulation
- Return to Work

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### Outcomes of Primary Fusions

- Beaman et al, CORR 2014
  - 11 Pts (Avg age 58)
  - Avg f/u 14 months
  - Time to fusion surgery 15 days
  - 4.4 months avg time to heal
  - AOFAS Ankle Score (100 pt)
    - Average 83 (69-91)
    - 5 excellent (90-100%), 2 good (80-90%), 1 fair (70-80%)



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## Recommendations

- Get to KNOW your patients
- Find out their needs are
- Be realistic with them and YOURSELF



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