

# Biomechanical concepts of total shoulder replacement

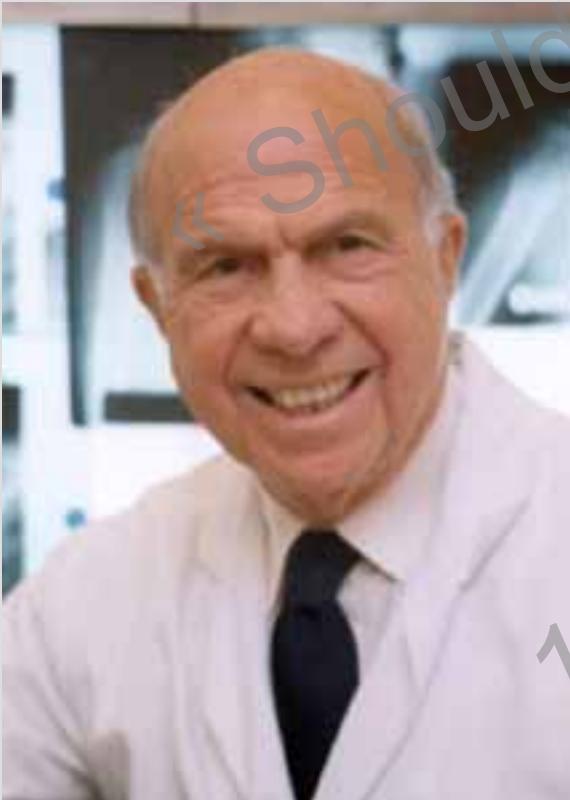
Richard W. Nyffeler  
Orthopädie Sonnenhof  
Bern

# First total shoulder prosthesis



Jules Emile Péan, 1830-1898

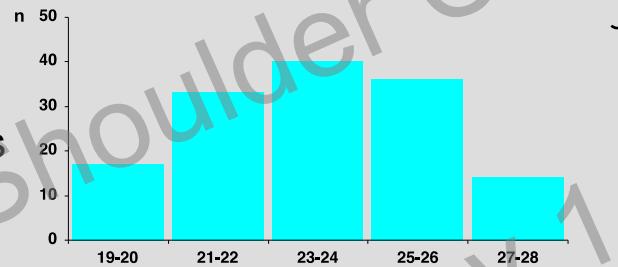
## Monobloc prostheses



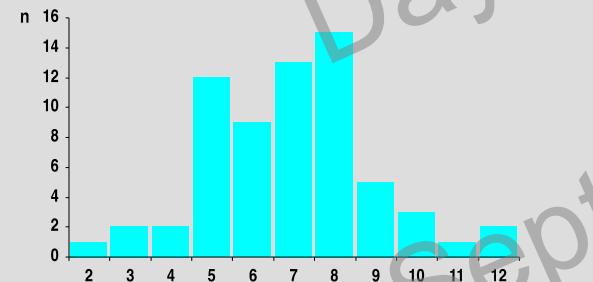
Charles Neer, 1917-2011

# Anatomic prostheses

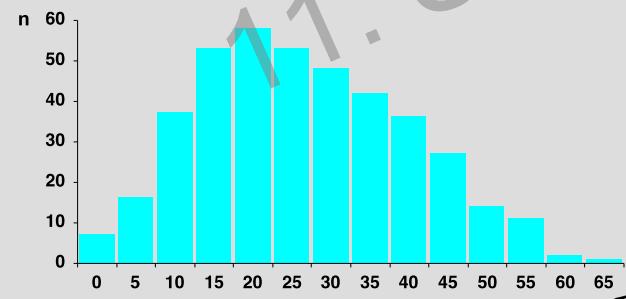
humeral head radius



medial offset



retrotorsion



+/- 1995

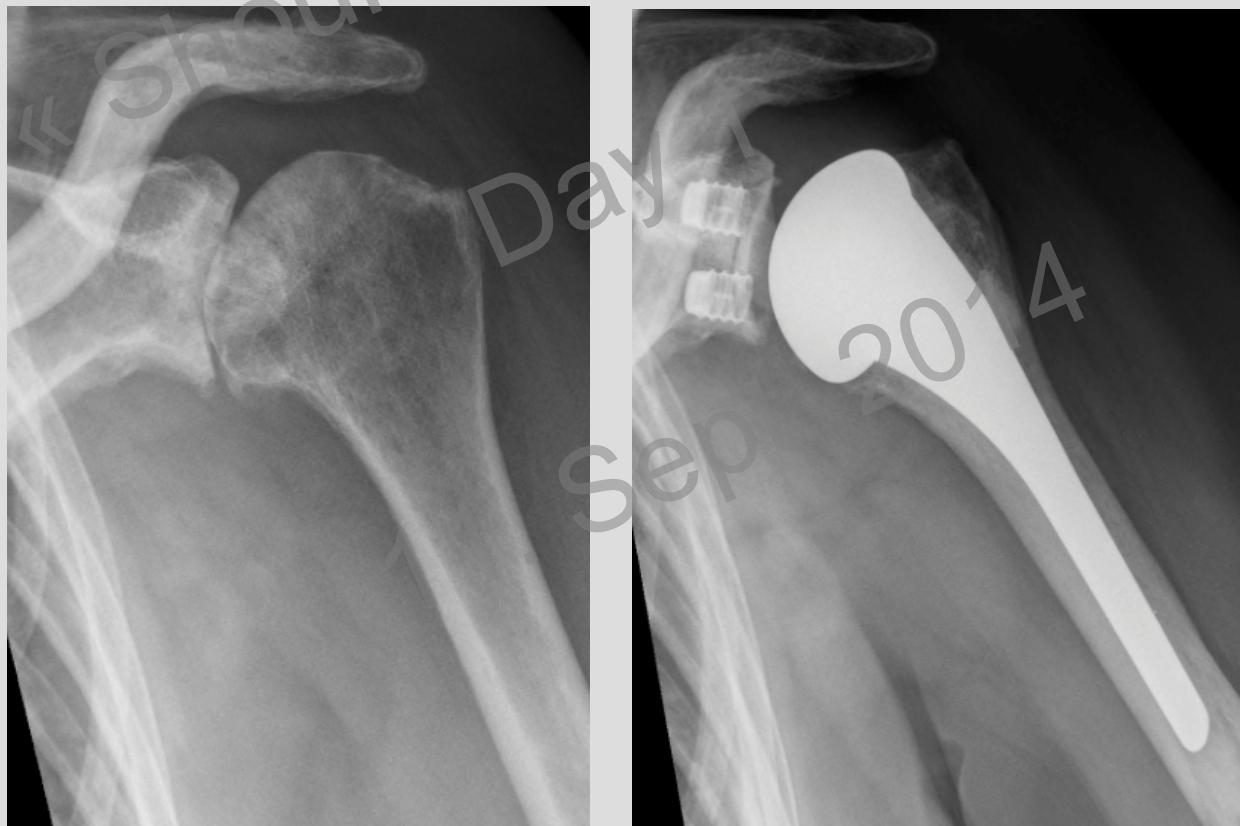
## Stemless prostheses

trend towards resurfacing, stemless or short stem prostheses



## Why no long stem ?

- it is not necessary



## Why no long stem ?

- it is not necessary
- it is difficult
  - to remove the stem  
(infection, conversion into RSA)



## Why no long stem ?

- it is not necessary
- it is difficult:
  - to remove the stem  
(infection, conversion into RSA)
  - to treat a periprosthetic fracture



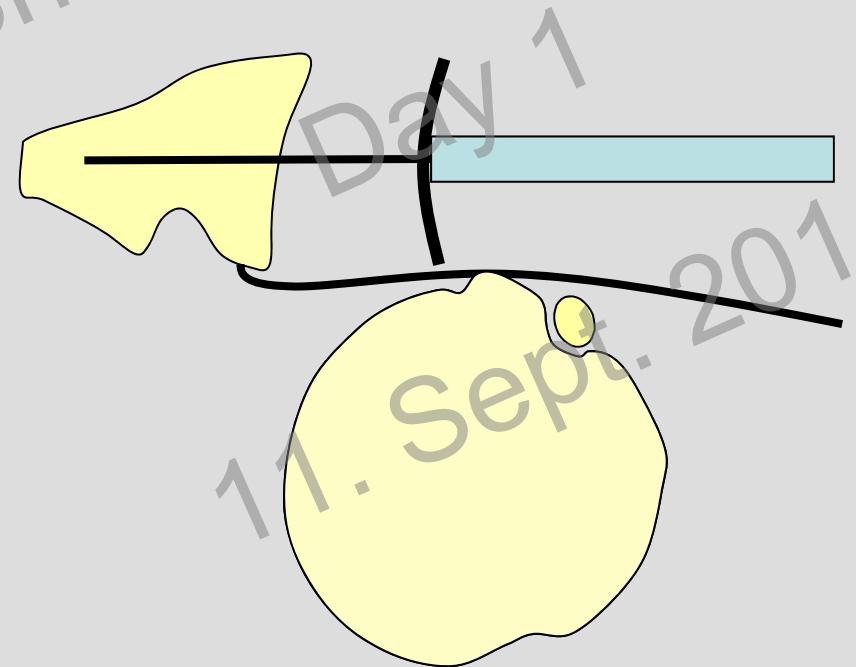
## Why no long stem ?

- it is not necessary
- it is difficult
  - to remove the stem  
(infection, conversion into RSA)
  - to treat a periprosthetic fracture
  - to implant a shaft after a fracture  
or an osteosynthesis



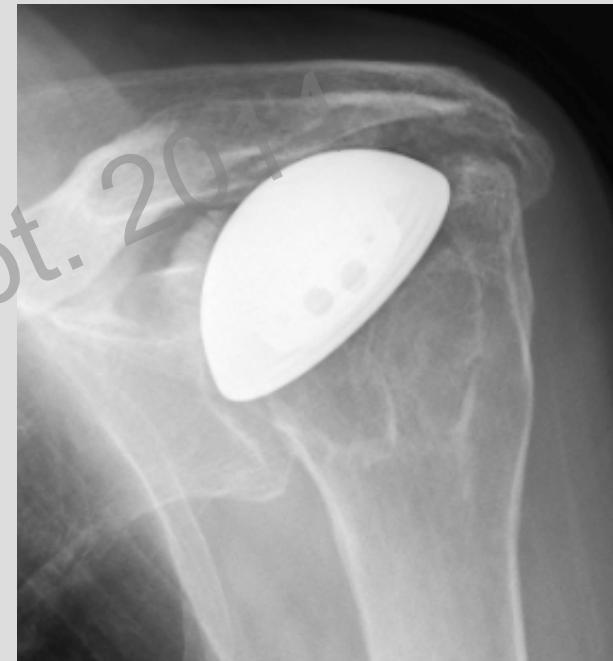
## Cave !

- it is difficult
  - to expose the glenoid without resection of the humeral head



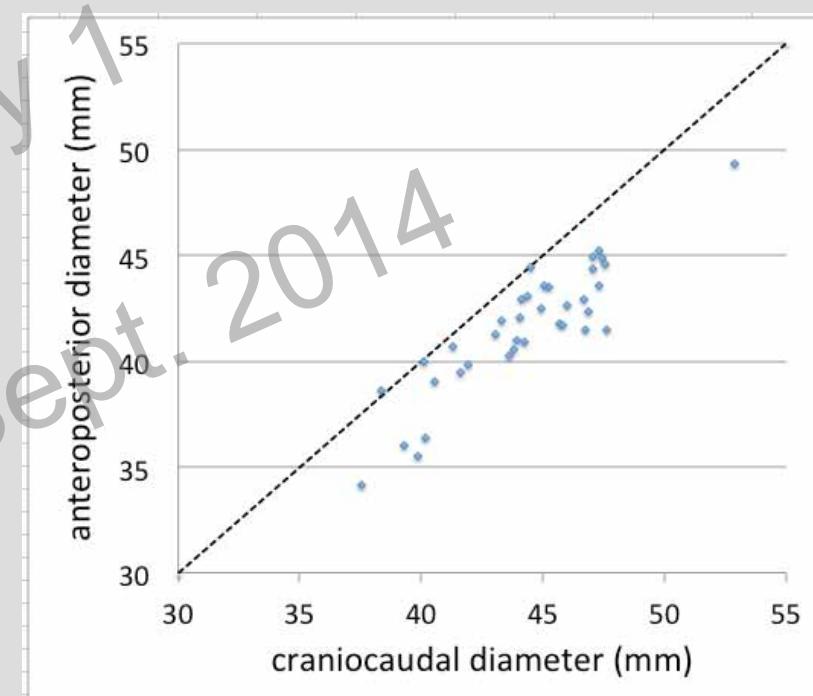
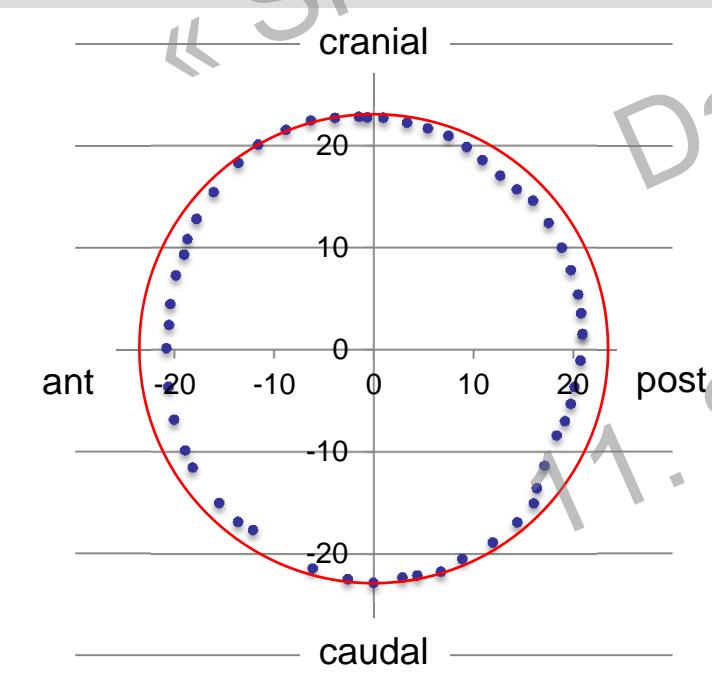
## Cave !

- it is difficult
  - to expose the glenoid without resection of the humeral head
  - to correctly position the prosthetic head



## Humeral head

the humeral head is not spherical:  
anteroposterior < craniocaudal



## Humeral head

anterior or posterior prosthetic overhang

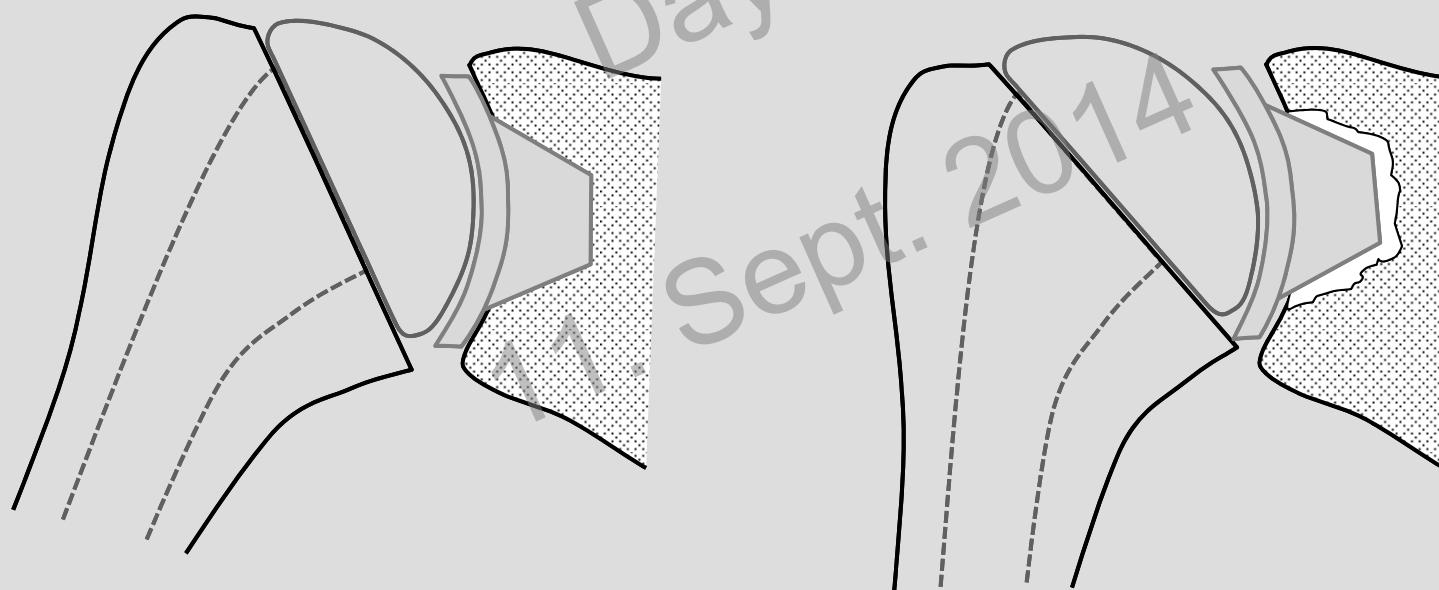
- potential lesion of the rotator cuff



## Humeral head

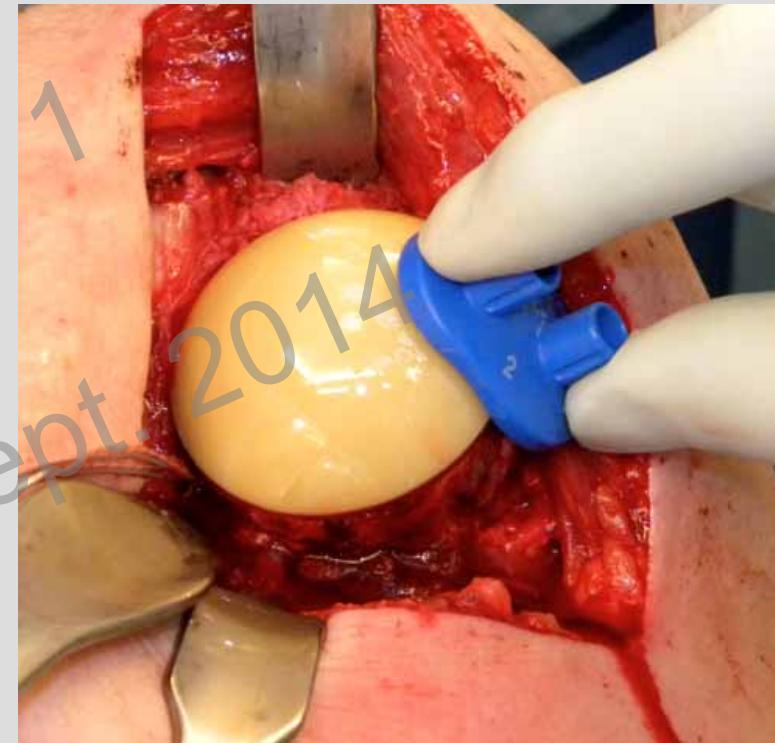
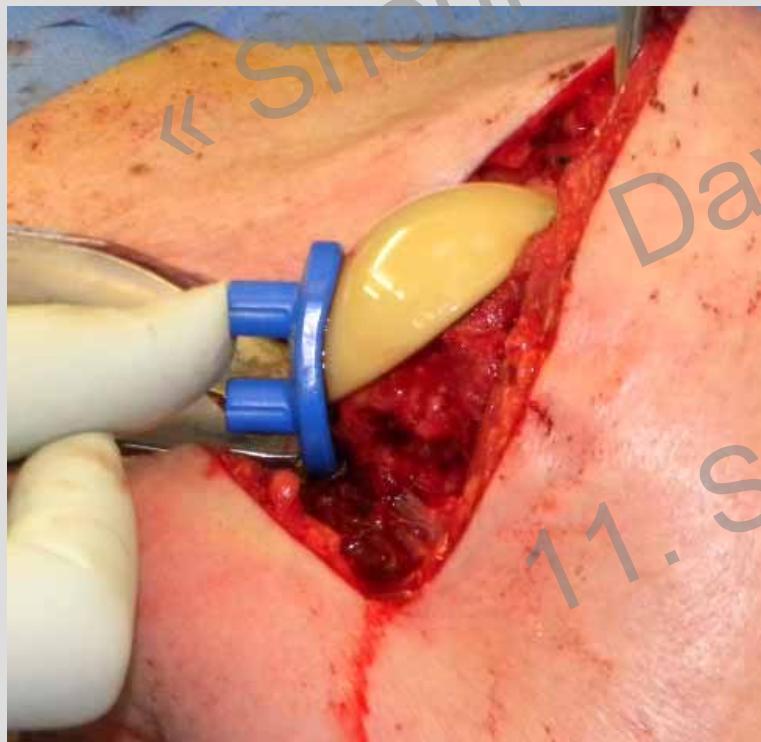
incomplete coverage of the anatomical neck

- inferior glenohumeral impingement and
- risk of aseptic loosening of the glenoid component



## Glenohumeral impingement test

check that there is no bony overhang



## Total shoulder replacement

Total shoulder replacement is better than hemiarthroplasty with respect to pain relief and ROM

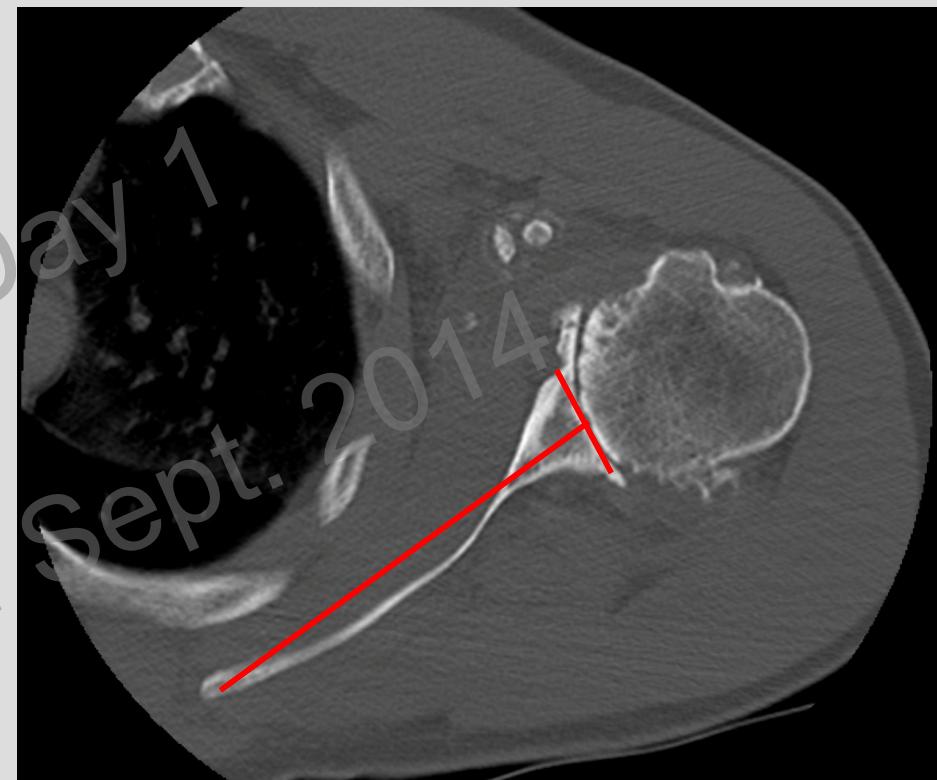
## Total shoulder replacement

implantation of a glenoid component is  
technically demanding  
time consuming  
more expensive

Day 1  
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## Preoperative planning

CT to assess:  
bone stock and quality  
cysts and osteophytes  
glenoid version  
muscle quality

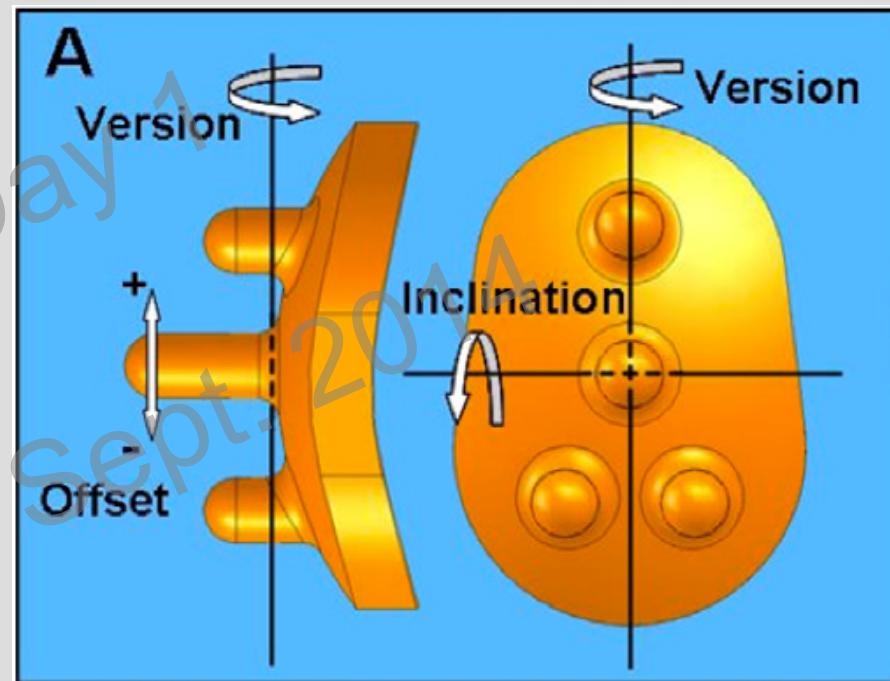


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## Implantation technique

The surgeon must control the following parameters:

- anteroposterior position
- superoinferior position
- retroversion
- inclination



Favre et al. Clin Biomech 2008

## Implantation technique

Malpositioning of the components may result in

- impingement
- eccentric loading
- cement fracture
- polyethylene wear
- aseptic component loosening

## Implantation technique

Good exposure of the glenoid is crucial



## Implantation technique

exposure of the glenoid and preparation of the bone are particularly difficult in:

osteonecrosis with a medialized head

arthritis with severe glenoid erosion

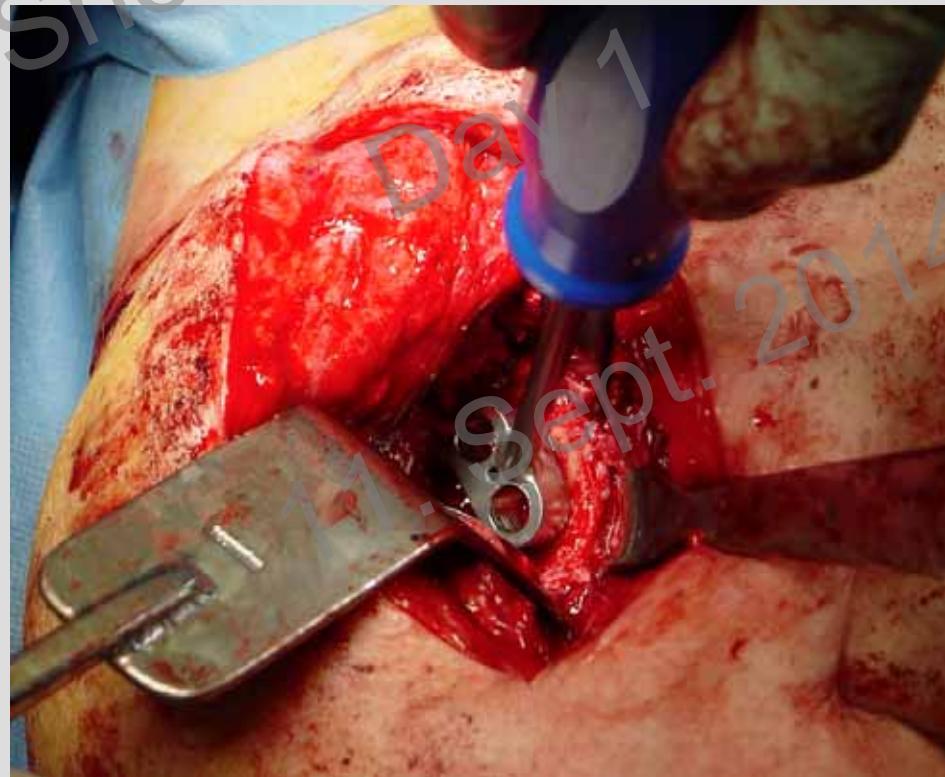
humeral head resurfacing without resection of the head

young muscular men



## Positioning of the component

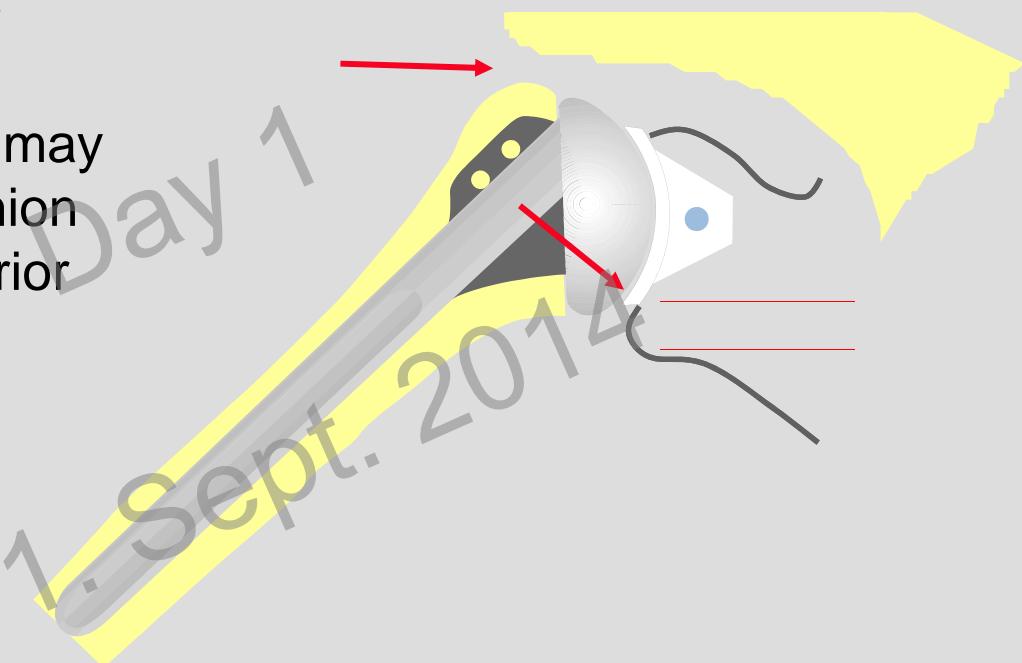
many aiming devices are smaller than the glenoid  
exact positioning and orientation may be difficult



## Positioning of the component

component too high

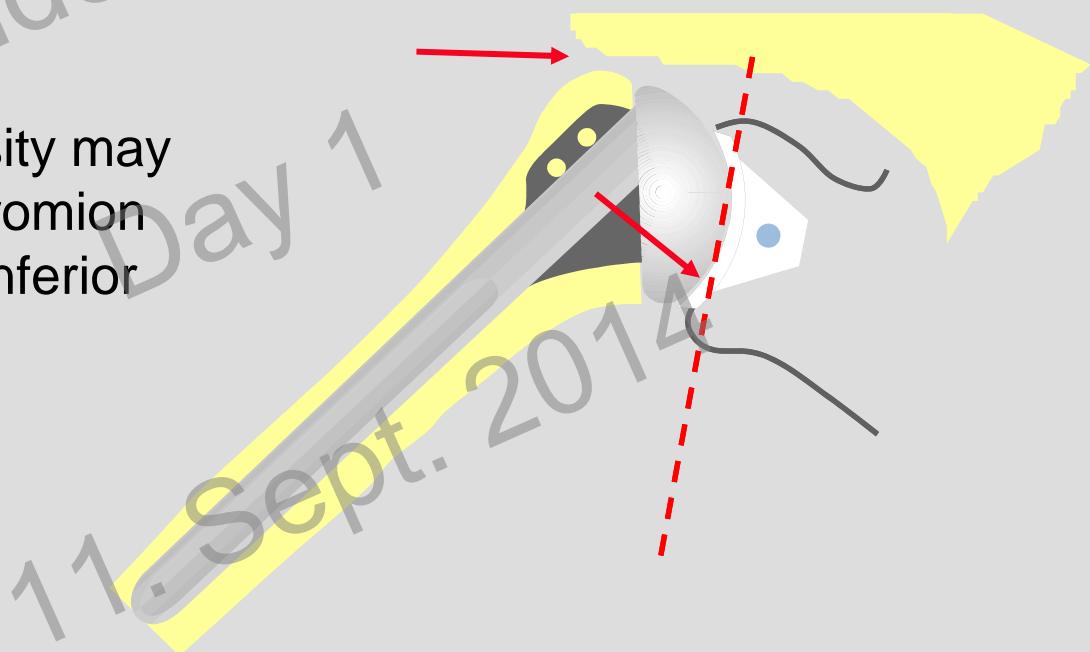
→ the greater tuberosity may impinge under the acromion and cause eccentric inferior loading of the glenoid component



## Positioning of the component

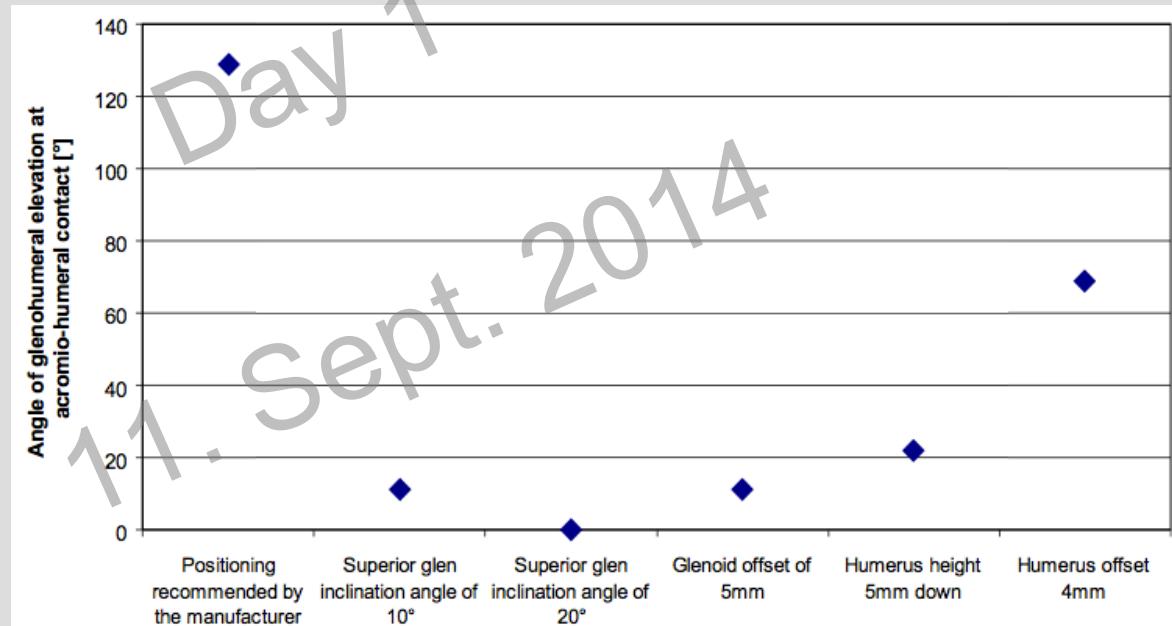
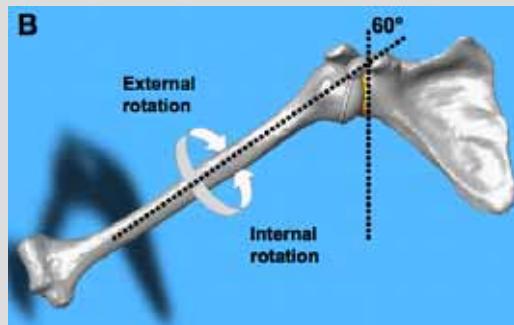
superior inclination

→ the greater tuberosity may impinge under the acromion and cause eccentric inferior loading of the glenoid component



## Positioning of the component

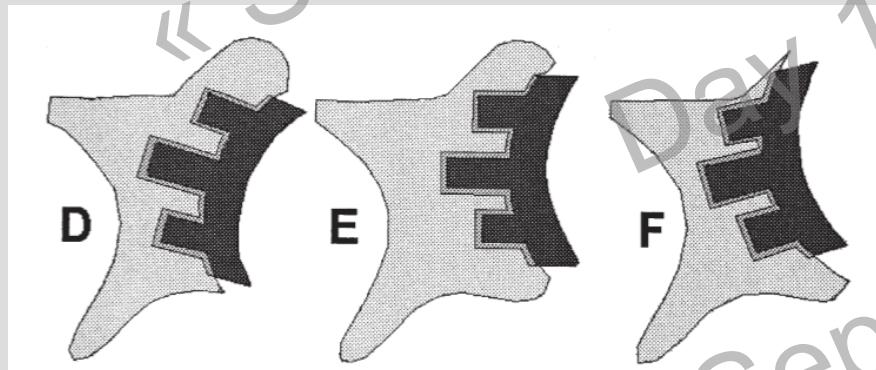
a superior glenoid component inclination of 20 ° allowed no elevation at all, as acromiohumeral contact was detected even in the resting position



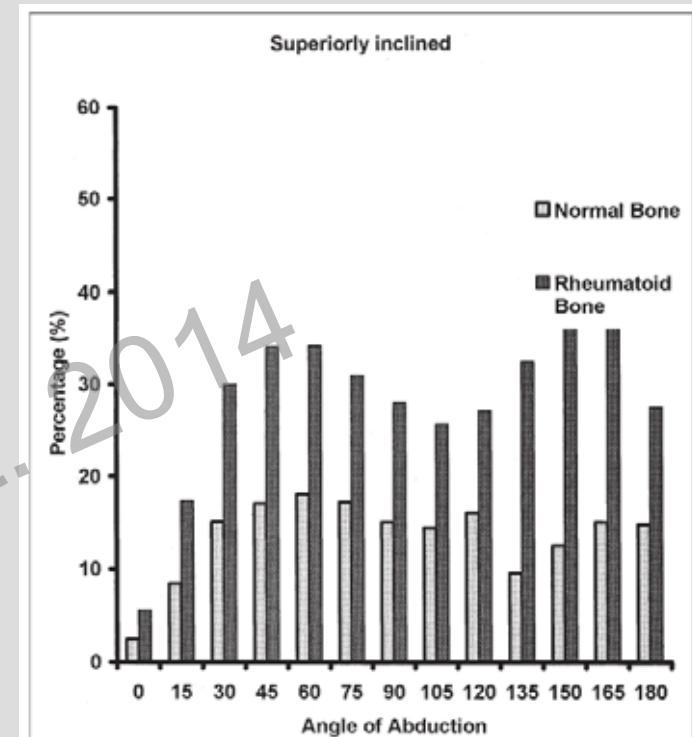
Favre et al. Clin Biomech 2008

## Positioning of the component

superior or inferior inclination also increases the risk for mechanical failure of the cement mantle



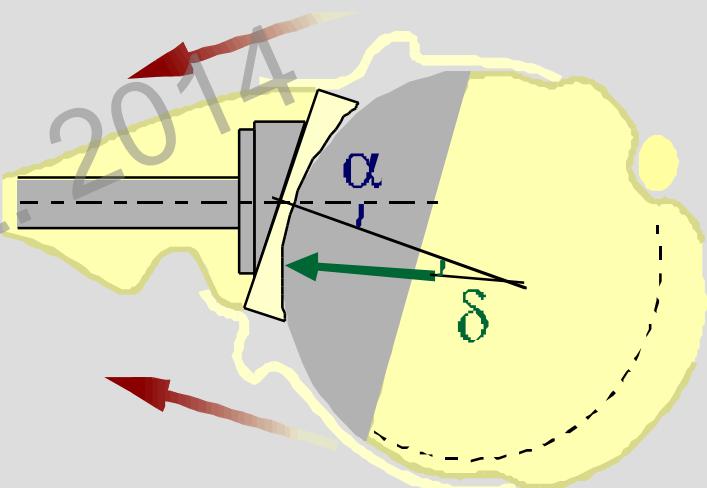
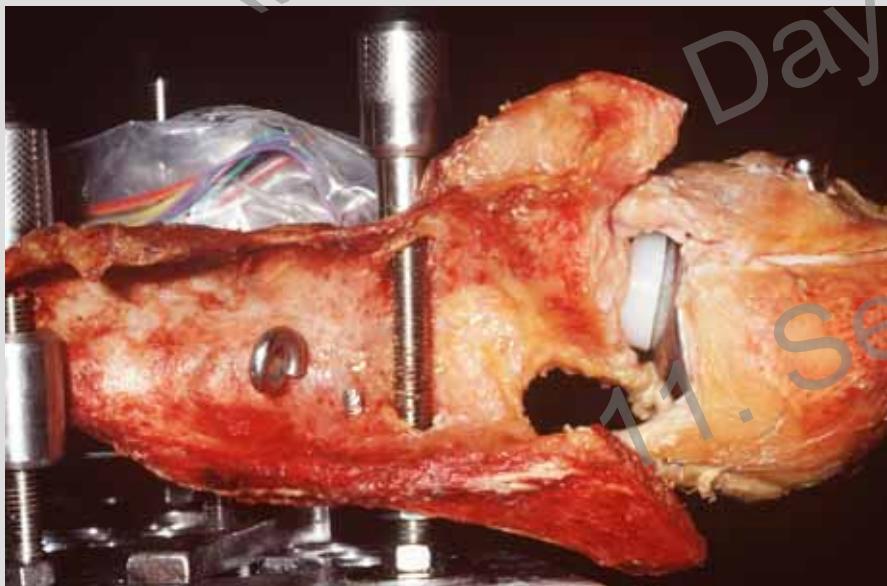
Hopkins et al. JSES 2004



**Figure 9** Percentage of cement mantle to have a greater than 95% probability of failure under cyclic loading: Superiorly inclined model.

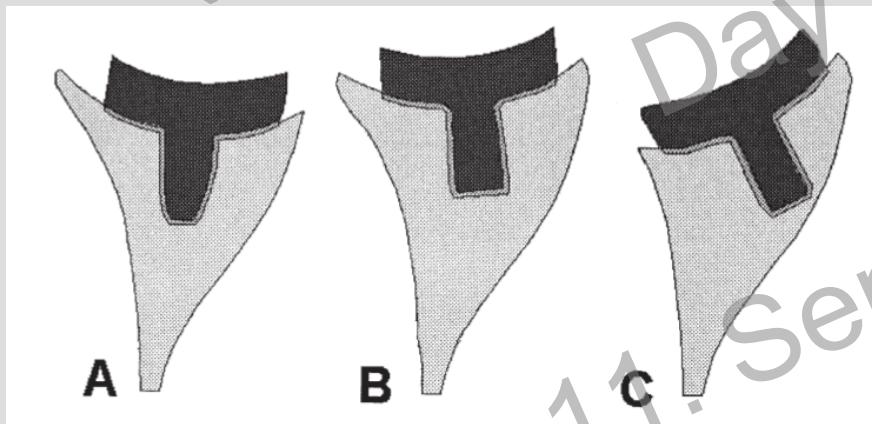
## Eccentric loading

abnormal glenoid version results in eccentric loading



## Eccentric loading

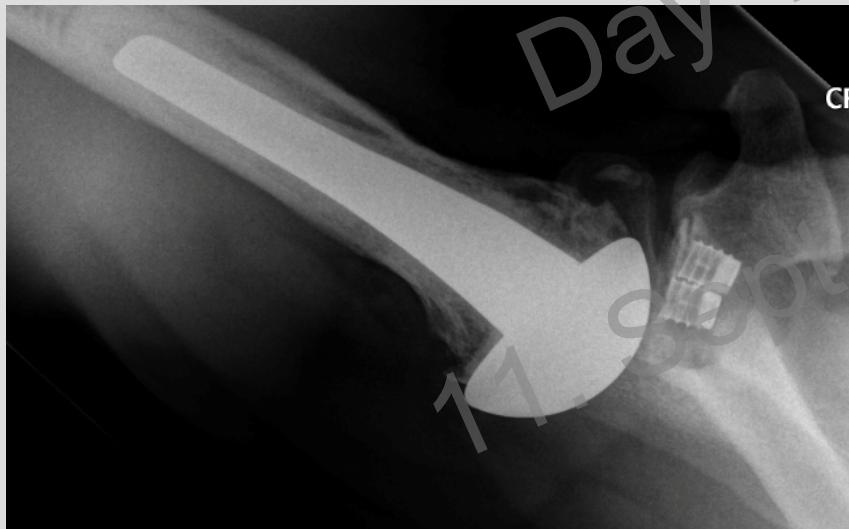
retroversion or anteversion increases the risk for mechanical failure of the cement mantle



Hopkins et al. JSES 2004

## Eccentric loading

retroversion or anteversion increases the risk for instability and eccentric polyethylene wear



## Results

good function can be expected if the center of rotation is restored and the rotator cuff preserved



## Reverse prosthesis

for old patients with cuff tear arthropathy (*Grammont, 1987*)



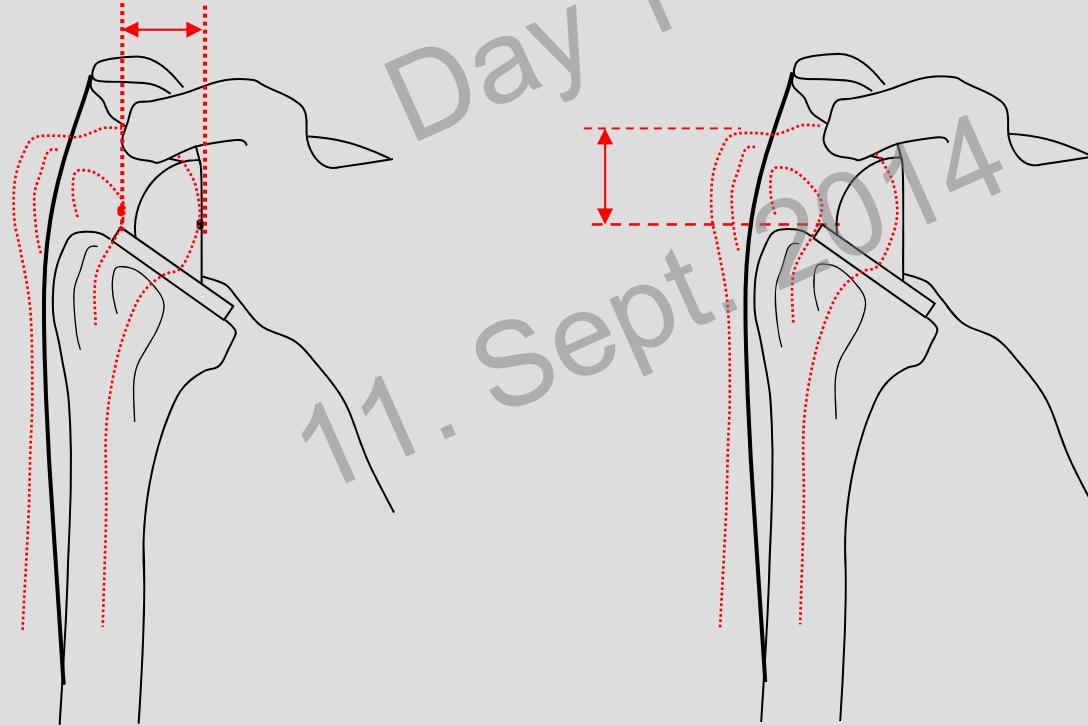
## Other indications for RSA

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2001 | rheumatoid arthritis<br><i>(Rittmeister et al.)</i>                 |
| 2001 | revision surgery for failed hemi or TSA<br><i>(De Wilde et al.)</i> |
| 2002 | tumor surgery<br><i>(De Wilde et al.)</i>                           |
| 2005 | pseudoparesis without osteoarthritis<br><i>(Werner et al.)</i>      |
| 2005 | fracture sequelae<br><i>(Boileau et al.)</i>                        |
| 2005 | acute fractures<br><i>(Cazeneuve et al.)</i>                        |

# Reverse shoulder arthroplasty

Medialization of the center of rotation

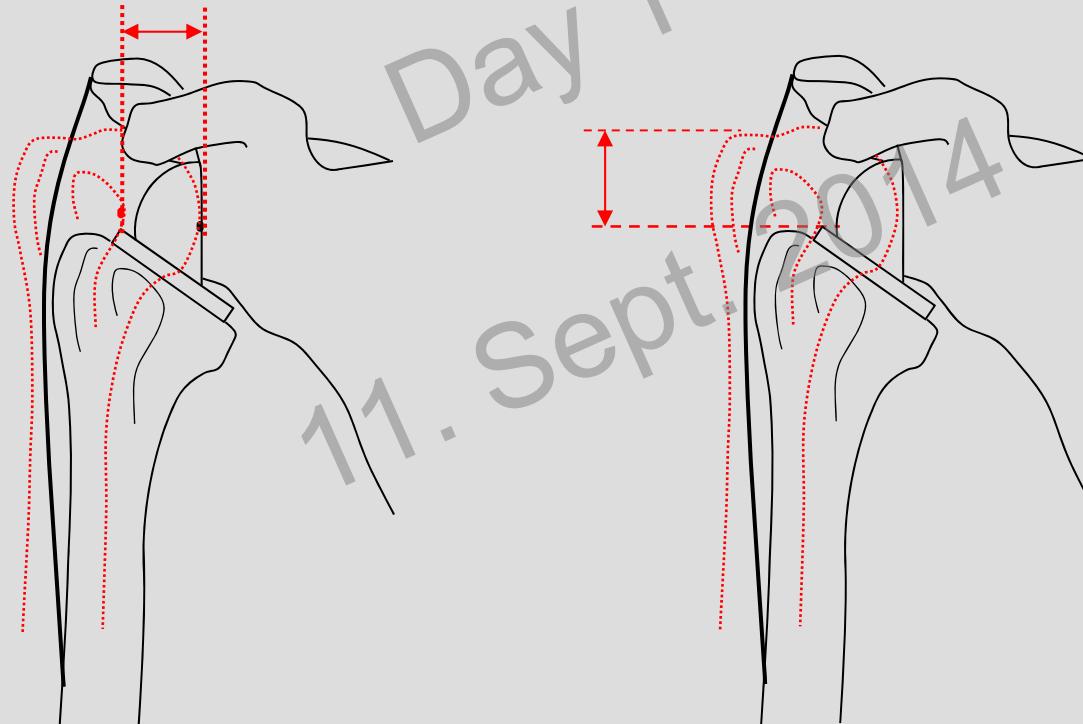
Distalization of the humerus



## Reverse shoulder arthroplasty

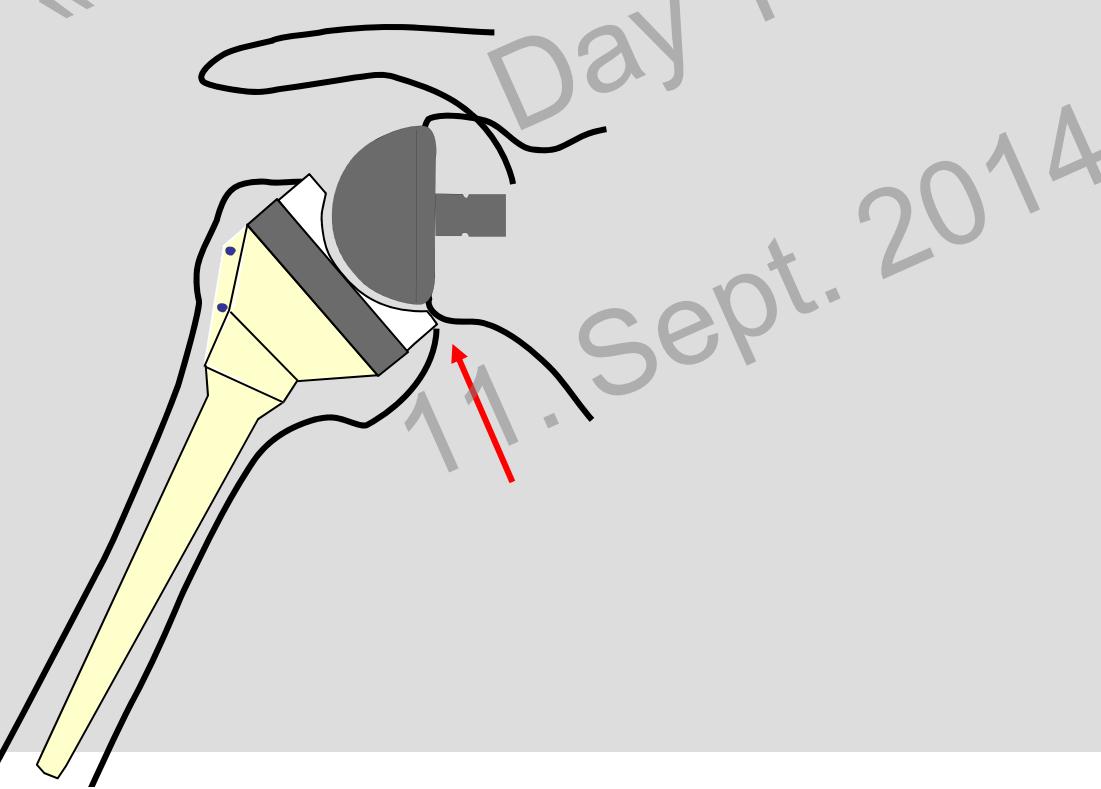
has implications on:

- range of motion
- lever arms and forces
- stability of the joint



## Range of motion

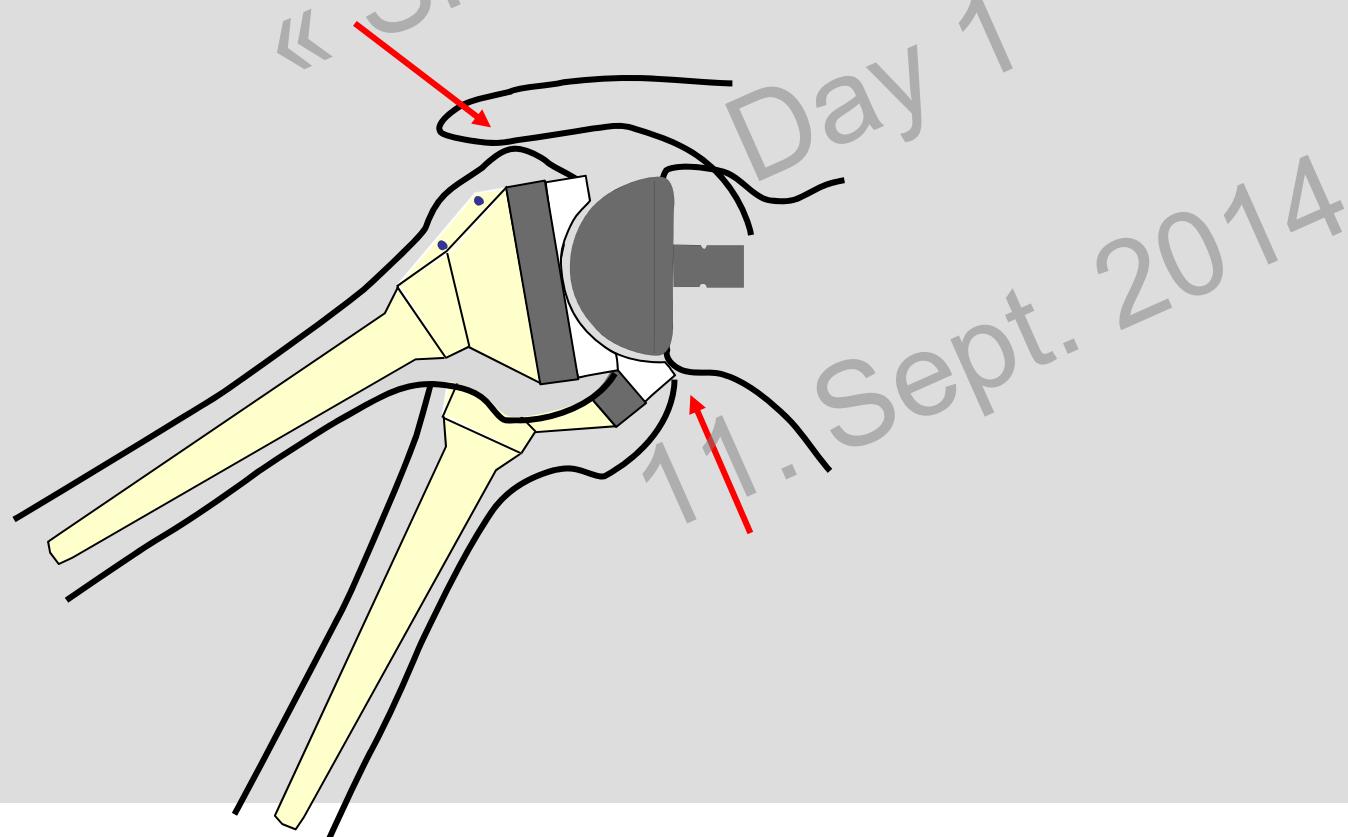
glenohumeral motion is limited by a contact between:  
the polyethylene cup and the glenoid neck in adduction



## Range of motion

glenohumeral motion is limited by a contact between:

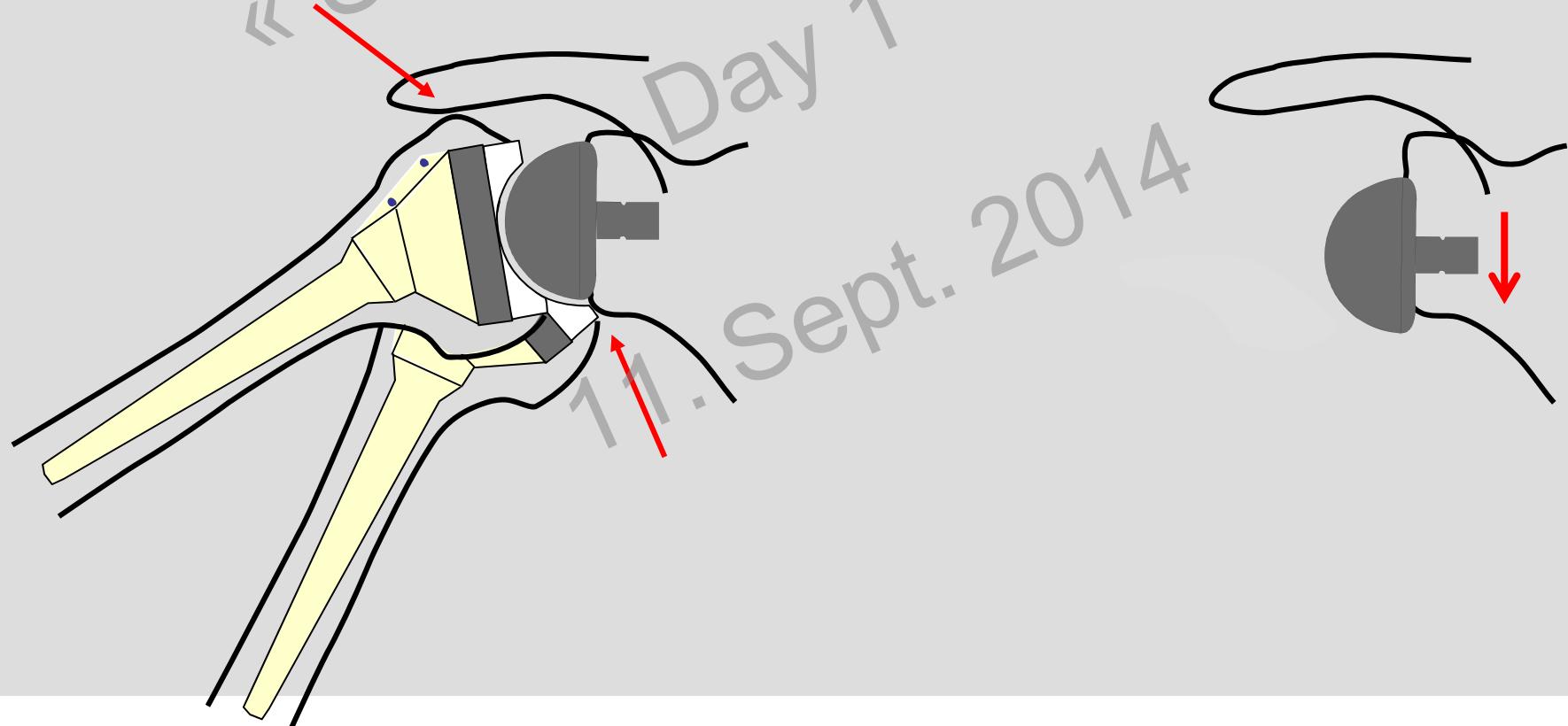
- the polyethylene cup and the glenoid neck in adduction
- the greater tuberosity and the acromion in abduction



## Range of motion

glenohumeral motion is limited by a contact between:

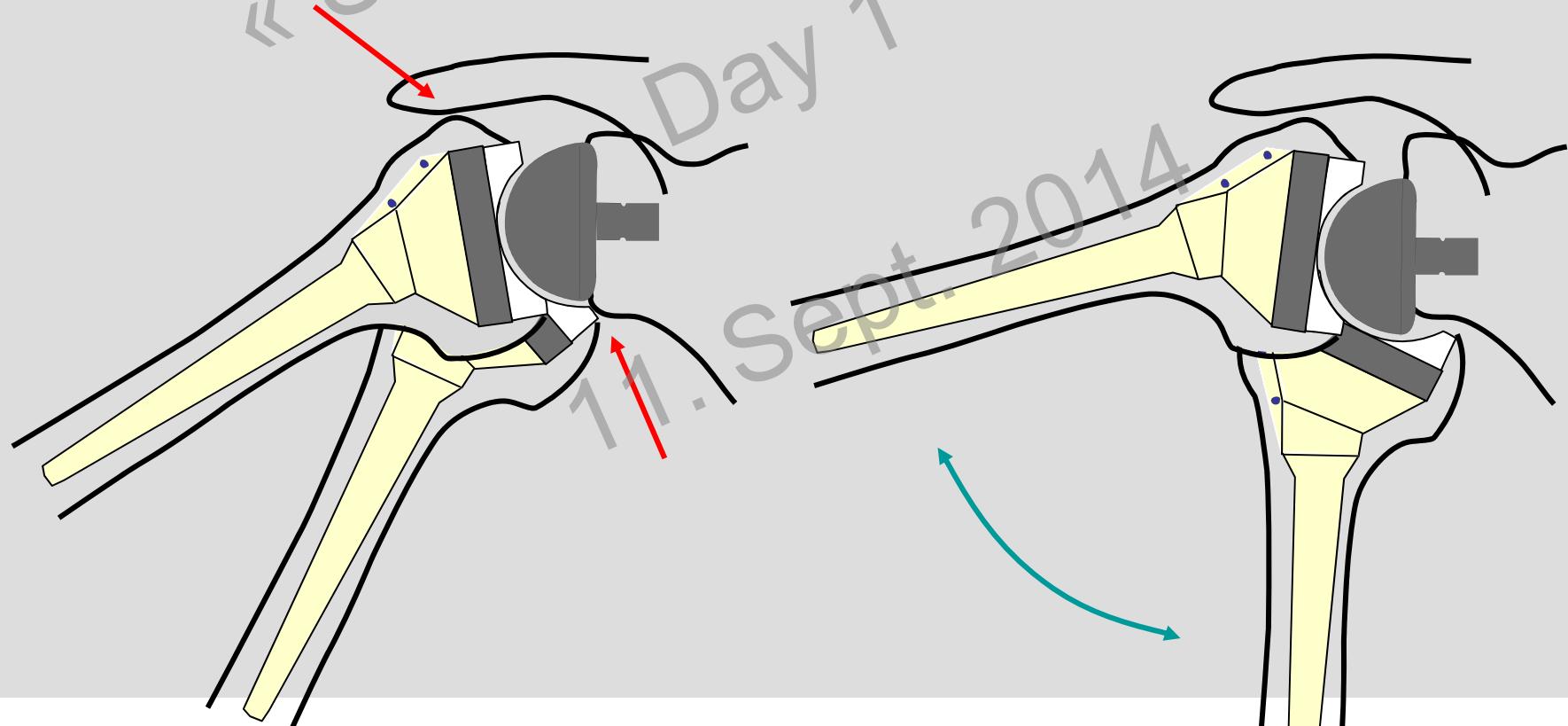
- the polyethylene cup and the glenoid neck in adduction
- the greater tuberosity and the acromion in abduction



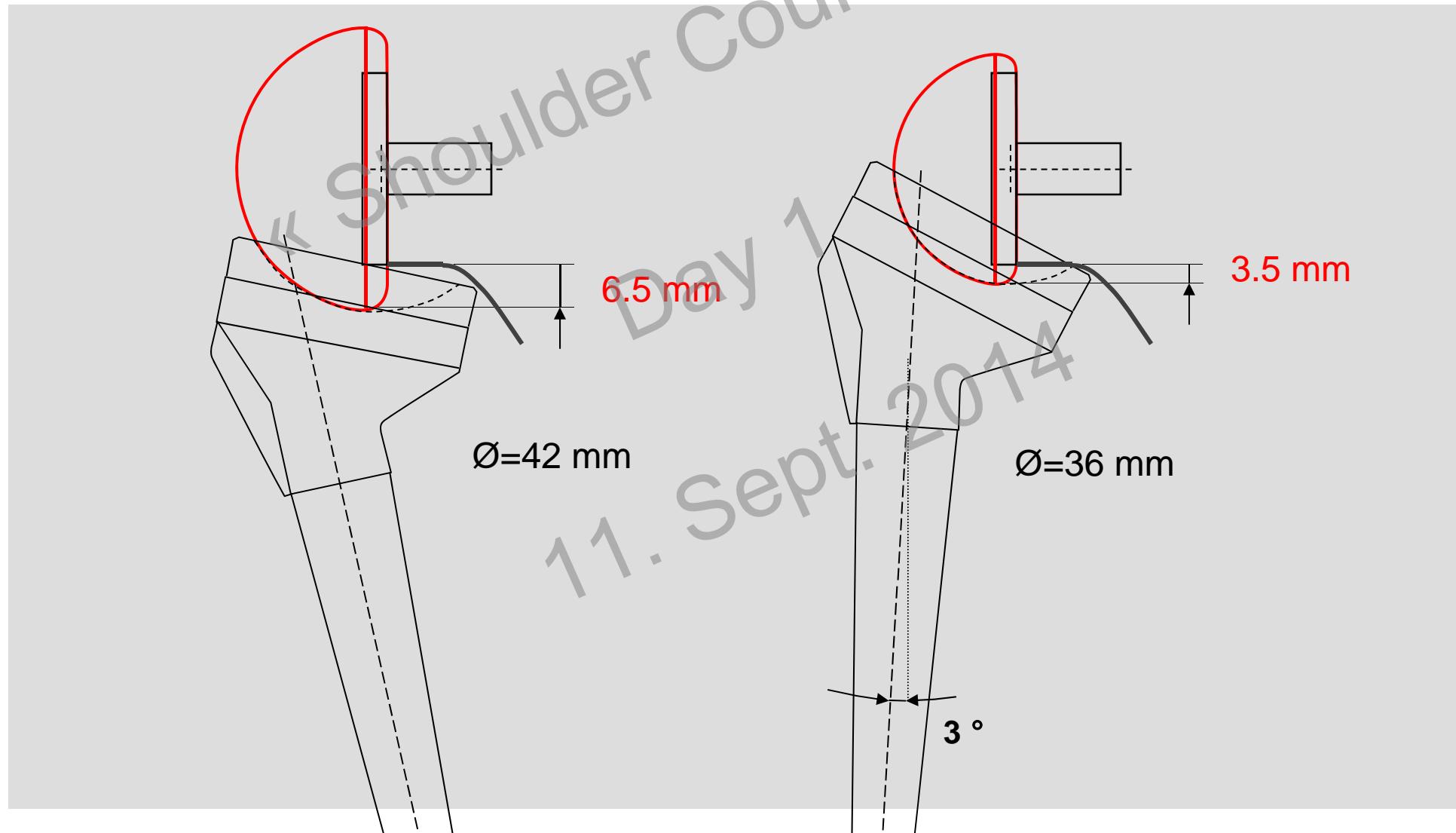
## Range of motion

glenohumeral motion is limited by a contact between:

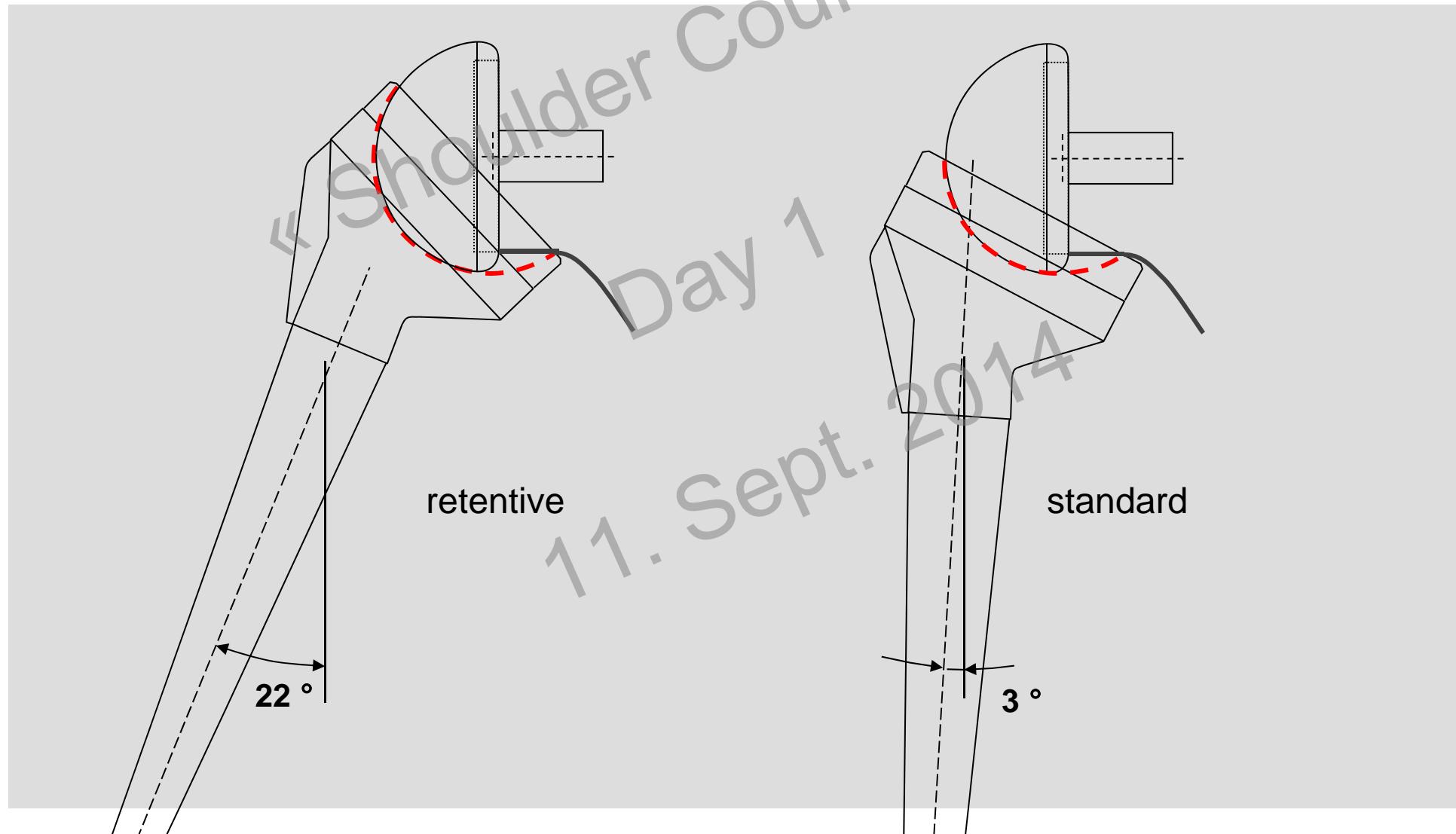
- the polyethylene cup and the glenoid neck in adduction
- the greater tuberosity and the acromion in abduction



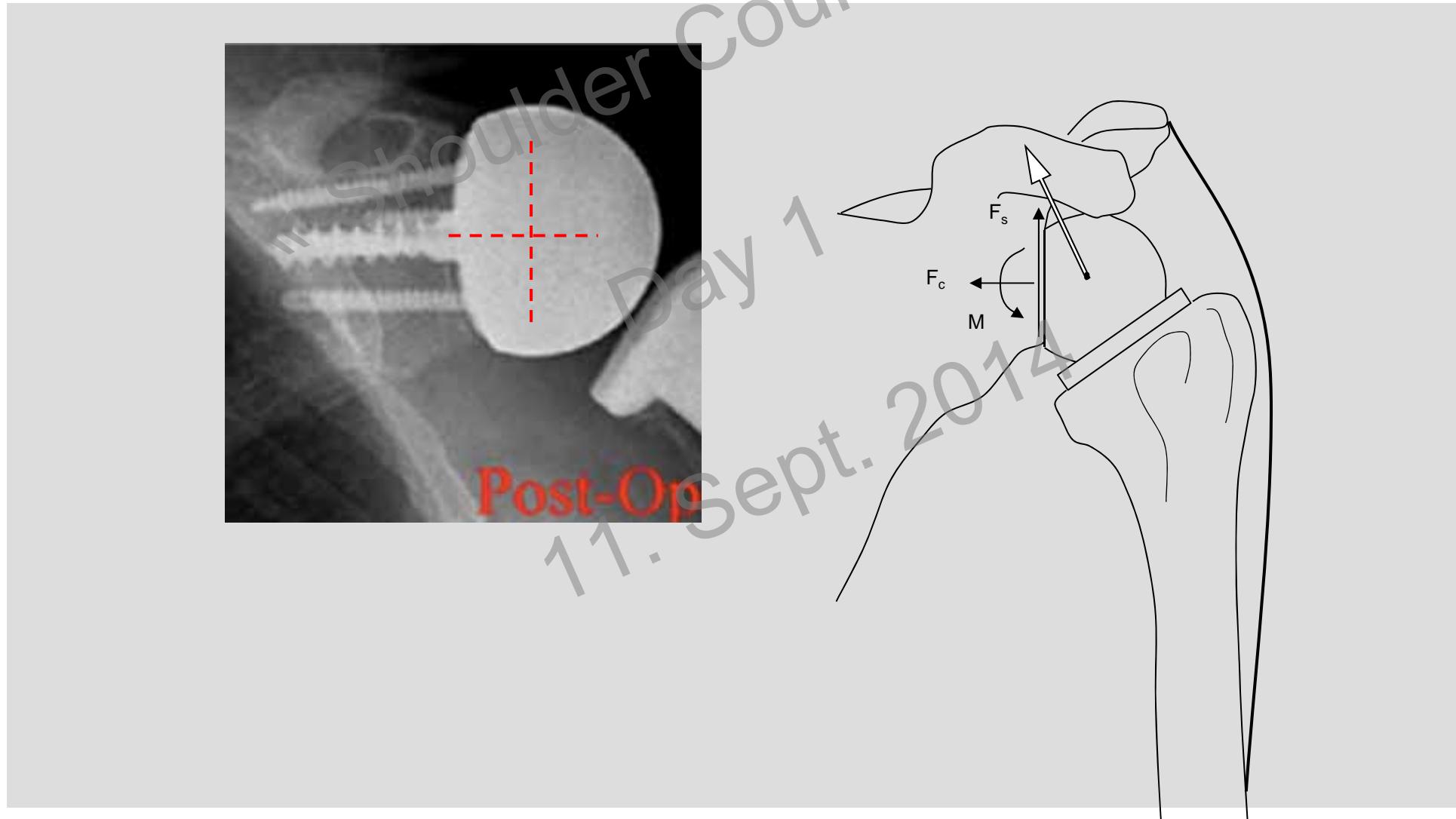
## Larger and eccentric glenospheres



## Depth of the cup



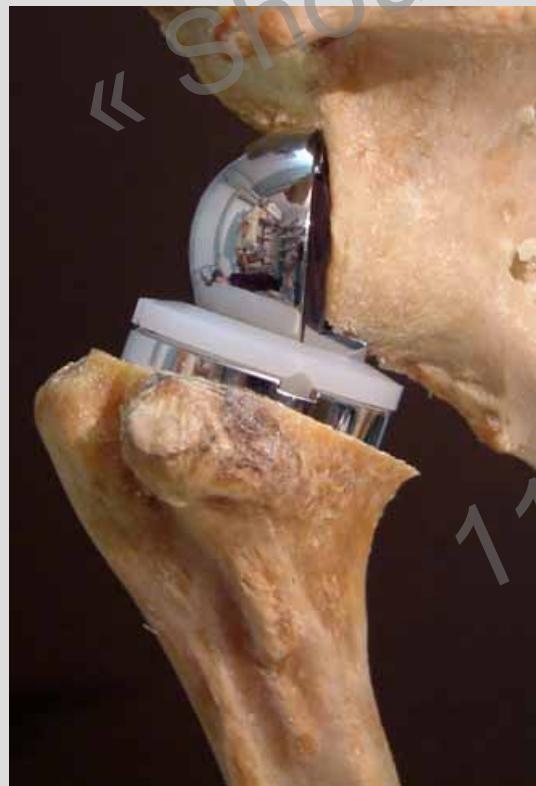
## Lateralisation of the center of rotation



## Lower neck-shaft angle

Duocentric 36mm

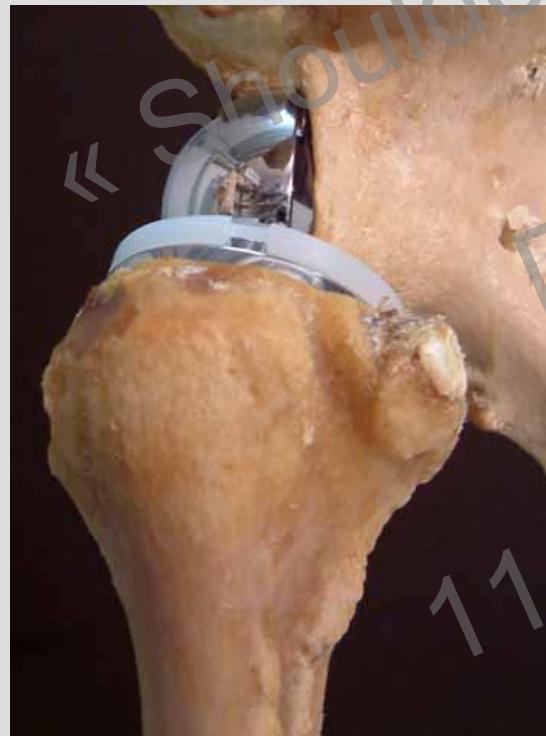
neck-shaft angle 145 °



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## Internal and external rotation

Duocentric



IR



ER

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## Internal and external rotation

Delta III geometry



IR



ER



scapular notch

## Scapular notching

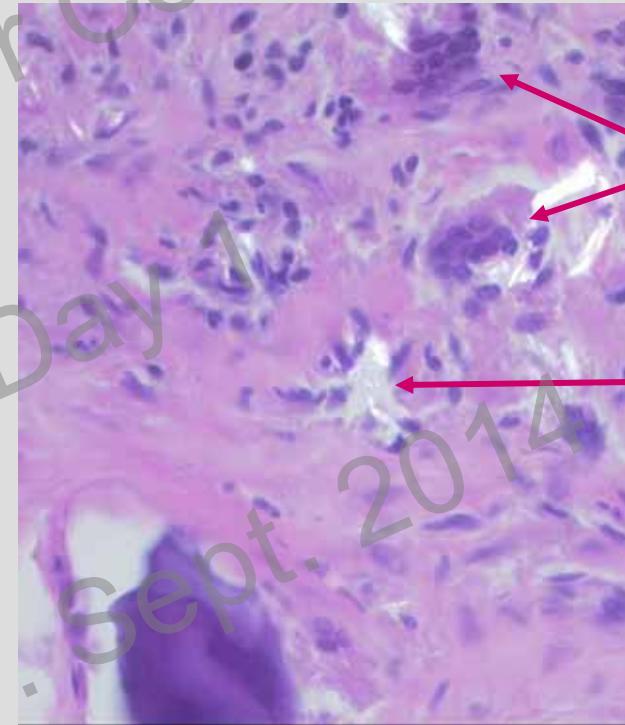


- mechanical conflict between PE-cup and scapular neck

## Consequences of notching



PE wear



chronic inflammation

foreign body  
giant cells

PE particles

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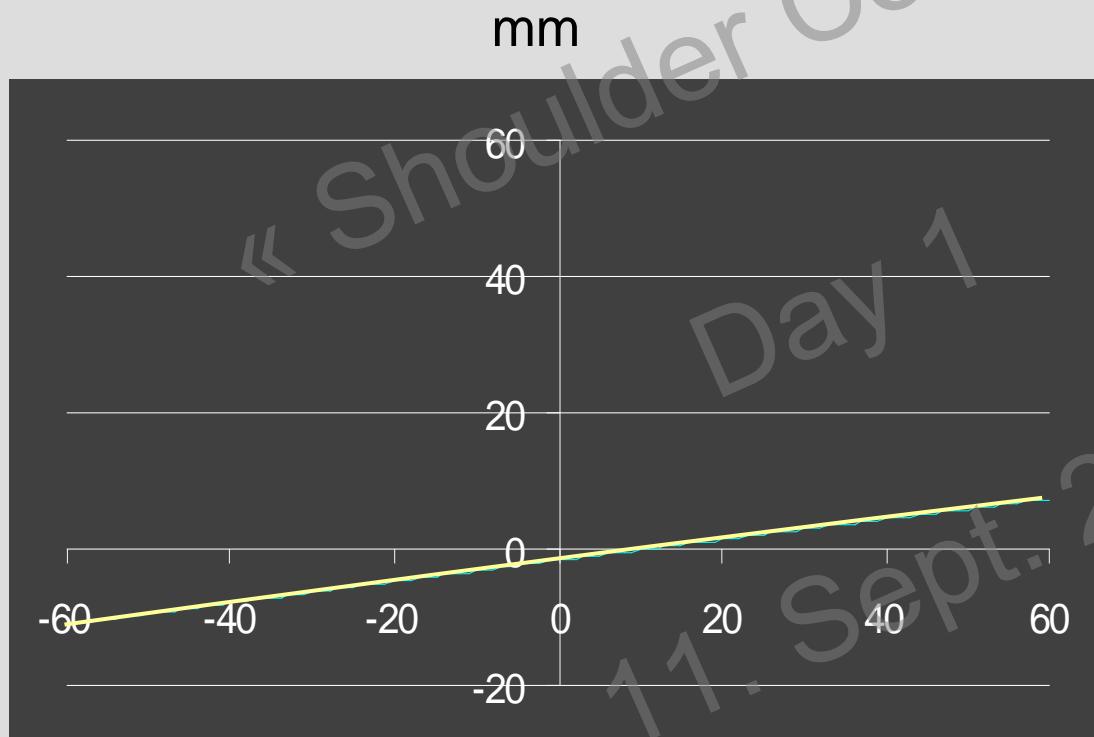
Nyffeler et al., JBJS-B, 2004

## External rotation weakness

ER lag despite a good passive range of motion

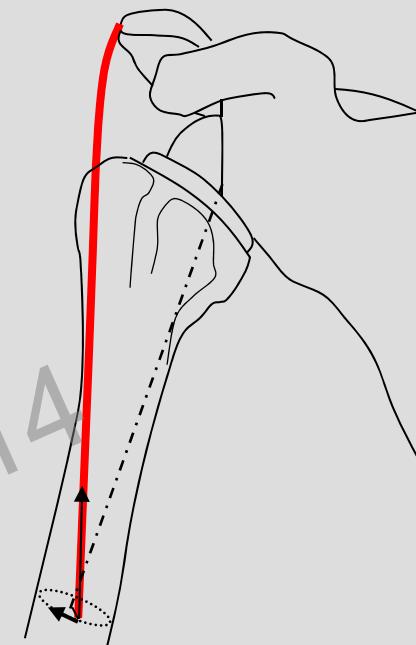
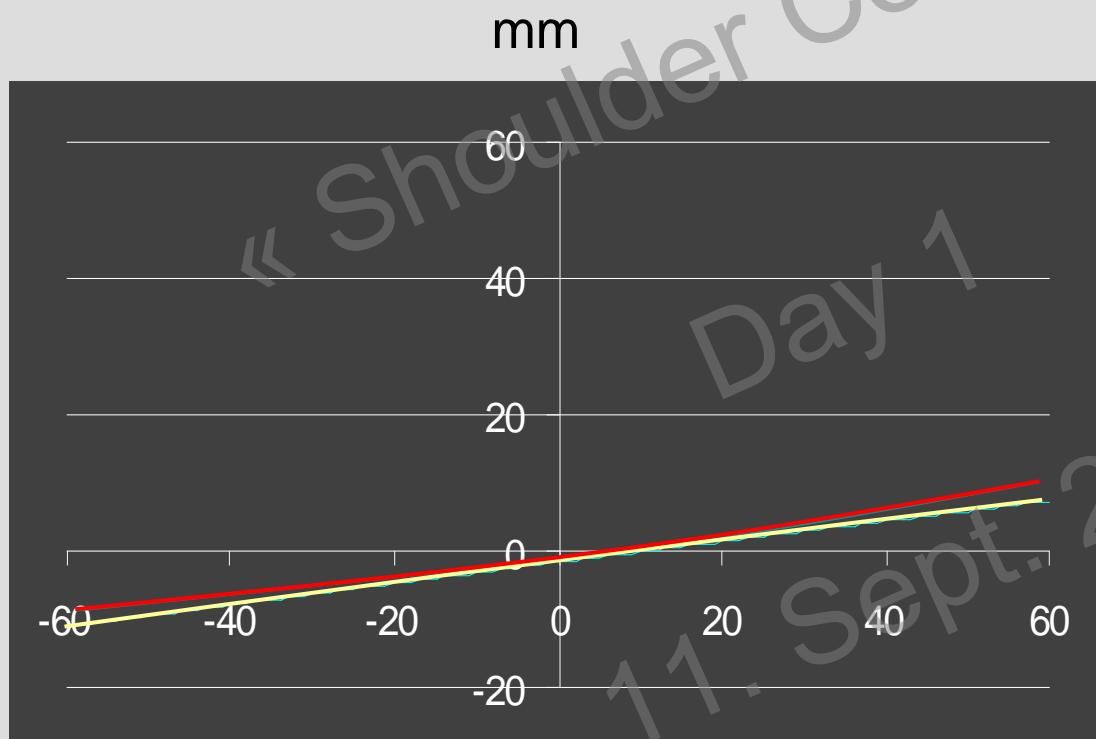


## Lever arm length for external rotation

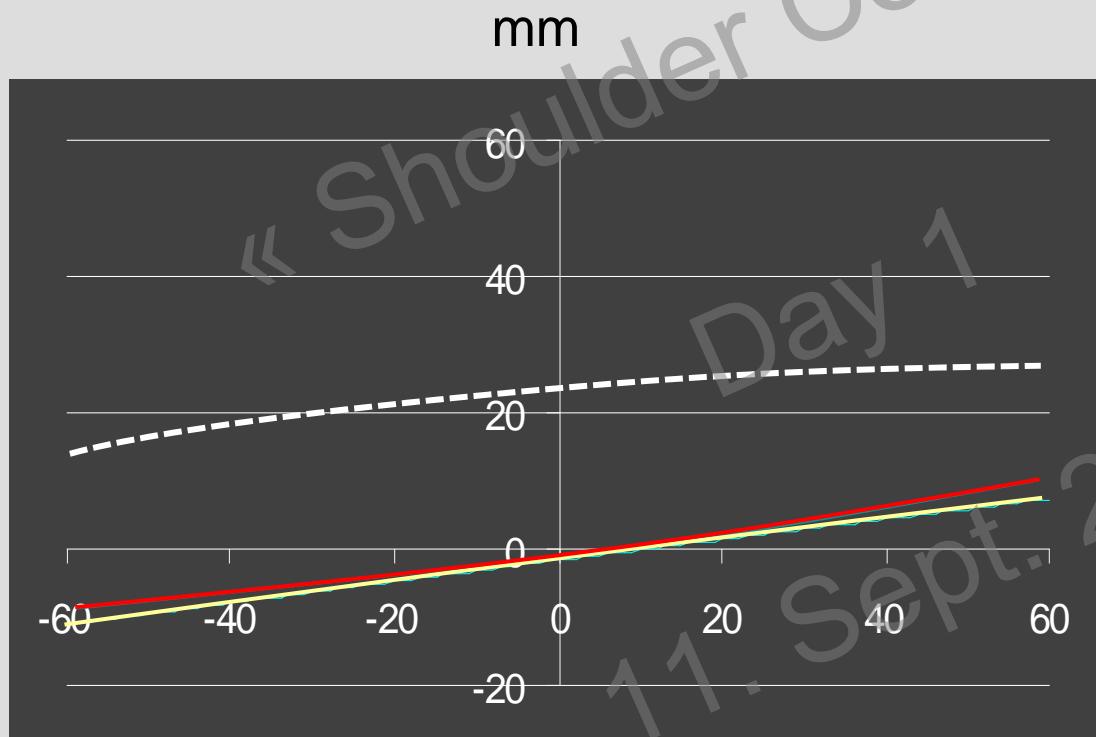


middle deltoid

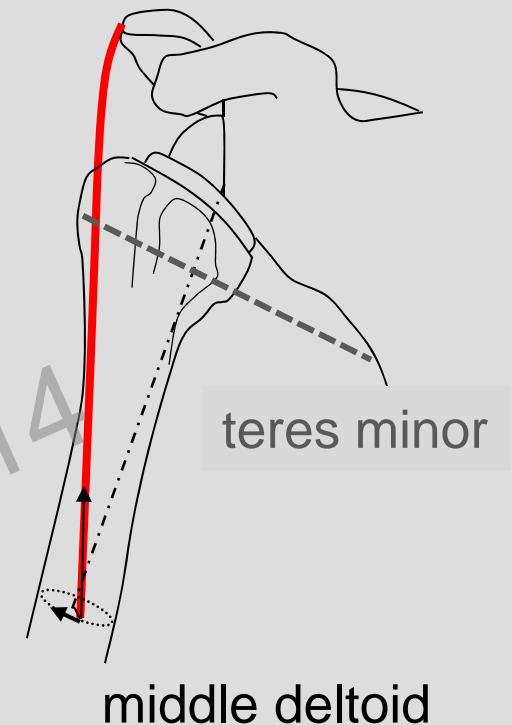
## Lever arm length for external rotation



## Lever arm length for external rotation



ER rotation angle (degrees)

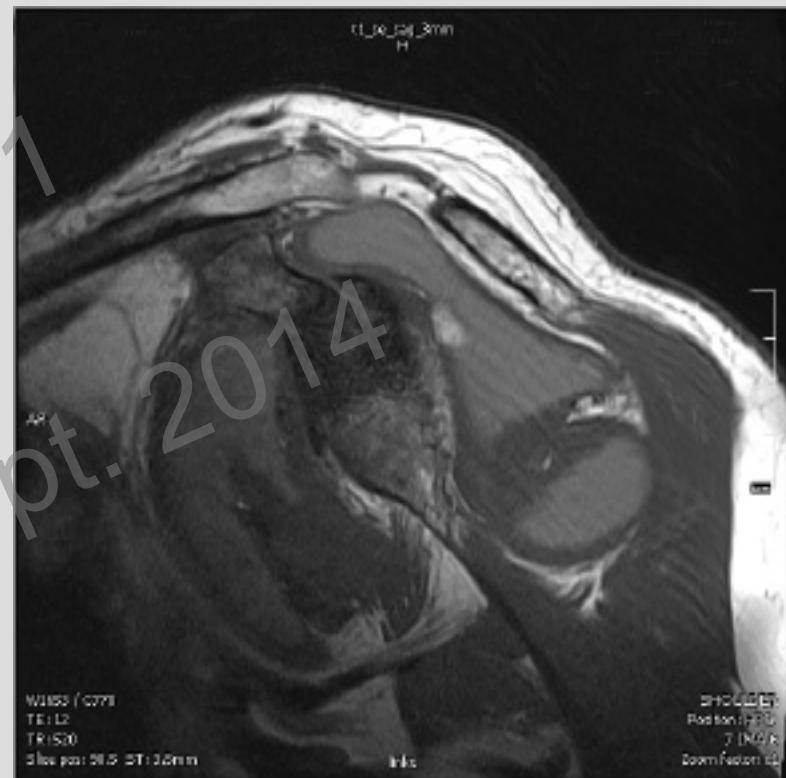


# RSA with Latissimus dorsi transfer

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## RSA with Latissimus dorsi transfer



## RSA with Latissimus dorsi transfer

cave!

the subscapularis tendon should be repaired after a latissimus dorsi / teres major transfer, otherwise internal rotation is poor



## Bilateral reverse prosthesis

is possible and gives good results with new generation RSA



74y old female with reversed prostheses in both shoulders

## Conclusions

Anatomical prostheses:

Restoration of the anatomical center of rotation, correct glenoid component orientation and stable fixation as well as a good rotator cuff are mandatory for a good function and a good long term result

## Conclusions

Reverse shoulder prostheses:

Inferior positioning of the glenosphere with sufficient overhang decreases the risk of notching and polyethylene wear and increases the range of motion

An additional latissimus dorsi transfer improves external rotation strength if the teres minor is weak

Difficult cases should be addressed to high volume surgeons