

Biceps Brachii Tendon Pain Introduction	
<ul> <li>LHB Pain is a common clinical complaint – "maybe too common"</li> <li>Shoulder pain arising solely from the LHB can be quite severe causing marked decrease in shoulder function</li> </ul>	
Abbott & Saunders: Surgery '36 Becker & Cofield: JBJS '89 DePalma: Clin Orthop '54 Neviaser: Clin No Am '87 Post & Benca: Clin Orthop '89 ✓ Why does the LHB hurt ? Etiology?	Example a constraint of the second seco



#### Introduction

- Pathophysiology of LHB pain Sethi, Wright, Yamaguchi: JSES '99
- ✓ 3 major groups of pathologic process



- 🖌 Instability
- ✓ Traumatic













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#### Biceps Brachii Tendon Pain Introduction - Anatomy

- ✓ Biceps tendon is approx 5-6 mm diameter & approx 9 cm length
- ✓ Blood supply: anterior circumflex humeral a.
- Rich sensory & sympathetic innervation "net-like pattern"
  - Alpantaki: JBJS '05
- Tendon slides up to 18 mm in & out of GH joint with flexion & IR Braun et al: AJSM '10







#### Biceps Brachii Tendon Pain

What Is the Function of the Biceps (Biomech Cad)

- ✓ Decreased humeral head translation (A,S & I directions) at lower elevation angles *Pagnani et al: JSES '96*
- Anterior stabilization during abduction & ER Itoi et al: JBJS '93
- Anterior stabilizer when cut increased strain to IGHL during abduction & ER Rodosky et al: AJSM'94

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#### Biceps Brachii Tendon Pain

What Is the Function of the Biceps

- EMG data on the LHB remains controversial
- LHB stabilized HH Sukurai: CORR '98
- LHB stabilized HH when tension during elbow & forearm activity *Levy: JSES'01*
- ✓ LHB activity higher during windmill pitching than overhead *Rojas:AJSM'09*
- Higher activity during cocking phase & follow through & deceleration

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	No. of pitchers	Windup	Early cocking	Late cocking	Acceleration	Deceleration	Follow-through
Elbow and forearm							
muscles							
Triceps	13	4 = 6	$17 \pm 17$	37 ± 32	89 ± 40	54 = 23	22 ± 18
Biceps	18	8 = 9	$22 \pm 14$	$26 \pm 20$	$20 \pm 16$	44 = 32	$16 \pm 14$
Brochiolis	13	$8 \pm 5$	$17 \pm 13$	18 ± 26	$20 \pm 22$	49 : 29	$13 \pm 17$
Brachioradialis	13	5 = 5	$35 \pm 20$	31 ± 24	16 ± 12	46 ± 24	22 = 29
Pronotor teres	- 14	14 = 16	$18 \pm 15$	39 = 28	85 ± 39	51 = 21	21 = 21
Supinator	13	9 = 7	$38 \pm 20$	$54 \pm 38$	55 ± 31	59 ± 31	22 = 19
Wrist and finger muscles							
Extensor corpi radialis longus	13	11 = 8	53 = 24	72 ± 37	30 ± 20	43 = 24	22 ± 14
Extensor carpi radialis brevis	15	17 ± 17	47 ± 26	75 ± 41	55 ± 35	43 = 28	24 = 19
Extensor digitorum com- munis	14	21 = 17	37 ± 25	59 ± 27	35 ± 35	47 ± 25	24 ± 18
Flexor carpi radialis	12	13 ± 9	24 = 35	47 ± 33	120 ± 66	79 ± 36	35 = 16
Flexor digitorum superfi- cialis	11	16 ± 6	20 = 23	47 = 52	80 ± 66	71 ± 32	21 ± 11
Flexor corpi ulnaris	10	8 ± 5	$27\pm18$	41 ± 25	112 ± 60	77 ± 42	24 ± 18
*Means and standard devi	ations, exp	ressed as	a percenta	age of the n	naximal manual	muscle test.	. ISES '07

EMG Activity During Overhead Pitching

#### Biceps Brachii Tendon Pain

What Is the Function of the Biceps

 Short head Biceps Brachii alone caused significant superior migration of humeral head with powerful elbow flexion & supination



 LHB stabilizing role during elb flex & supination

Kumar et al: CORR '98

 Stabilizing effect at 90 deg abduction & ER/IR motions

Youm et al: JSES '09













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#### Biceps as a Pain Generator

The Proximal Biceps as a Pain Generator and Results of Tenotomy Istvan Szabó, MD, PhD.\* Pascal Boileau, MD,† and Gilles Walch, MD‡

Sports Med Arthrosc. 2008 Sep; 16(3): 180-6.

" it seems that isolated arthroscopic biceps tenotomy or tenodesis is a valuable option for the treatment of rotator cuff tears in selected patients. Although it does not improve shoulder strength, tenotomy or tenodesis reduces pain and improves the functional range of motion with a high degree of patient satisfaction."

# Biceps Tendon Pain Receptors Figure 100 and 100 an

#### LHB Pathologies & Pain Classification

✓ LHB rupture



- ✓ Peritendinitis ✓ Tendonosis
- Biomechanical causes (ST)
- ✓ Hypermobility GH joint
- ✓ Capsular inflammation
- ✓ Biceps-Labral Lesion (SLAP)





Excellent with ruptures, dislocations etc...



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#### LHB Pathologies & pain Tendon Rupture

- Most common site of rupture: tendon's origin & at the exit of bicipital groove near MT junction Rowe '88
- Usually occurs in people aged 50 & >
- "popeye deformity"



• Often associated with tendon degeneration



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### Does the Popeye Deformity Cause Pain ?? 800AI

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#### Kelly, Drakos, ... O'Brien: AJSM '05

- 54 patients with biceps pain &/or tendinitis
- Arthroscopic release of LHB
- 9 had the release as an isolated procedure
- ✓ 68% good excellent results
- ✓ *None had pain at rest*
- ✓ Popeye deformity seen: Males 83% Females 36%
- ✓ 38% c/o of fatigue discomfort (cramping)









#### **Biceps Instability**

- ✓ LHB instability & BRP lesions Walch JSES '98 Lafosse Arthroscopy '07
- Often assoc with cuff tears (subscapularis tears)
- Different types of lesions involving SGHL, SS tendon, Subscapularis Habermeyer JSES'04
- Sign correl b/t pulley lesions & SLAP tears, cuff tears, LHB pathology Braun: AJSM '11

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#### LHB Pathologies & Pain Coracoid Impingement

- · Defined as impingement of coracoid bursa & subscap tendon b/t coracoid & lesser tub.
- Potential cause of degenerative wear of pulley sling & subscap tendon insertion
- Coracohumeral interval (CHI) Gerber: CORR '87
- Millet et al narrowing of CHI related to LHB pathologies & RTC Braun 2010









#### LHB Pathologies & Pain Peritendinitis

- Inflammation of biceps (RTC ?)
- Tenosynovitis
- Anterior shoulder pain
- Worse with activities » Arm away from body
- » Overhead sports
- · Tenderness to palpation
- Site of pain moves with ER
- "Biceps tension sign"
- Active compression, Speeds





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#### LHB Pathologies & Pain Tendonosis

- Similar subjective complaints
- Pain present at rest
- Often associated with cuff tendonosis
- Treatment significantly different then paratendonoitis
- ✓ Tendon degeneration-- attritional tear
- Tendon failure poor healing response





#### LHB Pathologies & Pain *GH Joint Laxity* • Hypermobility of the GH joint • Increased demands on surrounding muscles • Rotator cuff • Biceps muscle is working overtime to stabilize • † EMG activity biceps – ant instab. *Gloussman: JBJS '88*

 Rx: reduce inflammation of biceps, enhance dynamic stabilization of shoulder, gradual return to sports

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#### LHB Pathologies & Pain Scapular Dyskinesis

- ✓ Scapular dyskinesis:
- Improper scapular position or movement

#### Kibler et al: Br J Spts Med '10

- Scapular malpositioning may affect biceps effectiveness and function
- May cause increased activity of biceps and may cause poor muscle activation and ability to generate force





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Degenerative biceps tendon within GH joint - frayed



Degenerative biceps tendon within GH joint – performing a tenotomy







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 Subacromial Arch







#### Comparison Tenotomy vs. Tenodesis Which is best ??

- Consider cosmesis (important in many pts)
- ✓ Glenohumeral joint concomitant pathologies
- ✓ Tenotomy excellent for pain relief
- Tenodesis has been shown to better restore supination strength & endurance
- Tenotomy can result in biceps cramping with excessive biceps activities

Which procedure is best ??

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Subpectoral Biceps Tenodesis

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#### Complications of Biceps Tenodesis

EINMER Complications associated with subpectoral biceps tenodesis: Low rates of incidence following surgery Share J. Nov. MD, NS, Stefnie N. Reff", Nikhi N. Verna, NP, Mark A. Sabaugh (MV. Augusta D. Auszcz, MP), Antoney, ND\*4

• The incidence of complications after subpectoral biceps tenodesis with interference screw fixation in a population of 353 patients over the course of 3 years was 2.0%

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## Tenotomy or Tenodesis: Is it the Future?

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#### Rehabilitation Following Subpectoral Biceps Tenodesis

- *Fixation method:* 
  - Bioabsorbable screw, suture anchor or interference screw
- ✓ Immediate shoulder PROM & AAROM
- ✓ Caution with active elbow flexion & supination
- ✓ No biceps for 6-8 weeks
- ✓ No resisted biceps for 8 weeks
- ✓ Cuff program week 2

#### Smith, Dugas, Cain: ASMI Fellows '16

- Biceps tenodesis 12 scholastic baseball players
- 85% college, 15% high school
- 69% previous shoulder surgery
- 5/12 had previous SLAP surgery
- ✓ 11/12 returned to play baseball
- $\checkmark$  3 changed position not able to pitch
  - $\checkmark$  25% experienced improvement performance
  - ✓ 33% experienced decrease in performance
  - ✓ 42% performance unchanged

#### Case Study - Shoulder 810

- 20 yr old D1 scholastic college volleyball player – front
- Dominant shoulder pain biceps region
- Onset was from spiking & blocking drills
- Now pain is all the time
- Pain is "bad" at rest (8/2010)
- Been treated for this past 2 yrs with some relief (rest, injection, iontophoresis, strengthening) ..."this time is worse

#### Case Study – Shoulder 810

- Pain location: pain over proximal biceps
- tendonRight shoulder PROM:
  - » Flexion:180 deg
  - » ER @ 90 deg: 142 deg

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- » IR @ 90 deg: 65 deg
- Left shoulder PROM ER 125, IR 57
  - Right shoulder strength:
  - » ER 4/5, IR 5/5, Abd 4/5
  - » Scpaular strength: LT 4/5, Retract: 4/5, Protract 4/5

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#### Case Study – Shoulder 810

- Treatment:
- ✓ Postural stretching
- Scapular strengthening exercises
   Isolated & NM control drills integrated
- ✓ Rotator cuff exercises
- ✓ Core & hip on stability
- ✓ Scapular strength
- Conditioning drills but no spiking or blocking until painfree plyos performed

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