

# **Influence of preoperative bone marrow lesions on postoperative cartilage improvement after open wedge high tibial osteotomy**

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**First presenter : Kawamura K**

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# Postoperative cartilage improvement after High Tibial Osteotomy (HTO) and Bone marrow lesion (BML)

- Good postoperative PROM with cartilage improvement after HTO

Tsushima T, et al. KSSTA 2024

- Pre- and postoperative BML associated with pain and function

Kim MS, et al. Am J Sports Med. 2019

Zhu B, et al. Biomed Res Int. 2021



**Clinical question:** Relationship between BML and postoperative cartilage improvement is unknown.

## Purpose

To examine the association between preoperative BML and postoperative cartilage improvement after HTO

# Methods

## ■ Subjects

- 110 knees of 96 patients who underwent HTO
- All patients underwent implant removal and 2nd-look AS at 1 year after HTO

## ■ Preop. BML assessment

- MOAKS (MRI Osteoarthritis knee score)
- MFC and MTP

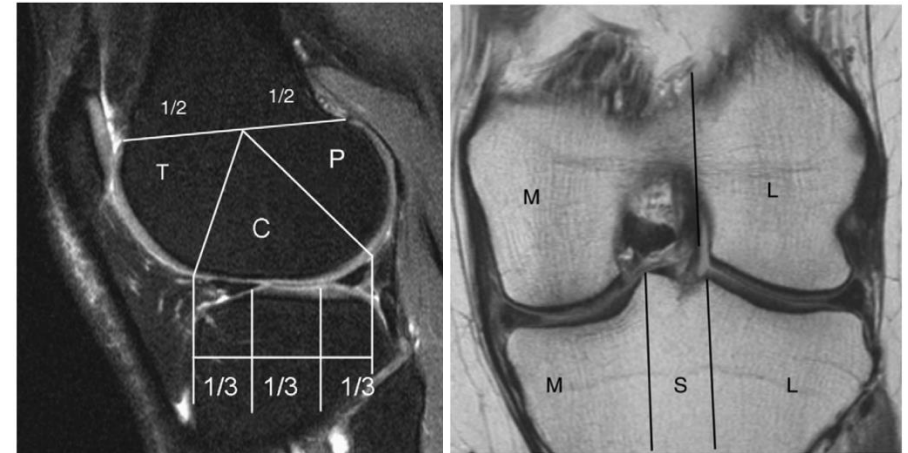
## ■ Cartilage assessment

ICRS grade at HTO and second look AS

## ■ Classification of cartilage improvement (CI)

CI group: Improved at least one level of ICRS grade

Non-CI group: not improved



# Survey items

## ■ Background

Age

Sex

Height

Weight

BMI

## ■ Surgical factors

Opening width

Follow-up period

## ■ X-ray measurement

(pre-, post-op. 1Y)

**WBLR:** Weight bearing line ratio

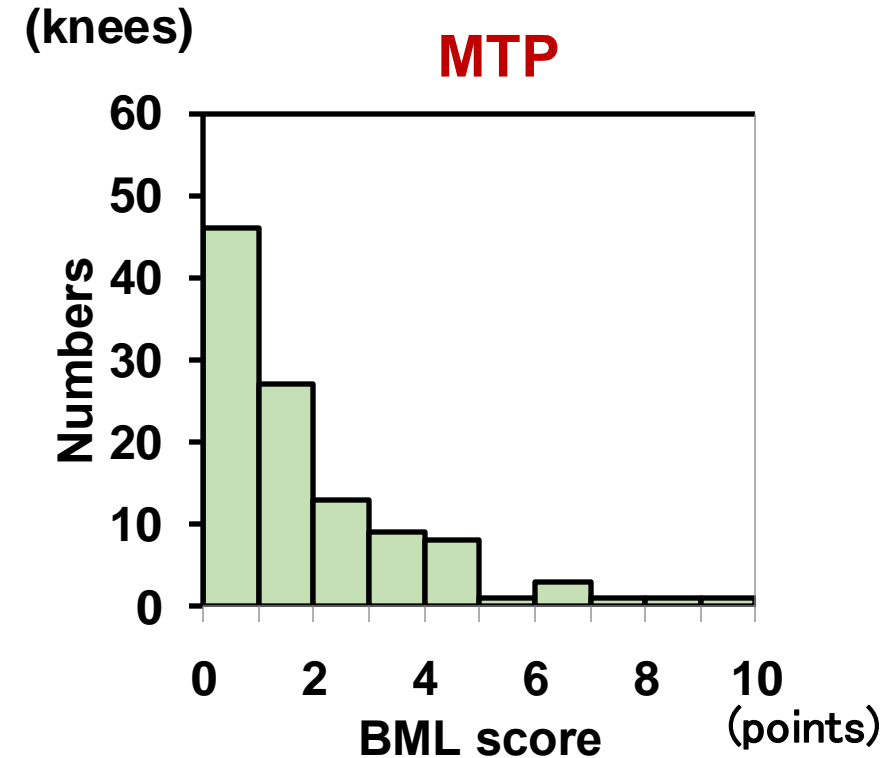
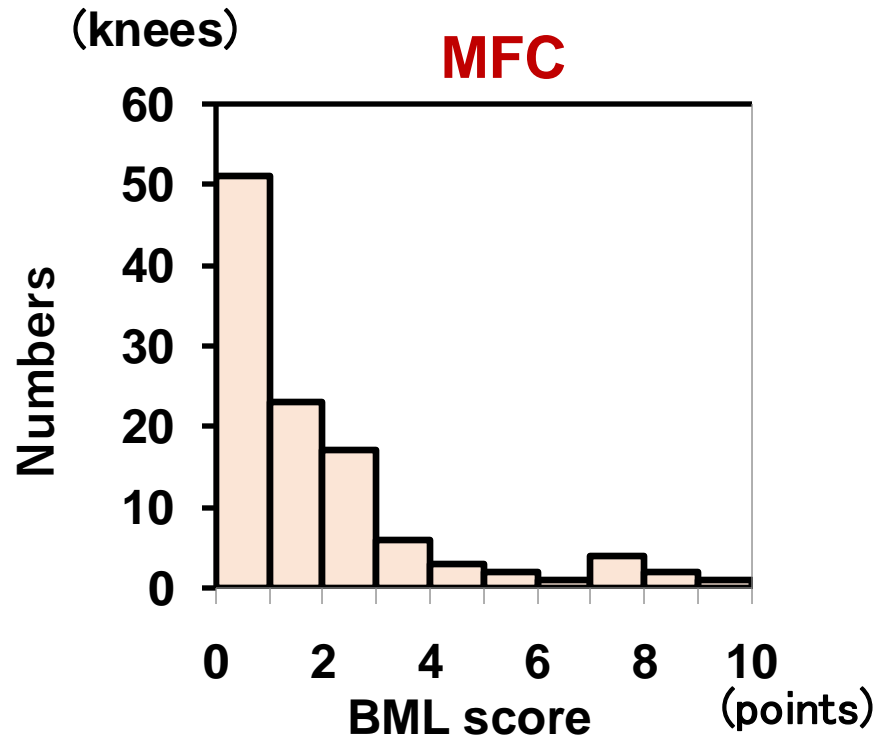
**MPTA:** Medial proximal tibia angle

**PTS:** Posterior tibia slope

# Statistical analysis

- Related factors for cartilage improvement  
Logistic regression analysis

# Distribution of BML score



**BML(+)**  
**53.6%**

**BML(+)**  
**58.2%**

# Change of ICRS grade after HTO

		ICRS grade				
		0	1	2	3	4
MFC	Pre-op	0	3	16	35	56
	Post-op	1	9	23	36	41
MTP	Pre-op	3	17	26	32	32
	Post-op	1	17	37	24	31

**Improvement rate of MFC: 37.3%**

**Improvement rate of MTP: 26.4%**

**Improvement in either: 43.6%**

**(CI-group) (duplication: 85.4%)**

# Demographic data

	Non-CI group	CI group	P value
Patient, n	62	48	-
Age, years	58.2±7.3	57.2±10.4	0.940
Female, %	39 (62.9%)	30 (62.5%)	0.965
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	26.8±3.3	25.3±3.1	0.013
Follow-up period , years	5.6±4.2	4.0±2.9	0.149
Opening width, mm	9.3±1.8	9.6±1.9	0.501

Mann-Whitney U test、 $\chi^2$  test



# Assessment of X-ray

		No improvement in either	BML improvement on MFC	BML improvement on MTP
WBLR	Pre-op	23.6±9.5	22.2±16.0	21.8±16.2
	Post-op	52.3±10.7	55.9±7.8	54.8±7.7
MPTA	Pre-op	84.6±2.3	84.0±3.3	84.3±3.5
	Post-op	90.5±9.7	90.1±3.0	90.1±2.6
PTS	Pre-op	9.0±9.7	8.0±2.7	8.6±3.1
	Post-op	10.0±9.3	9.0±2.8	8.8±2.8

Avarage±SD

# Factors associated with CI

	CI on MFC			CI on MTP		
	B	P value	Odds	B	P value	Odds
Age	-0.04	0.132	0.96	0.03	0.446	1.03
Sex	-0.39	0.381	0.68	0.78	0.164	2.19
BMI	-0.14	0.047	0.87	-0.20	0.016	0.82
Pre-op ICRS score	0.06	0.843	1.06	0.95	0.002	2.59
Pre-op BML score	0.02	0.836	1.02	-0.35	0.046	0.70
Post-op WBLR	0.05	0.036	1.05	0.05	0.124	1.05
Post-op MPTA	0.04	0.676	1.04	-0.03	0.817	0.98
Post-op PTS	-0.02	0.651	0.99	-0.01	0.880	0.99

Logistic regression analysis, dependent variable: CI on MFC, MTP

# CI after HTO

**This study**

**Low BMI and high pre-op. ICRS grade were factors associated with CI**

**Pre-op. BML was a negative factor for post-op. CI**

■ **High ICRS grade is related with CI**

Kumagai K, et al. KSSTA 2017

■ **Preop. BMI < 25.9 and postop. WBLR > 54.0% are related with CI**

Tsushima T, et al. KSSTA. 2024

■ **Pre- and post-op. BML changes are not associated with CI**

Kim JH, et al. Arthroscopy. 2024

# Conclusion

**Incidence of Pre-op BML were 53.6% on MFC and 58.2% on MTP.**

**Pre-op factors associated with CI were low BMI, high ICRS score, and low BML score.**

# References

1. **Tsushima T, et al. Cartilage regeneration is related to superior mid-term patient-reported outcomes after open-wedge high tibial osteotomy. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2024**
2. **Kim MS, et al. Degree of Preoperative Subchondral Bone Marrow Lesion Is Associated With Postoperative Outcome After Medial Opening Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy. Am J Sports Med. 2019**
3. **Zhu B, et al. Postoperative Bone Marrow Lesions (BMLs) Are Associated with Pain Severity in Patients Undergoing Open Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy (OWHTO). Biomed Res Int. 2021**
4. **Kumagai K, et al. Factors affecting cartilage repair after medial opening-wedge high tibial osteotomy. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2017**
5. **Kim JH, et al. Postoperative Decrease in Bone Marrow Lesion Associated With Better Clinical Outcomes Following Medial Open-Wedge High Tibial Osteotomy. Arthroscopy. 2024**