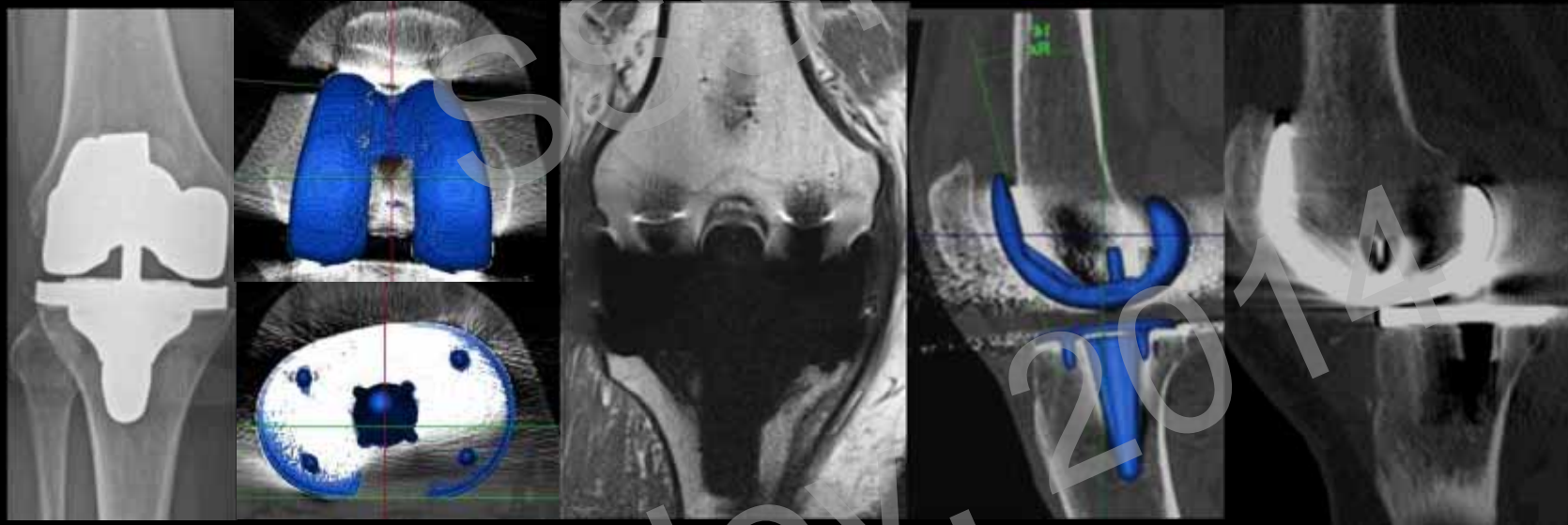


# Knee Prosthesis

## Postoperative Imaging



Anna Hirschmann, MD

Clinic of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine

University Hospital Basel

# Imaging Methods of TKA

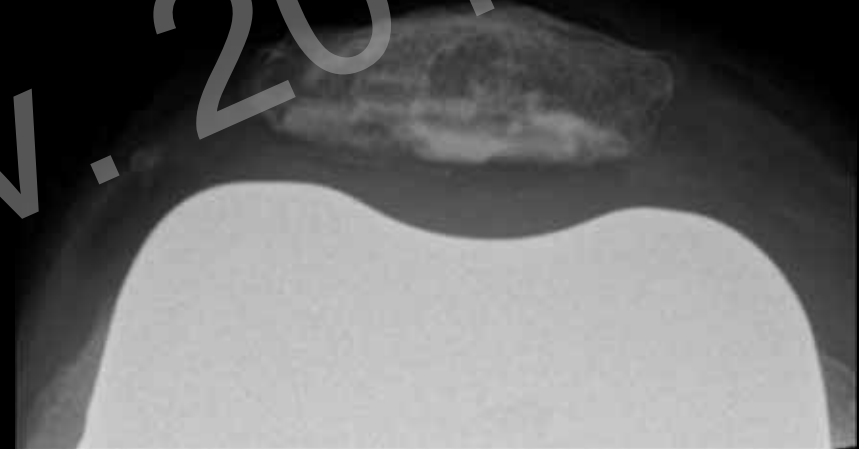
Radiographs: → size, position, osteolysis, fracture

- ap/lat WB and patella ax:

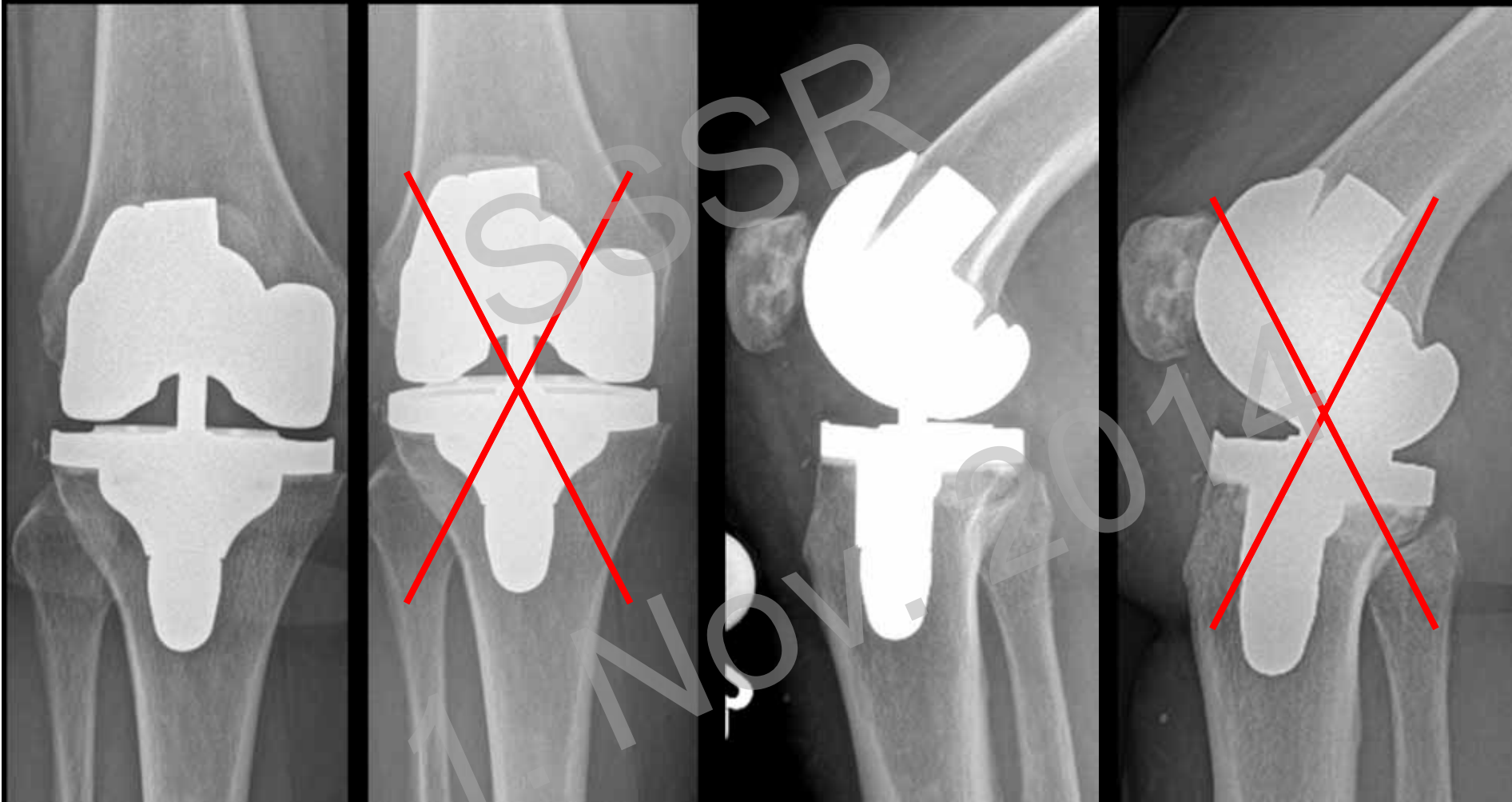


Detection of osteolysis:  
Sensitivity 17-56% X-ray  
>70% CT / MR

Important:  
Comparison with pre- and early  
postoperative X-rays!



# Imaging Methods of TKA - Quality



# Imaging Methods of TKA

## Radiographs:

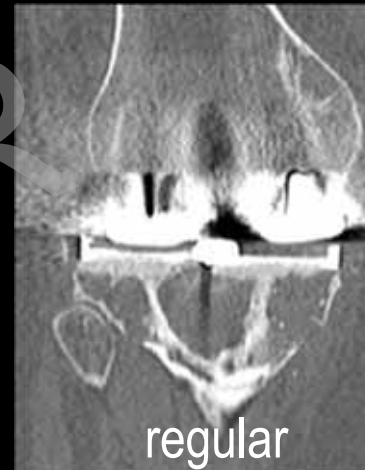
- Full-leg ap WB:
  - ➔ mechanical alignment
- Varus/valgus  $\pm$  ap stress views:
  - ➔ flexion/extension gap/ ap translation



# Imaging Methods of TKA

CT:  Osteolysis, position

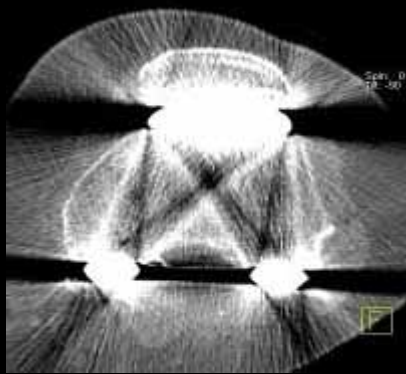
- Metal artifact reduced algorithm (DECT)
- Extended scale (max WL/WW)



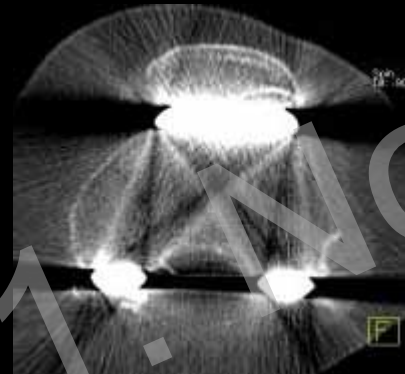
regular



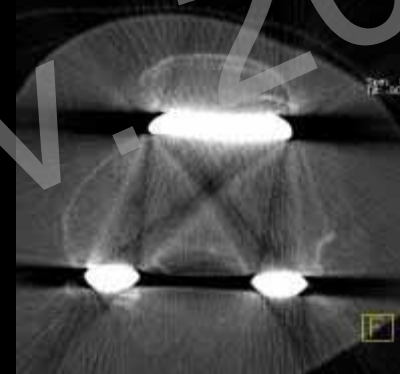
monoenergetic



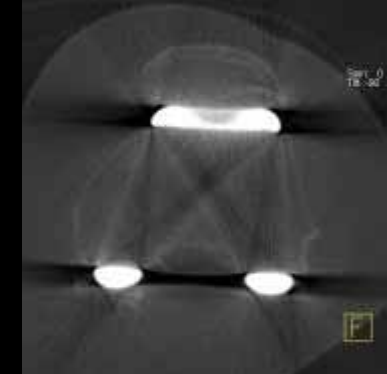
1200HU



4000 HU



6500 HU



14000 HU

# Imaging Methods of TKA - optional

MR:  osteolysis, edema, soft tissue

- Metal artifact reduced sequences (VAT, HBW, SEMAC)



SPECT/CT:

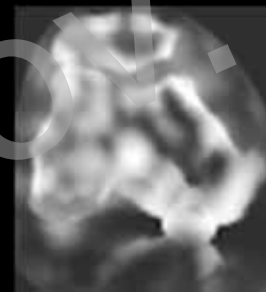
- Bone tracer uptake: loosening, infection
- Marked increase BTU < 1 y po



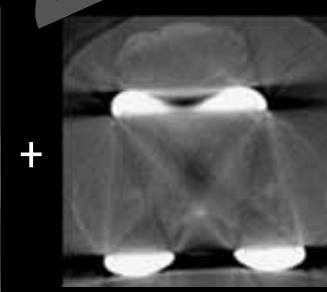
Triple phase knee



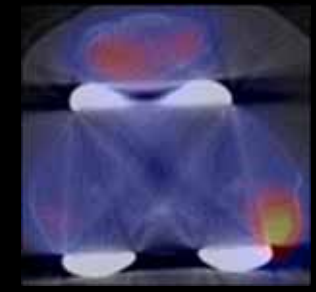
Whole body



SPECT



CT



SPECT/CT

# SPECT/CT Imaging

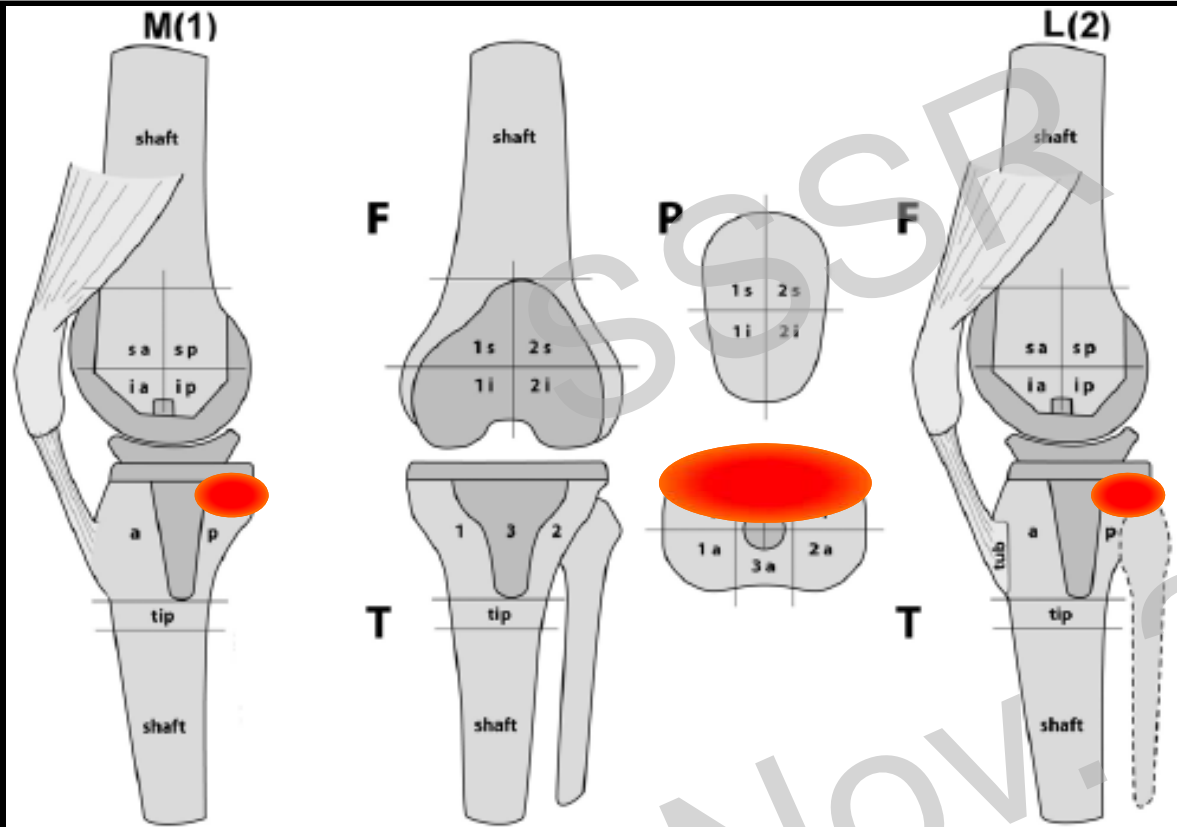


Figure 1 The previously published and used SPECT/CT classification system. (Reprint permission from Journal KSSTA, Springer).

Normal BTU  
due to remodeling!



Higher tibial slope =  BTU

# SPECT/CT Imaging

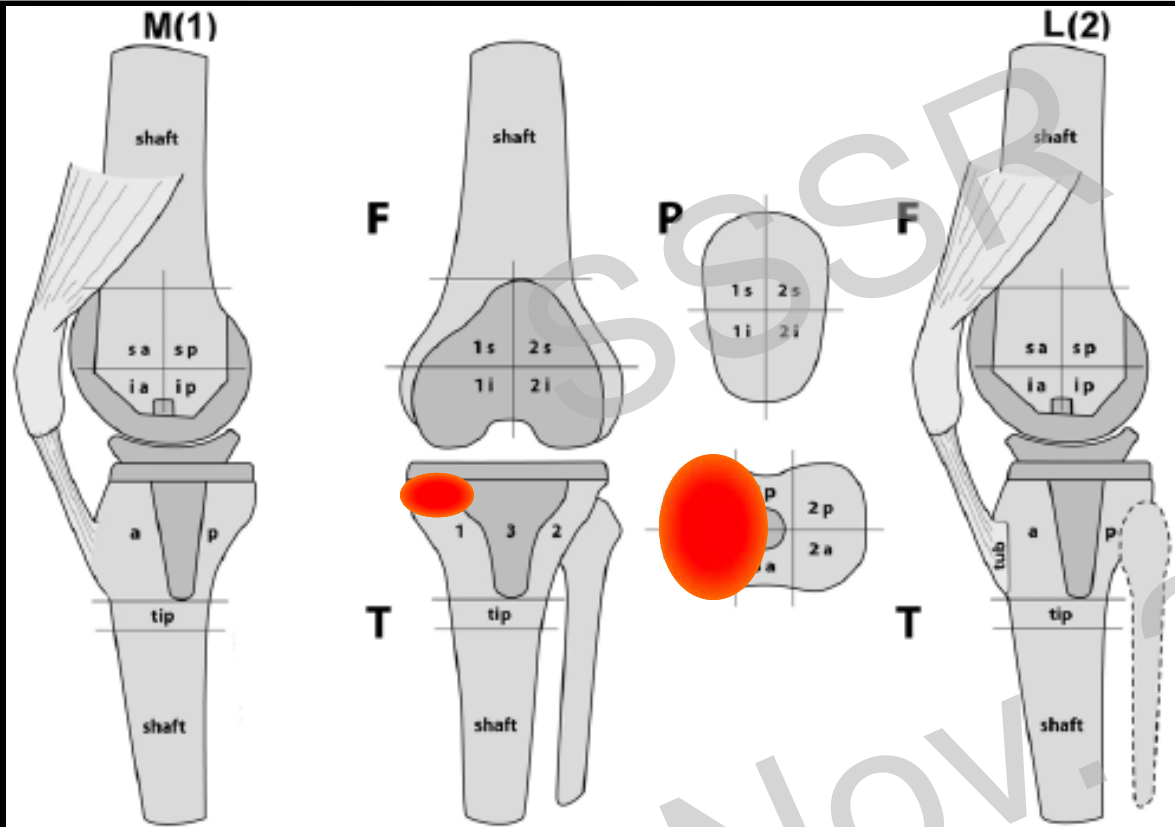


Figure 1 The previously published and used SPECT/CT classification system. (Reprint permission from Journal KSSTA, Springer).

Normal BTU  
due to remodeling!

Tibial varus / leg axis in varus =  BTU



# SPECT/CT Imaging

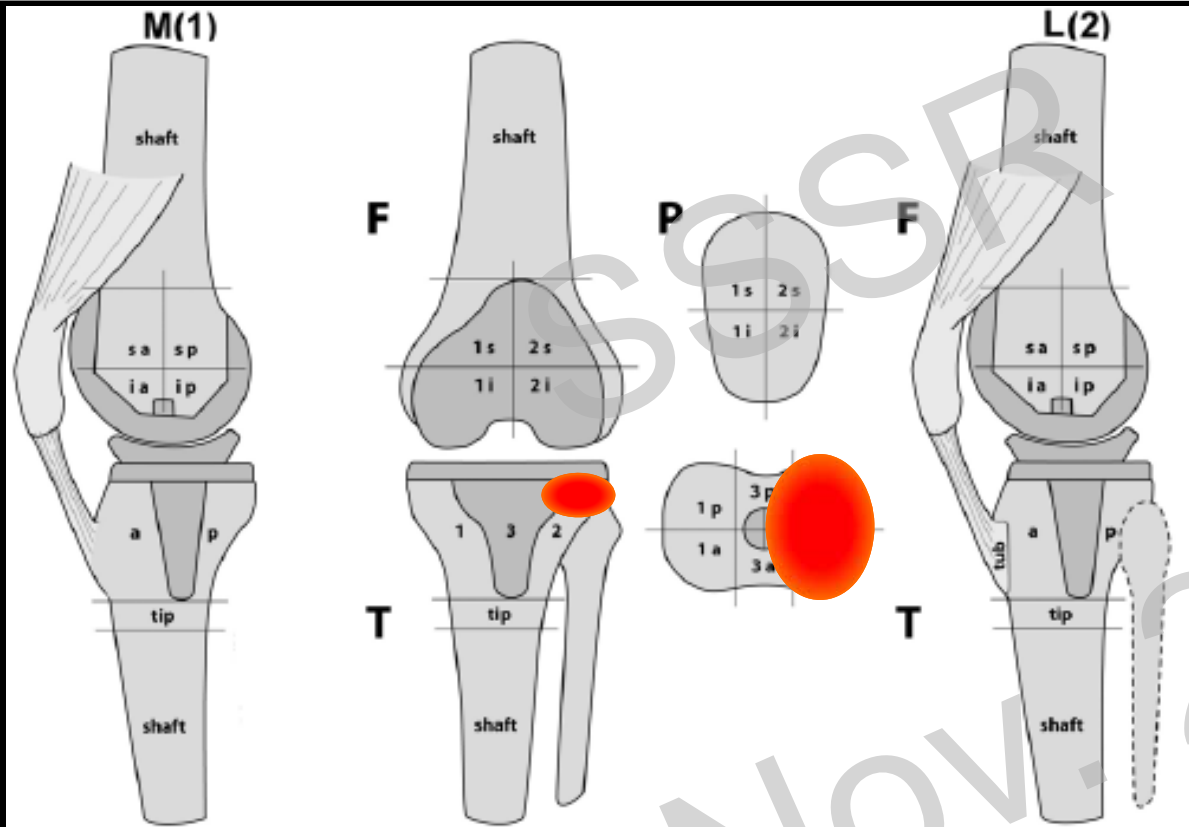


Figure 1 The previously published and used SPECT/CT classification system. (Reprint permission from Journal KSSTA, Springer).

Normal BTU  
due to remodeling!

Tibial valgus / leg axis in valgus = ↑ BTU

# SPECT/CT Imaging

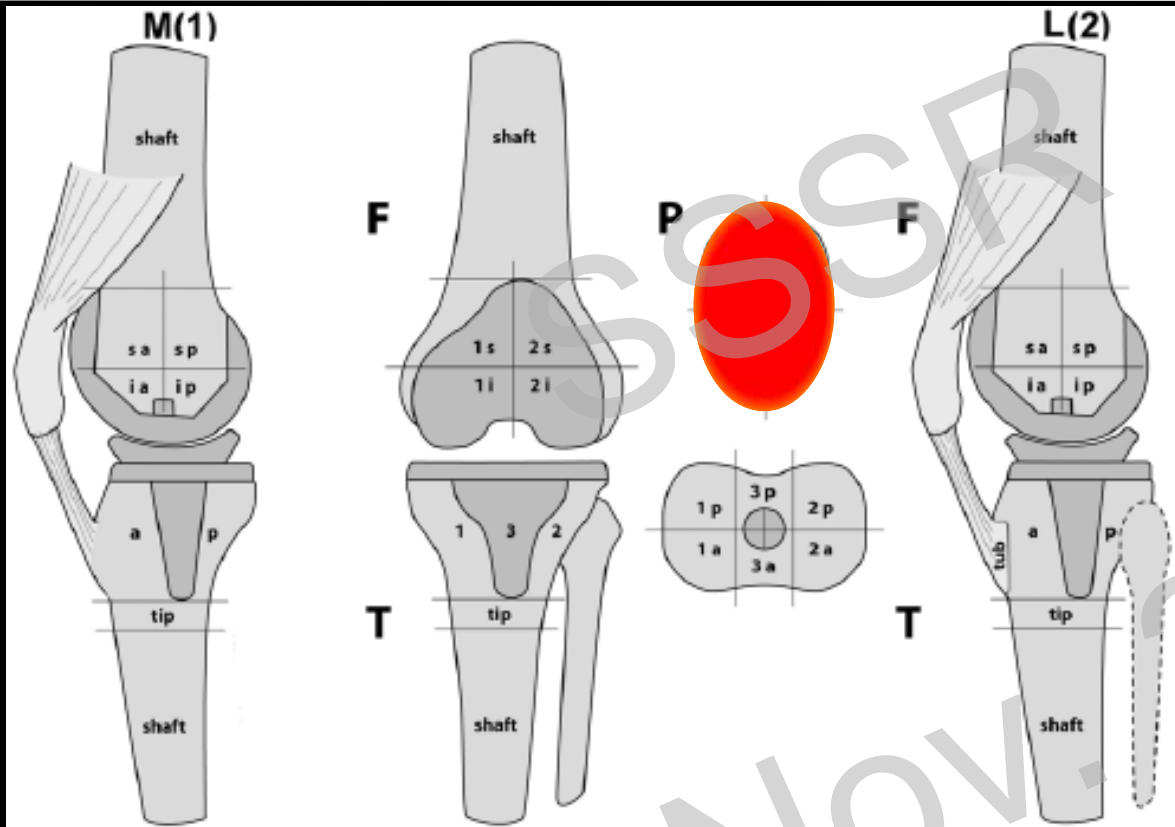
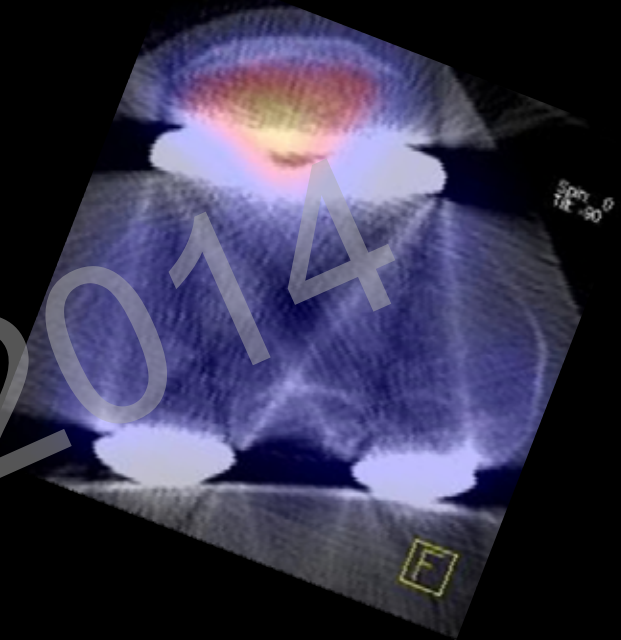


Figure 1 The previously published and used SPECT/CT classification system. (Reprint permission from Journal KSSTA, Springer).

Normal BTU  
due to remodeling!



„Hot patella“ = BTU entire patella, no relation to TKA position

# Failure of TKA

- 20% not satisfied/not painfree

## Causes:

- Infection
- Instability
- Malposition/-sizing
- Loosening/Wear > 2 years after TKA
- Patellofemoral Problems
- Extensor mechanism failure



# Infection

- 2-38% prevalence, mainly acute (< 3 mths)
- Rx not sensitive nor specific (73% normal)
- Tc-labeled white blood cells

	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV
Tc WBC	87.5	77	58
Tc WBC+ 24 h delayed images	100	82	67
Tc bone scan	100	5	28

BUT: normal bone scan 95% negative PV for excluding infection

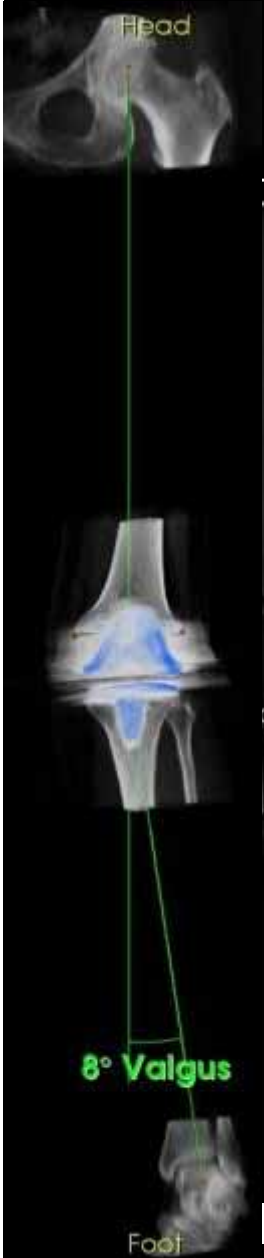
# Instability



F, 81 yo. 5 ya primary CR TKA due to varus OA  
Persistent pain medial / instability climbing stairs

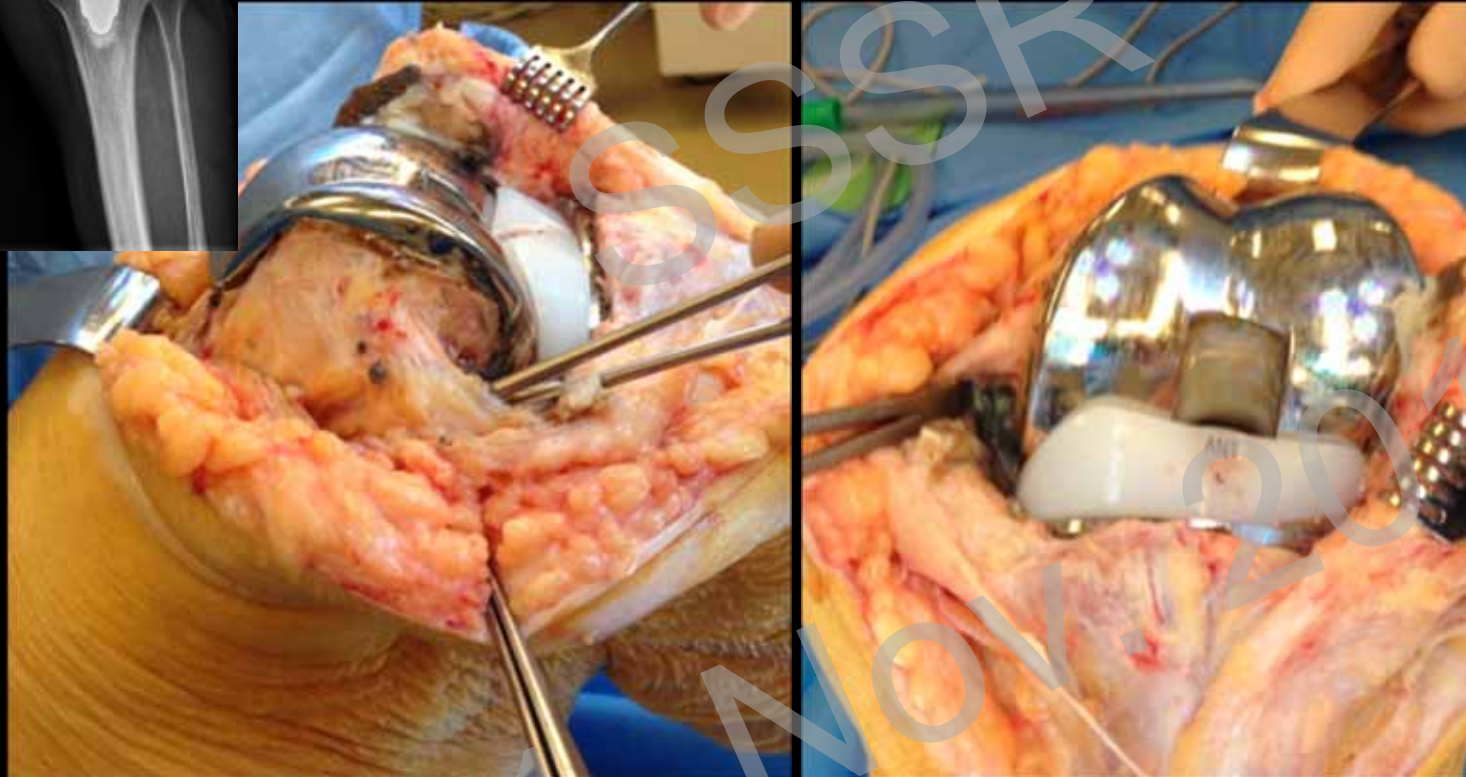


# Instability



Increased medial JS = Valgus laxity

# Instability

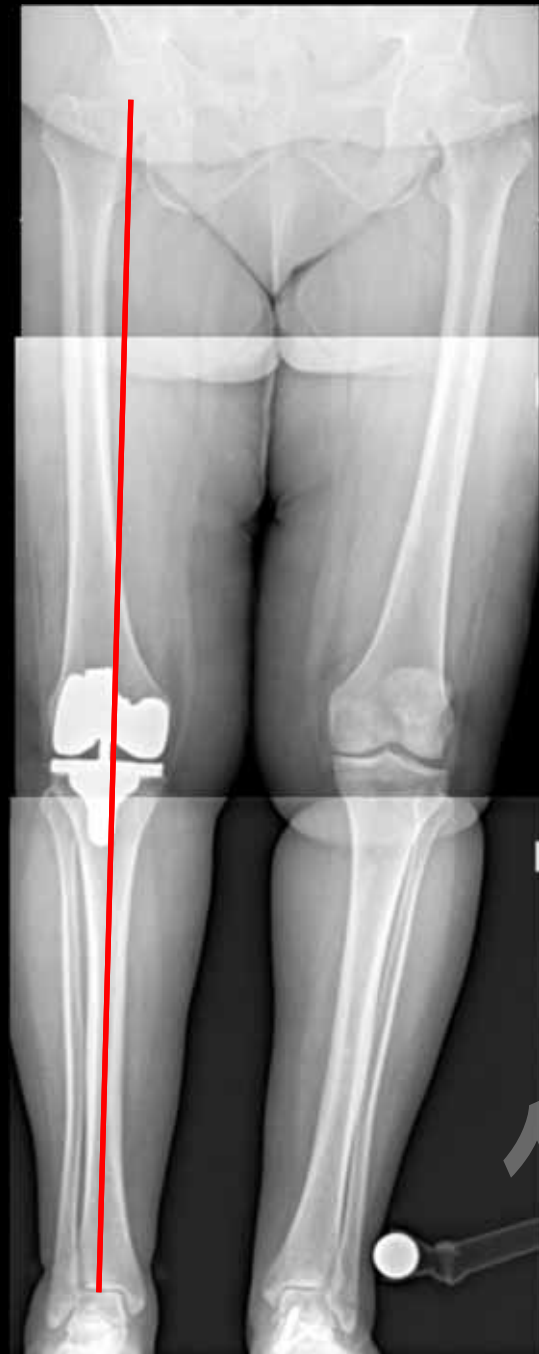


Medial ligament insufficiency after previous intraoperative repair

Rotating Hinge TKA

# Malposition/Malsizing

Goal: proper tension and balancing



Tibial varus



Normal tibial component alignment



Posterior Offset



# Malposition

Cruciate retaining prosthesis



High posterior tibial slope

Posterior stabilized prosthesis

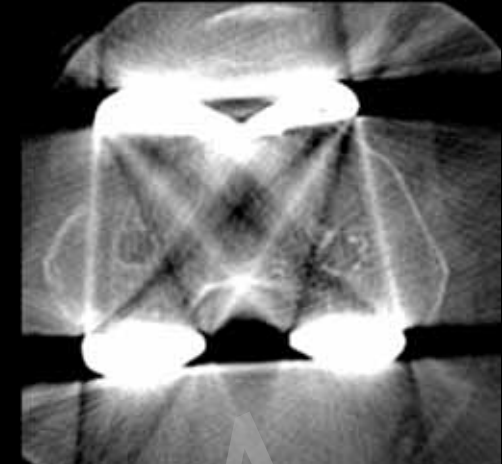
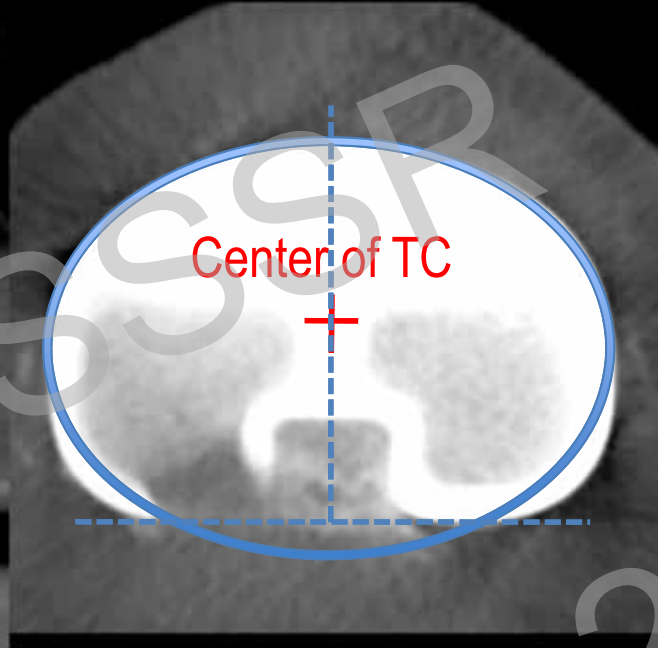
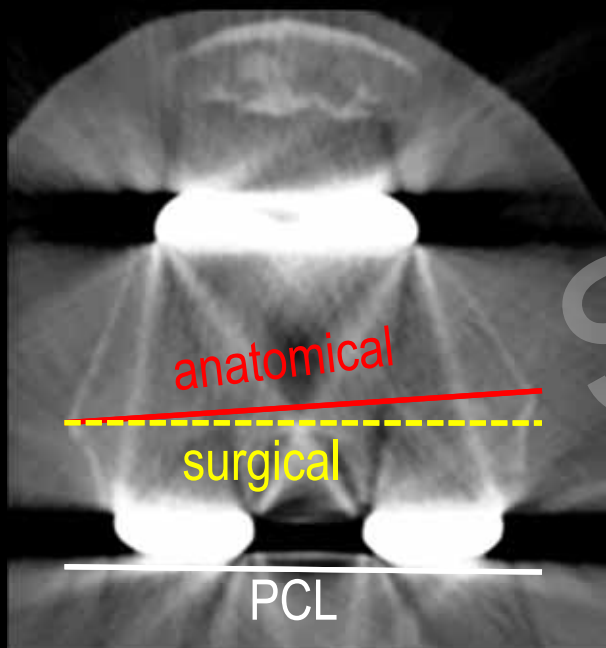


Normal:  
0-3° posterior tibial slope (PS)/as  
preoperative (CR)

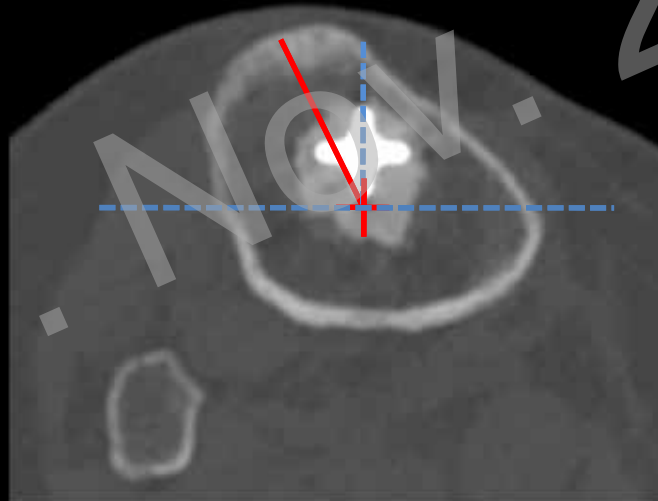


Anterior tibial slope

# Malposition

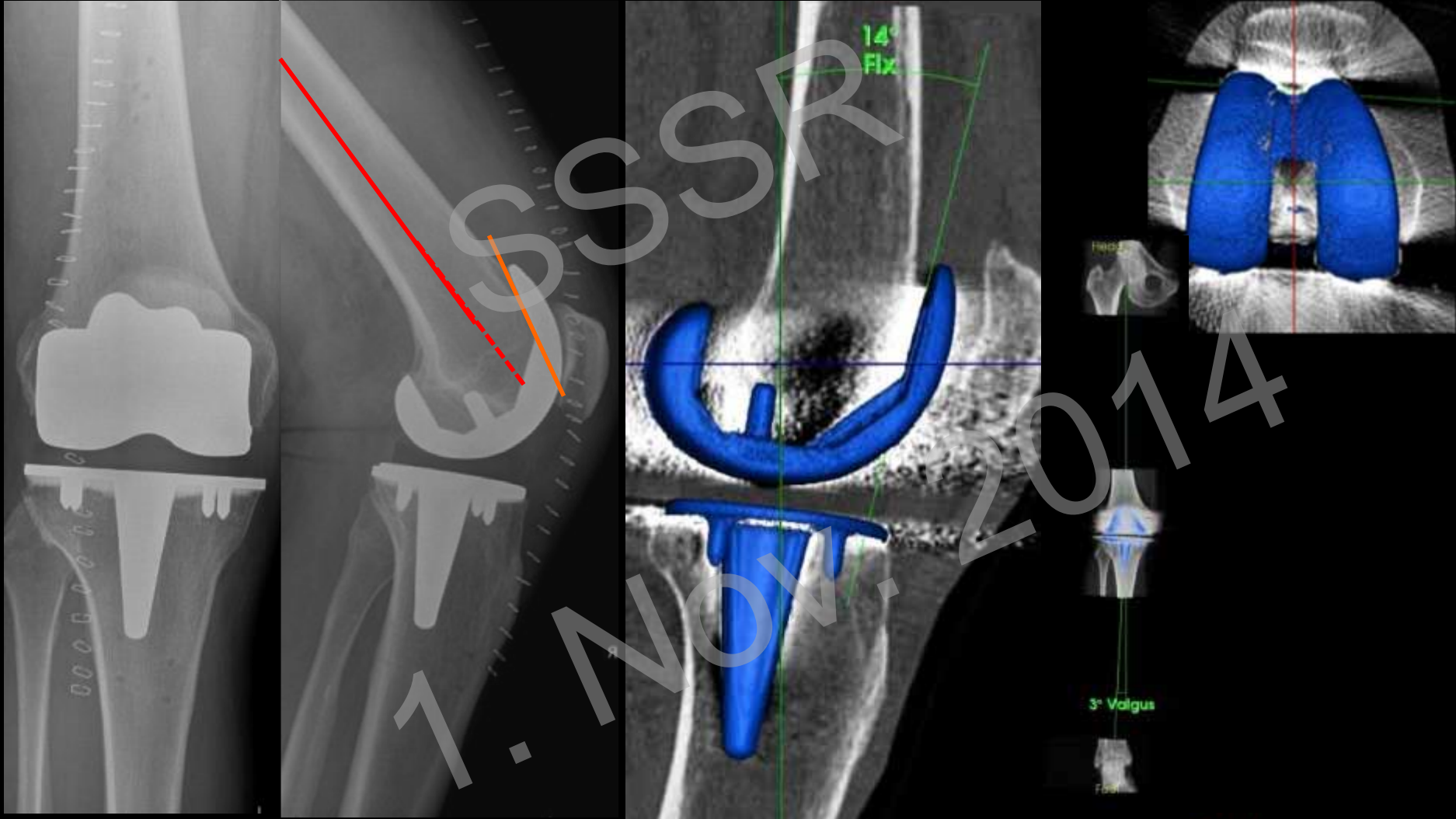


Normal values  
Posterior condylar line to  
epicondylar axis:  
0° (surgical)  
3° internal rotation (anatom)

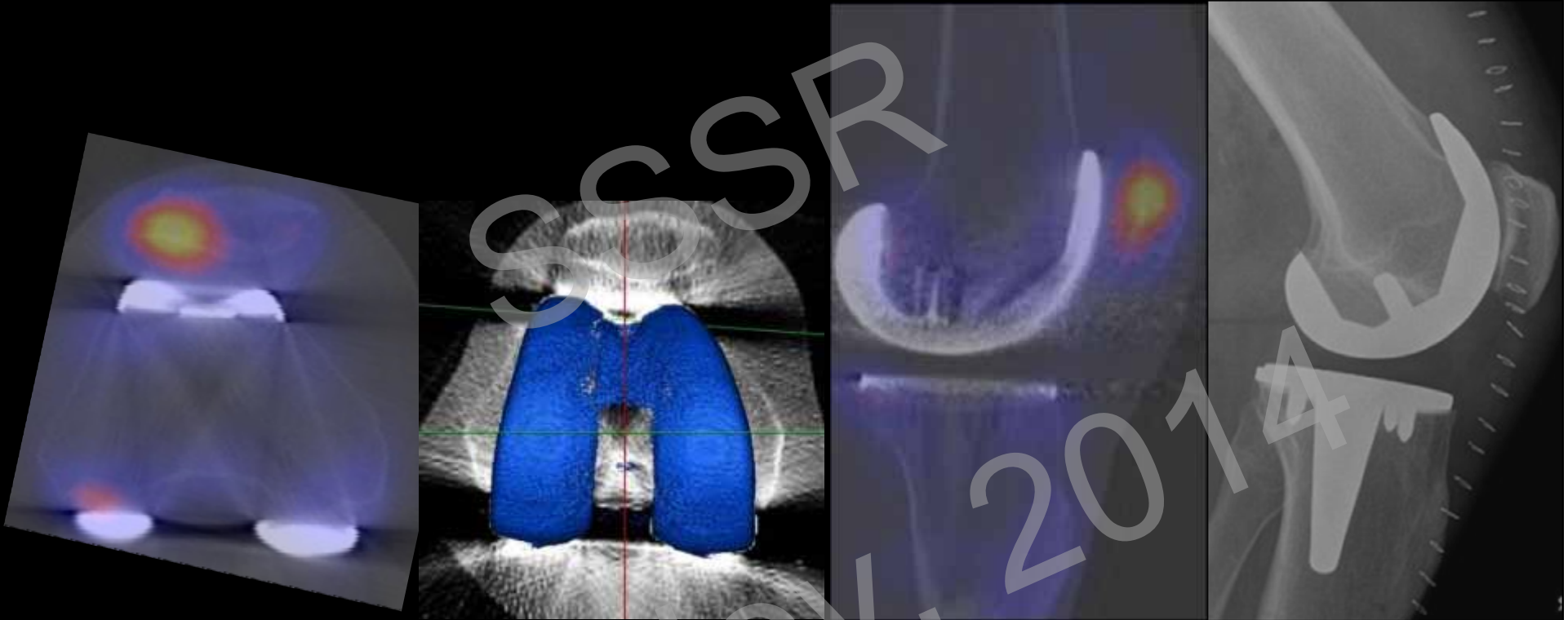


Normal value:  
18° ± 2.6° internal rotation  
of tibial component (TC) to  
tibial tuberosity

# Malposition

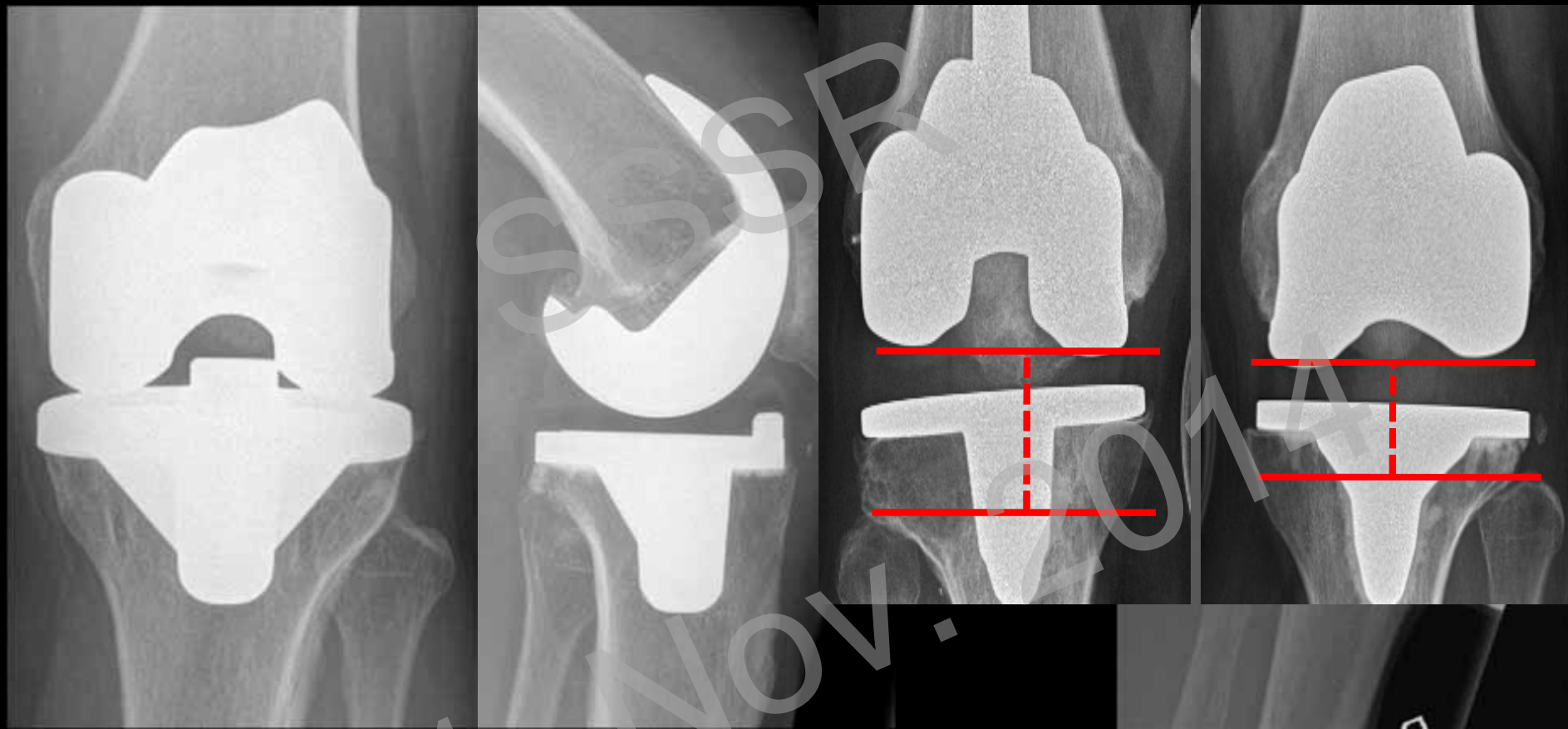


# Malposition



Patellofemoral overloading in unresurfaced patella due to internally rotated and flexed femoral TKA component

# Malposition

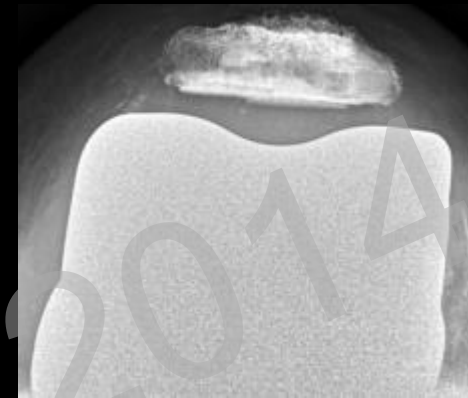


- Elevated joint line
- Pseudopatella baja

Normal joint line

# Patellofemoral Complications

- Position of patella (thumb-rule patella height same way as to the tibia plateau)
- Ap thickness patella+PE = native patella  $\geq$  PF Overstuffing



Normal: no tilting

PF Instability:

- IR of component
- Overstuffing (stress lat retinaculum)

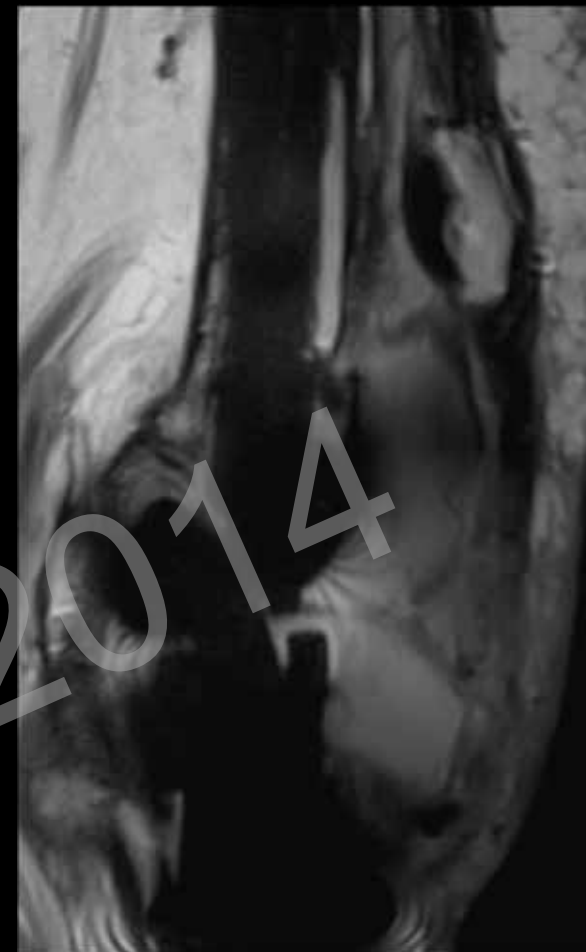
# Patellofemoral Complications



Patella baja



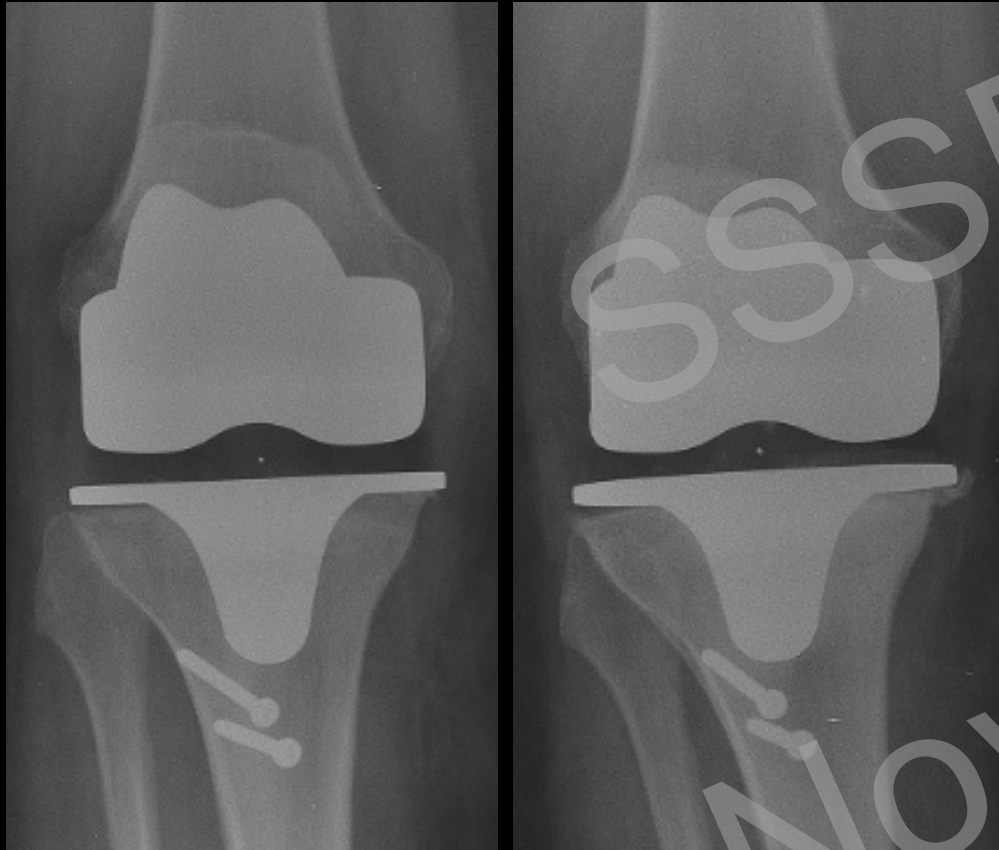
Patella alta after revision



Patella tendon rupture

Rupture of patella tendon > quadriceps tendon

# Aseptic Loosening



Normal:

Lucency  $< 2$  mm  $\pm$  sclerotic line

- 1-6 months cemented
- 1-2 years uncemented
- no progression

Loosening:

- $> 2$  mm lucency
- Progressively widening
- Tilting of component (tibial into varus, femoral into flexion)
- tibial  $>$  femoral

Lucency  $\neq$  Loosening!



# Aseptic Loosening/PE-Wear



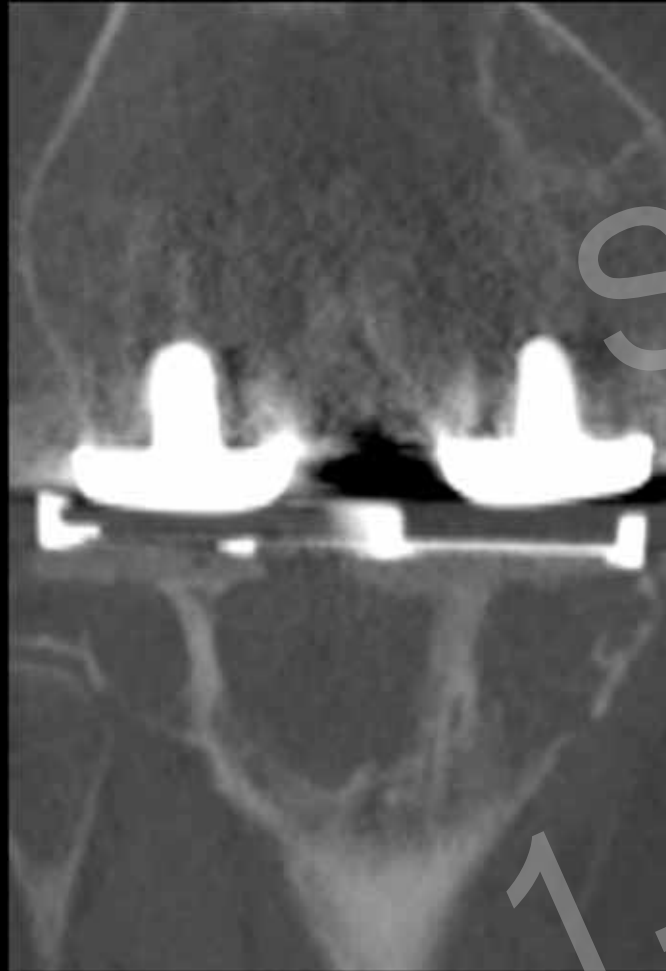
Mechanical stress, particle debris with osteolysis  
Fx of Inlay and subsidence of tibial component

# Aseptic Loosening/PE-Wear



Metal line sign

# Aseptic Loosening/PE-Wear



- Prosthetic fracture
- PE Wear
- Metallosis



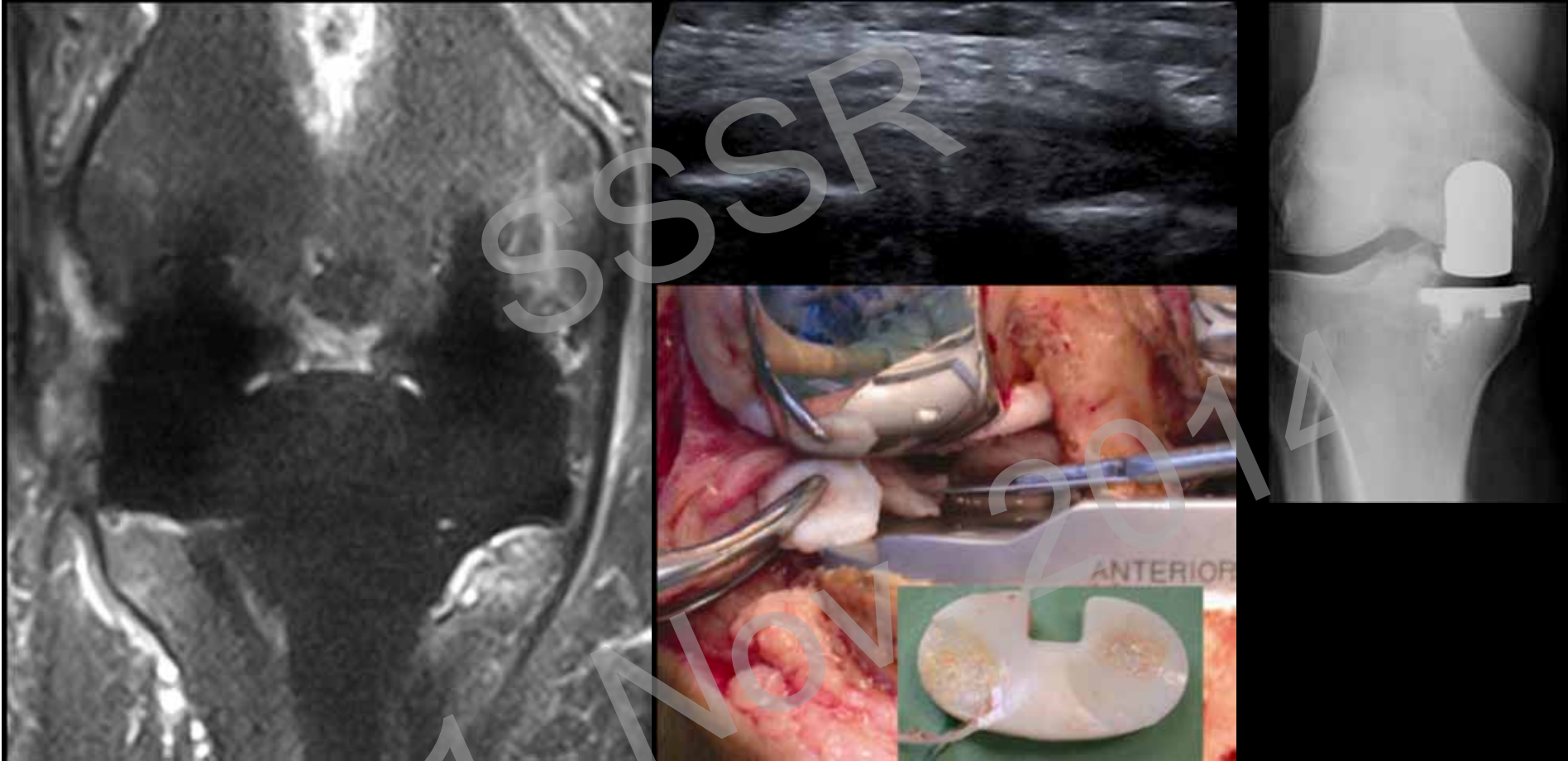
# Uncommon Causes of TKA Failure I



Tibial loosening and subsidence  
Eminentia impingement

Revision, still pain / restricted motion

# Uncommon Causes of TKA Failure I



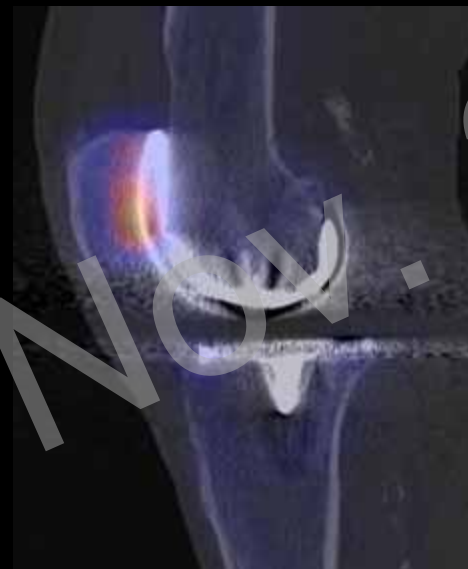
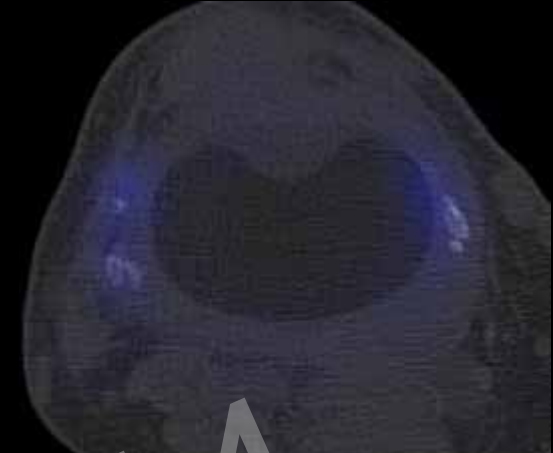
Remnant meniscus/Pseudomeniscus

## Uncommon Causes of TKA Failure II



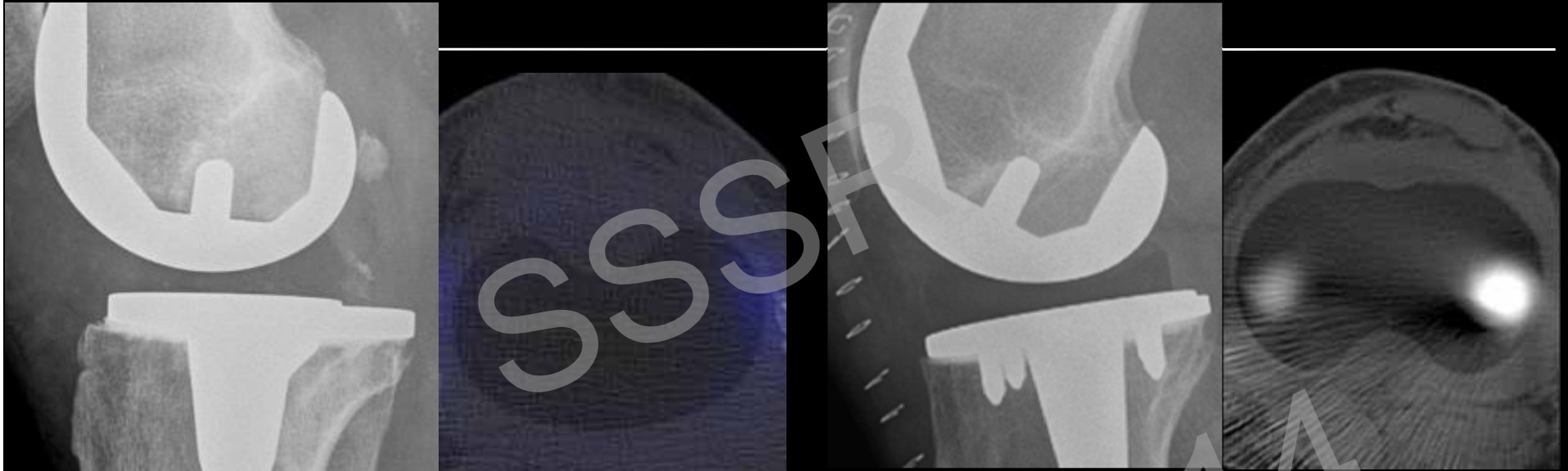
- TKA 1 year ago
- arthroscopic arthrolysis
- persistent pain
- restricted flexion 90°

# Uncommon Causes of TKA Failure II



Patella hyperpression  
Anything else?

# Uncommon Causes of TKA Failure II



normal  
Secondary patellar  
resurfacing

180° spin out of inlay



Talk to your orthopedic surgeon!



**Thank you for your attention!**