



# Diabetic Foot & Infection Imaging

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26 November 2015



University of  
Zurich<sup>UZH</sup>

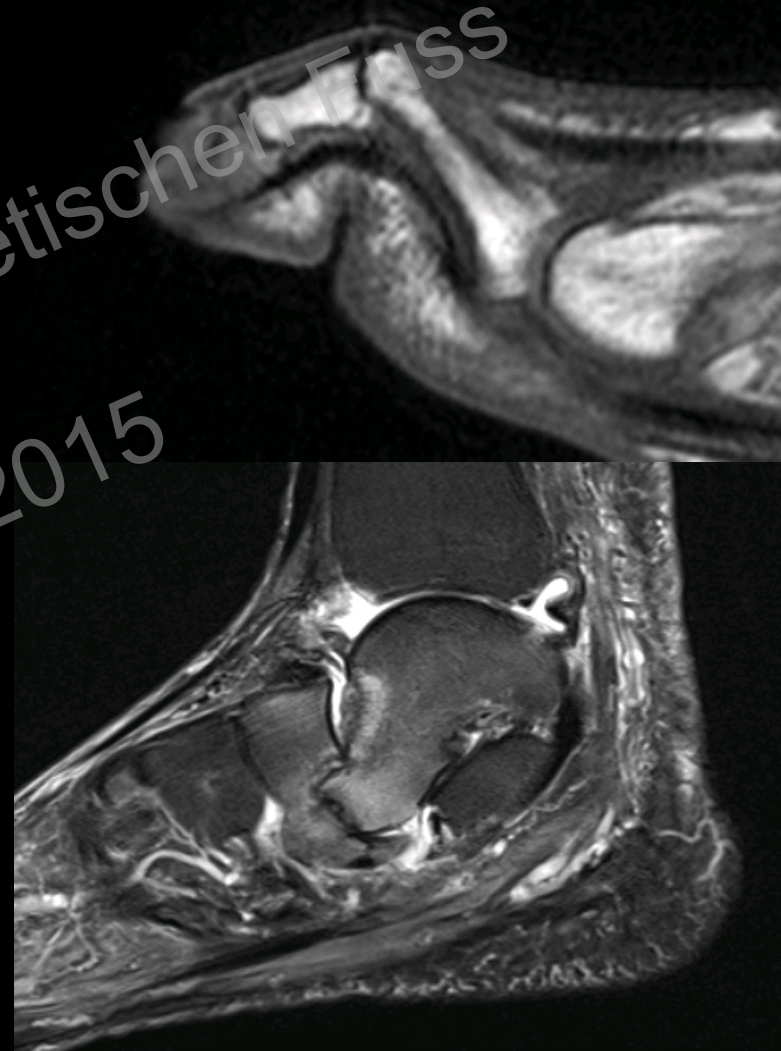
The Balgrist

# MRI of Diabetic Foot

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## 1. Pedal Osteomyelitis

## 2. Charcot Foot & Osteomyelitis



Symposium zum Diabetischen Fu  
26. Nov. 2015

# Pedal Osteomyelitis

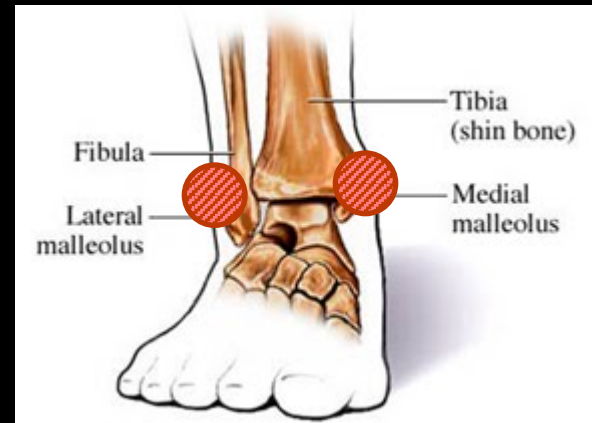
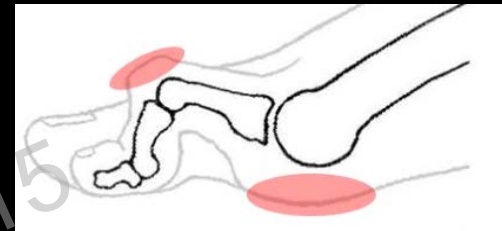
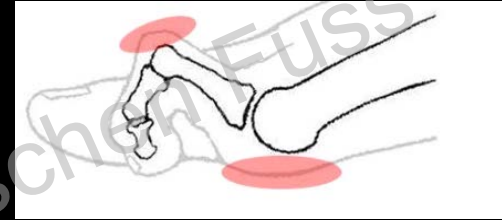
- Foot infections: Contiguous spread of a skin ulcer
- Lifetime risk of foot ulcers in diabetic patients: 25 %



# Pedal Osteomyelitis

## Typical locations of ulceration

- Toes
- Metatarsal Heads
- Calcaneus
- Malleoli



Donovan A, Schweitzer M: [RadioGraphics 2010;30:723-736](#)

<http://www.webmd.com/diabetes>

The **Balgrist**



# Pedal Osteomyelitis

X-ray:

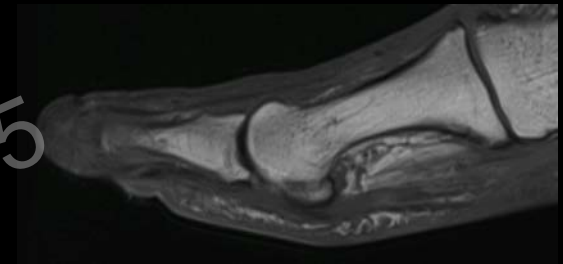


- Cheap, high availability, good anatomical overview
- Low sensitivity (43-75 %), low specificity (75-80%), only late changes (10-14 d) , exact extent not visible

# Pedal Osteomyelitis

## MRI:

- Detects early signs of osteomyelitis (3-5 d)
- Sensitivity: 90 %; Specificity: 80 %
- Good anatomical resolution
- Bones and soft tissue evaluation
- No radiation
- Almost 100 % NPV for exclusion of osteomyelitis
- Expensive, not always available, contraindications

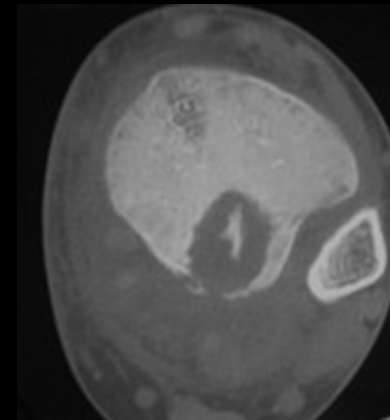


# Pedal Osteomyelitis

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## CT:

- Acute: Sensitivity: 67 %; Specificity: 50 %
- Evaluation of chronic osteomyelitis: detection of sequestrum or involucrum
- Expensive, radiation dose, soft tissue evaluation

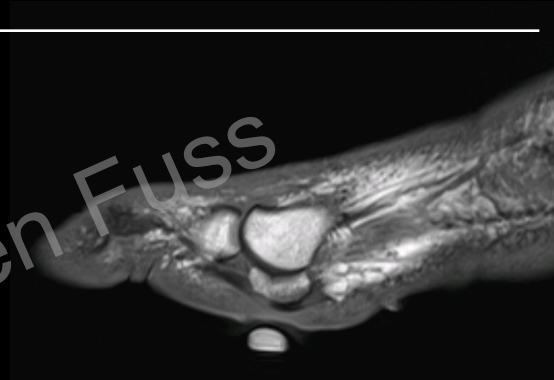


Symposium zum Diabetischen Fuss  
26.Nov. 2015

# MR Imaging

How ?

- **Crucial: To know the ulcer location !!**
- Small field of view: Forefoot or hindfoot



Important:

- Native T1-weighted sequence in two planes:  
Osteomyelitis
- Stir-sequence: Bone marrow edema, soft tissue infection



# MR Imaging

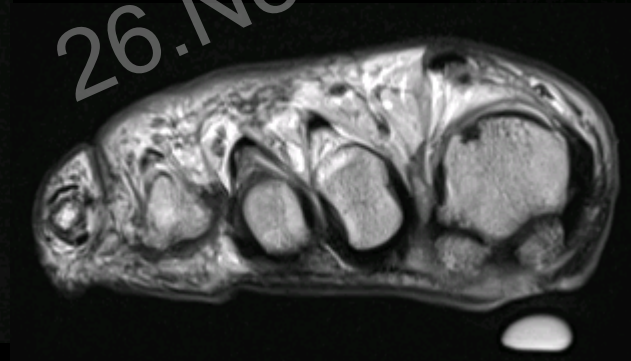
Image protocol ?



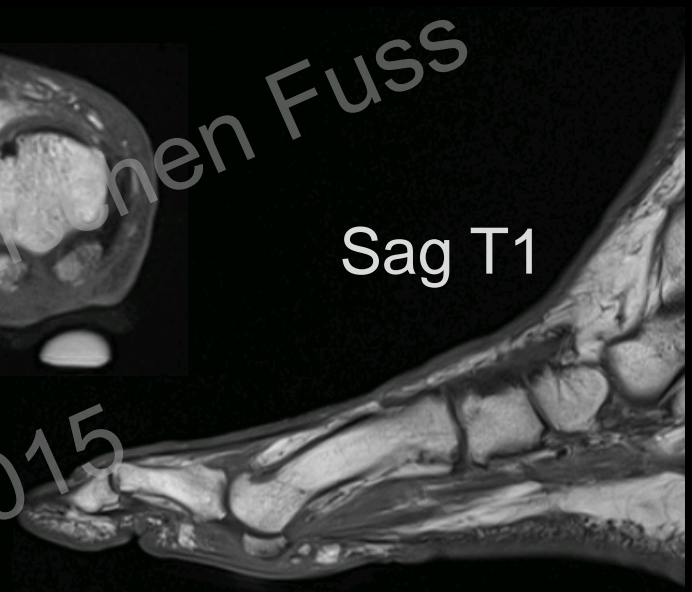
Cor Stir



Tra T1



Tra T2

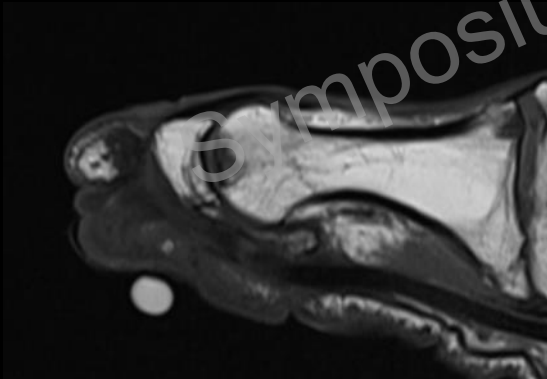
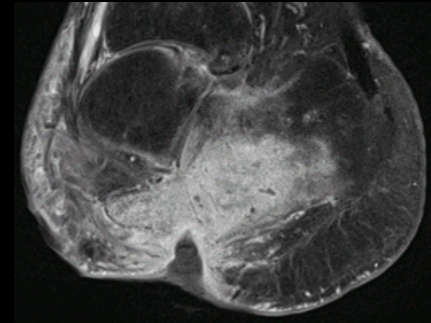


Sag T1

# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

## 1. Locate ulcer & adjacent soft tissue changes

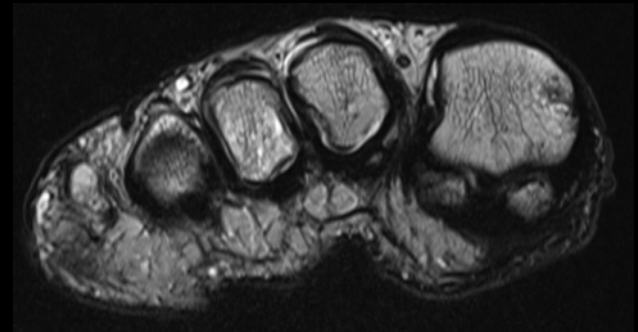
- Skin ulcer, skin callus, sinus tract,
- Subcutaneous edema & imbitition



T1



T1



T2

# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

## 2. Look for bone marrow signal changes



T1



stir



T1fs KM



Palestro CJ et al.: [Best Pract Res Clin Rhe197-218. Review](#)

IDSA Guidelines 2012 (Infectious Diseases Society of North America)

# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

## T1-Weighted MRI Characteristics of Pedal Osteomyelitis

Mark S. Collins<sup>1</sup>  
Matthew M. Schaar  
Doris E. Wenger  
Jawayant N. Mandrekar

**OBJECTIVE.** The objective of our study was to better define the T1-weighted MRI characteristics of surgically proven pedal osteomyelitis.

**CONCLUSION.** Decreased T1 marrow signal in a geographic medullary distribution with a confluent pattern and concordance with fat-suppressed T2- and T1-weighted postcontrast signal abnormality was present in 100% of the surgically proven cases of pedal osteomyelitis. None of the patients with decreased T1 marrow signal in a subcortical distribution or in a hazy, reticulated pattern had surgically proven osteomyelitis regardless of the fat-suppressed T2-weighted or postcontrast T1-weighted findings.

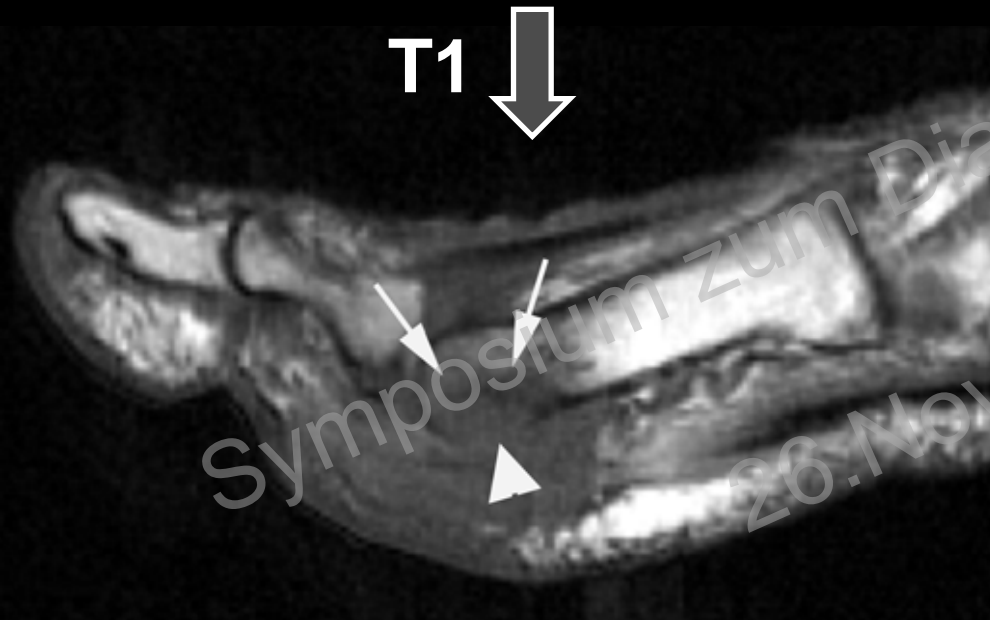


Crucial : pattern and location of signal drop  
in T1w-sequence



# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

## Osteomyelitis



Geographic, confluent

## Reactive Edema

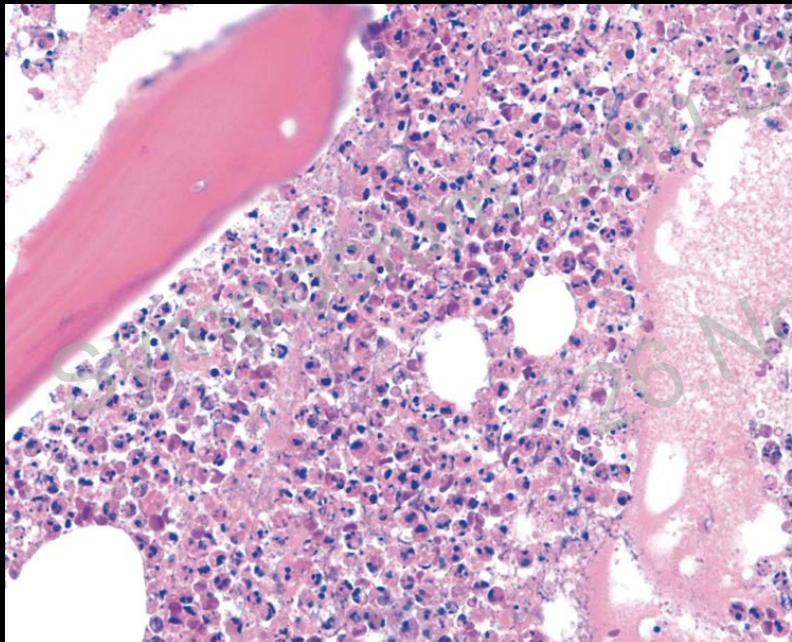
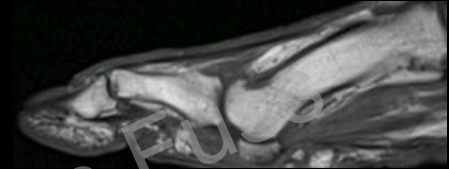


Subcortical distribution and/or hazy reticular, less sharp

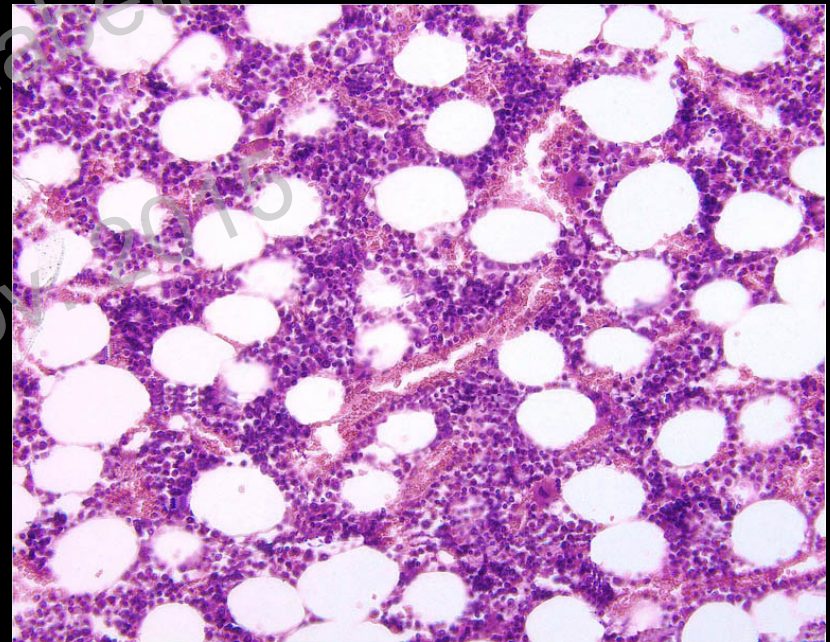
# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

## Reactive bone marrow edema:

- non-infectious edema, no replacement of adipocytes



**Osteomyelitis**



**Reactive Edema**

# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis



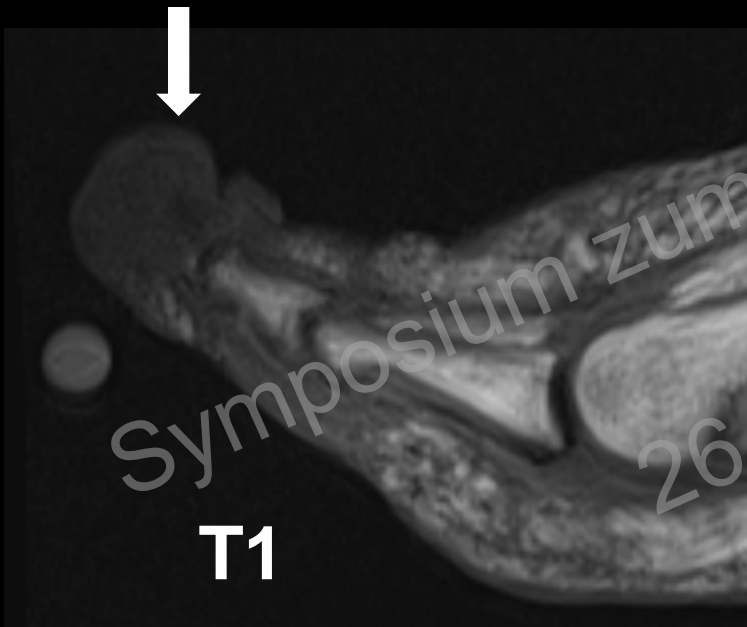
**Osteomyelitis**



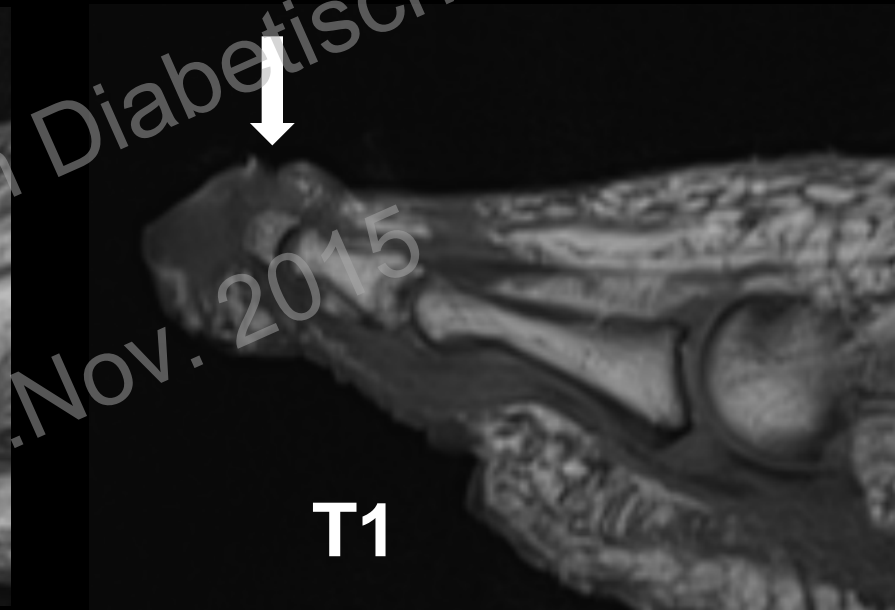
**Reactive Edema**

# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

3 month later with antibiotics



**Osteomyelitis**



3. toe



# MRI findings in Osteomyelitis

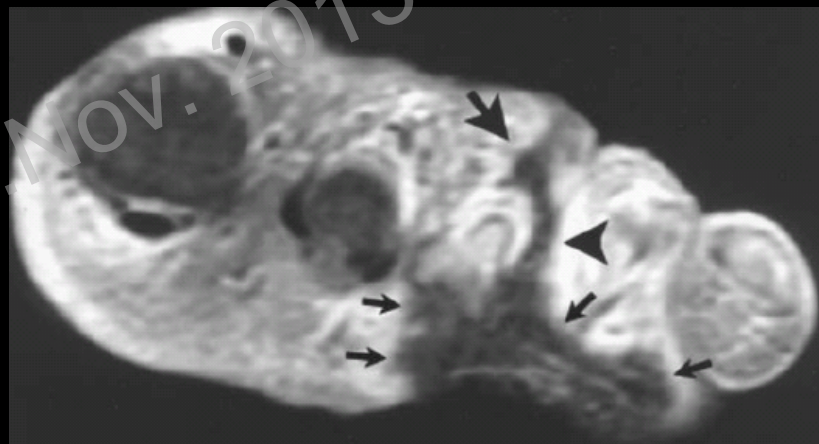
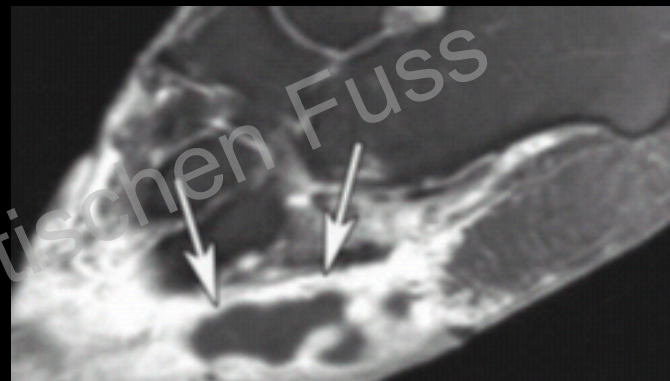
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## Do we need contrast ?

- In uncomplicated cases **NOT** necessary:  
Signal changes in T1w- and fluid-sensitive sequence
- High risk patients: renal insufficiency
- **Recommended** for evaluation of soft tissue and suspected complications

# MRI with CM

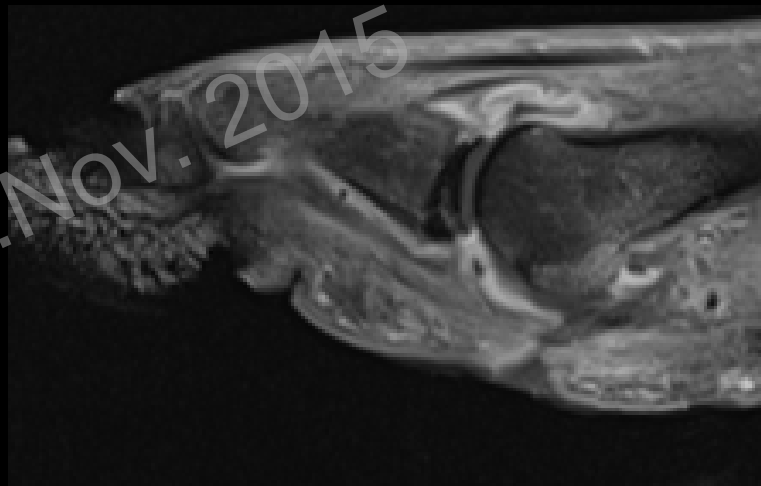
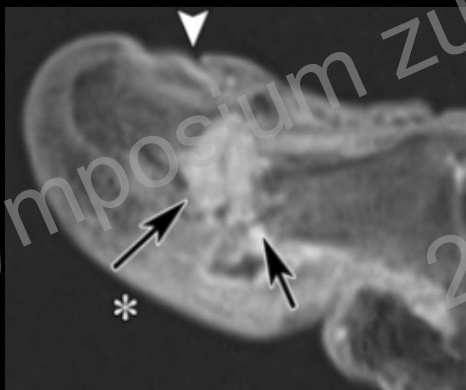
- Cellulitis or abscess ?
- Gangrene or vital tissue ?



Palestro CJ et al.: [Best Pract Res Clin Rhe197-218. Review](#)

# MRI with CM

- Septic Arthritis:  
Synovial thickening with enhancement &  
joint effusion



# Case

59-year-old male, IDDM II (25 years), long-term ulcer  
plantar MTP I



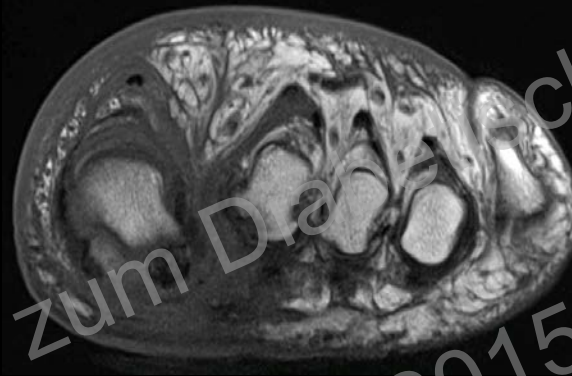


# Case

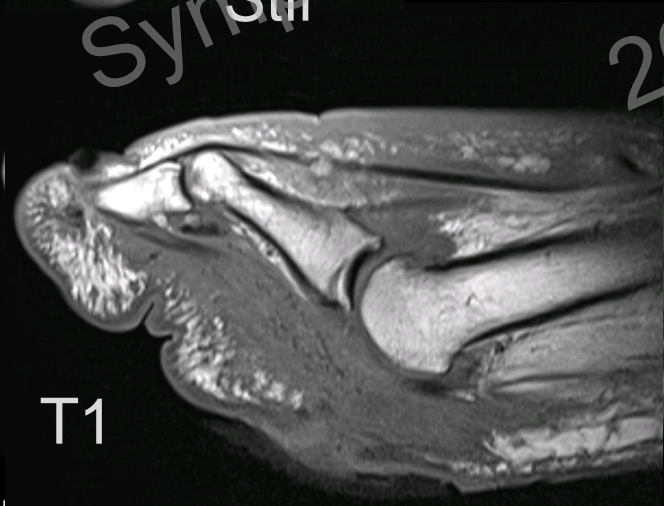
59-year-old male, IDDM II (25 years)



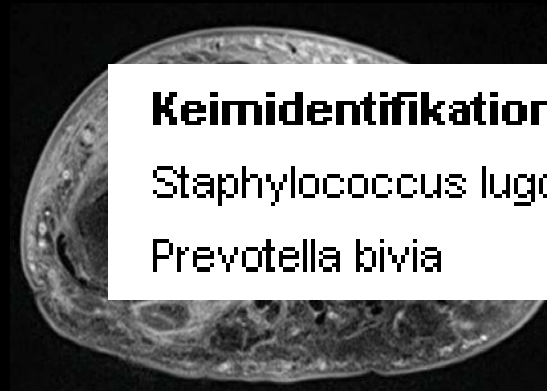
Stir



T1



T1



## Keimidentifikation

Staphylococcus lugdunensis

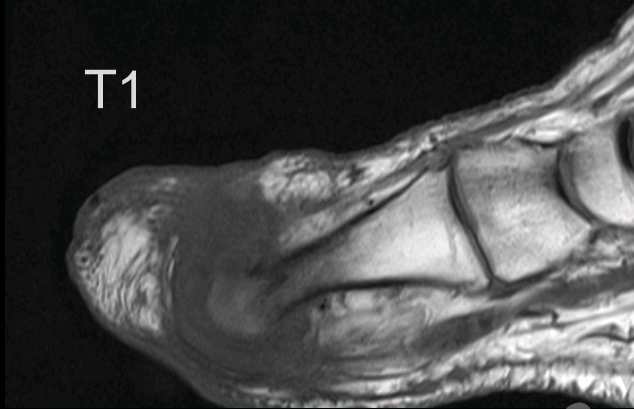
Prevotella bivia

# Case

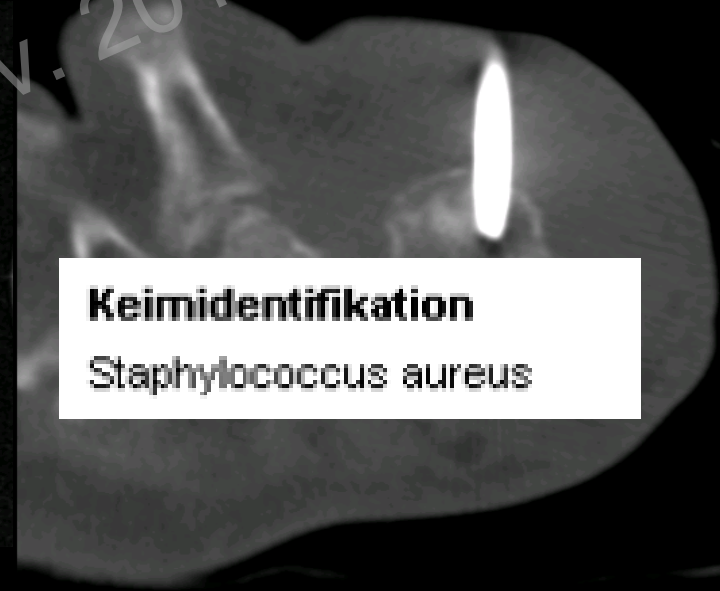
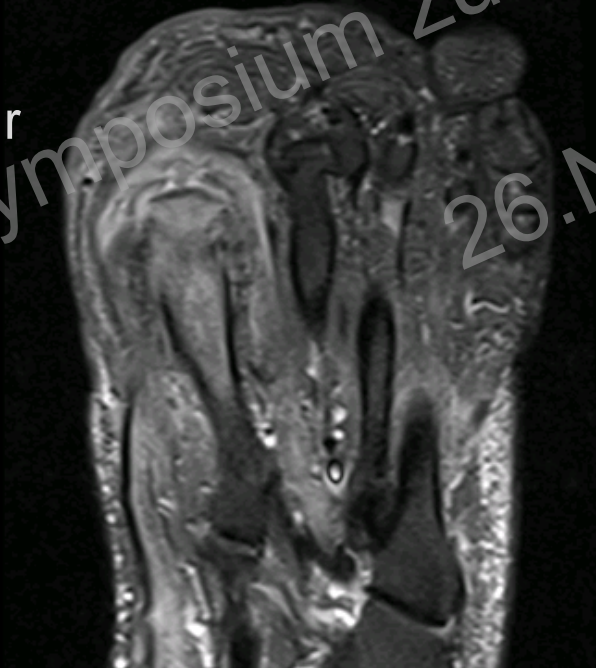
- 1 week later: acute necrosis Dig. I: Exartikulation
- 6 weeks later:



# Case



Stir



**Keimidentifikation**

**Staphylococcus aureus**

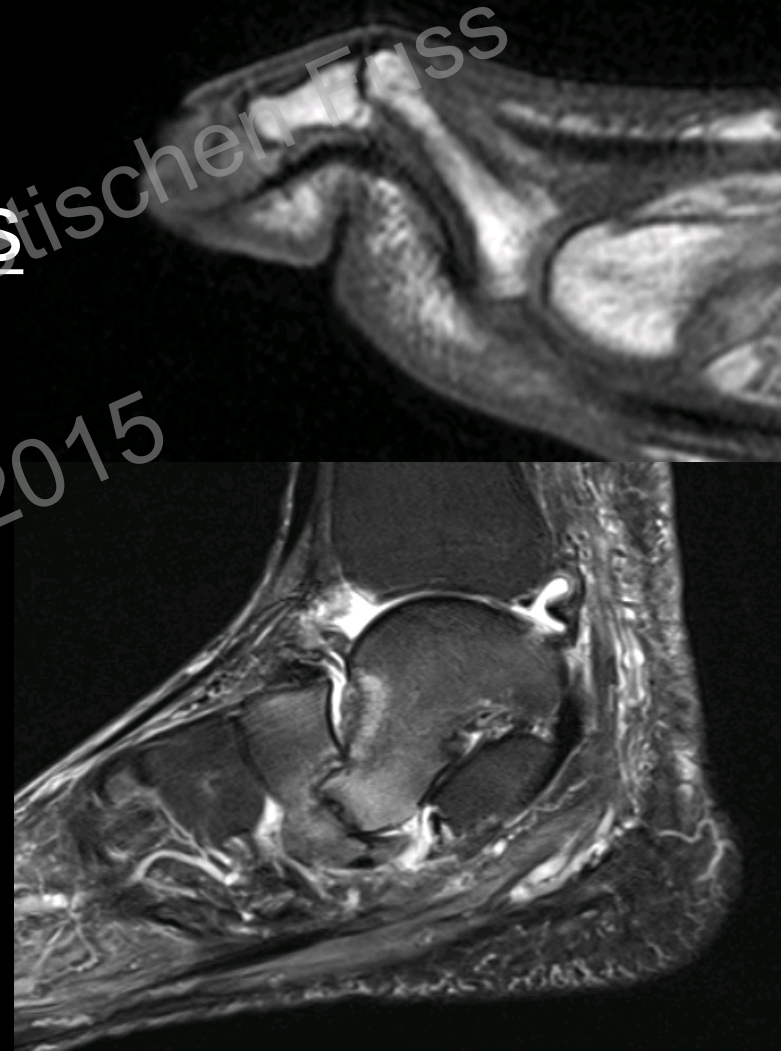


# MRI of Diabetic Foot

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## 1. Pedal Osteomyelitis

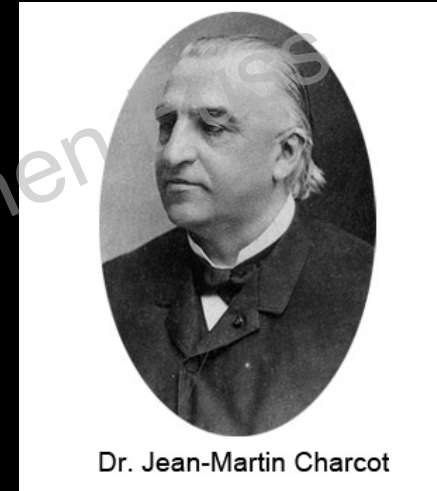
## 2. Charcot Foot & Osteomyelitis



# Charcot Foot

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- Neuropathic osteoarthropathy
- Jean-Martin Charcot in 1883
- Prevalence: 0.1-0.4%
- Patients 5th and 6th decade
- Risk: Diabetes more than 10 years
- 9-35% bilateral disease



Dr. Jean-Martin Charcot

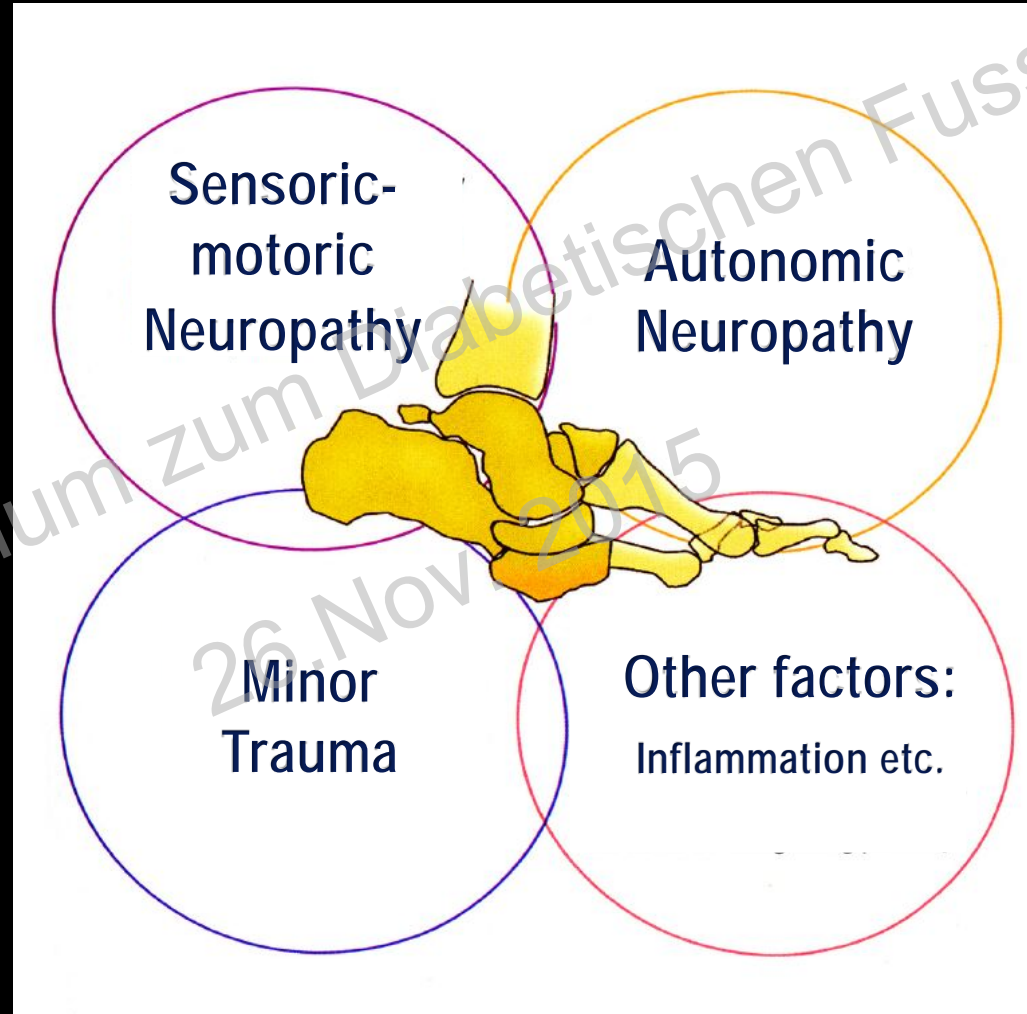
Ledermann HP, Morrison WB: *Semin Musculoskelet Radiol.* 2005 Sep;9(3):272-83

Rogers LC et al.: *Diabetes Care.* 2011 Sep;34(9):2123-9.

Koller A, Fühner J, Wetz HH: *Orthopäde.* September 2004, Volume 33, Issue 9, pp 972-982

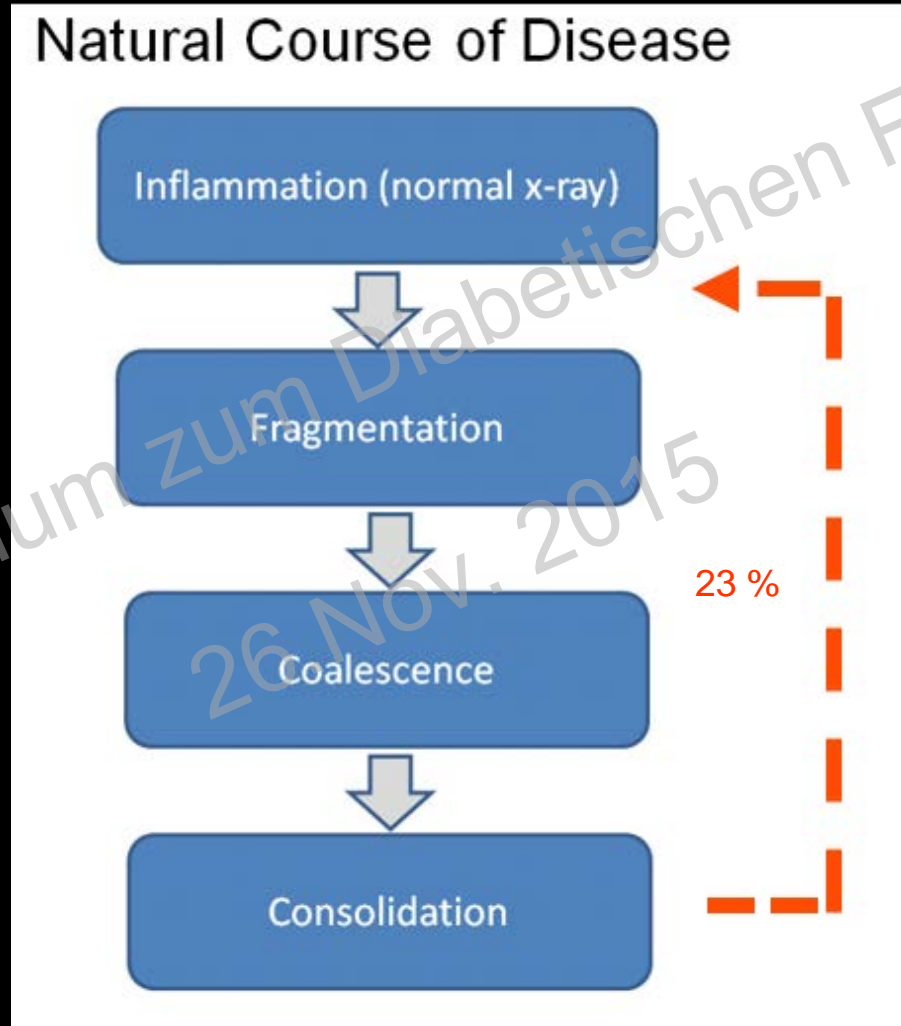
# Charcot Foot

## Pathogenesis:





# Charcot Foot



Symposium zum Diabetischen Fuss  
26 Nov. 2015

# Charcot Foot

## Typical course of foot alignment changes



Symposium zum 100-jährigen Jubiläum des Schweizerischen Fuss 26. Nov. 2015



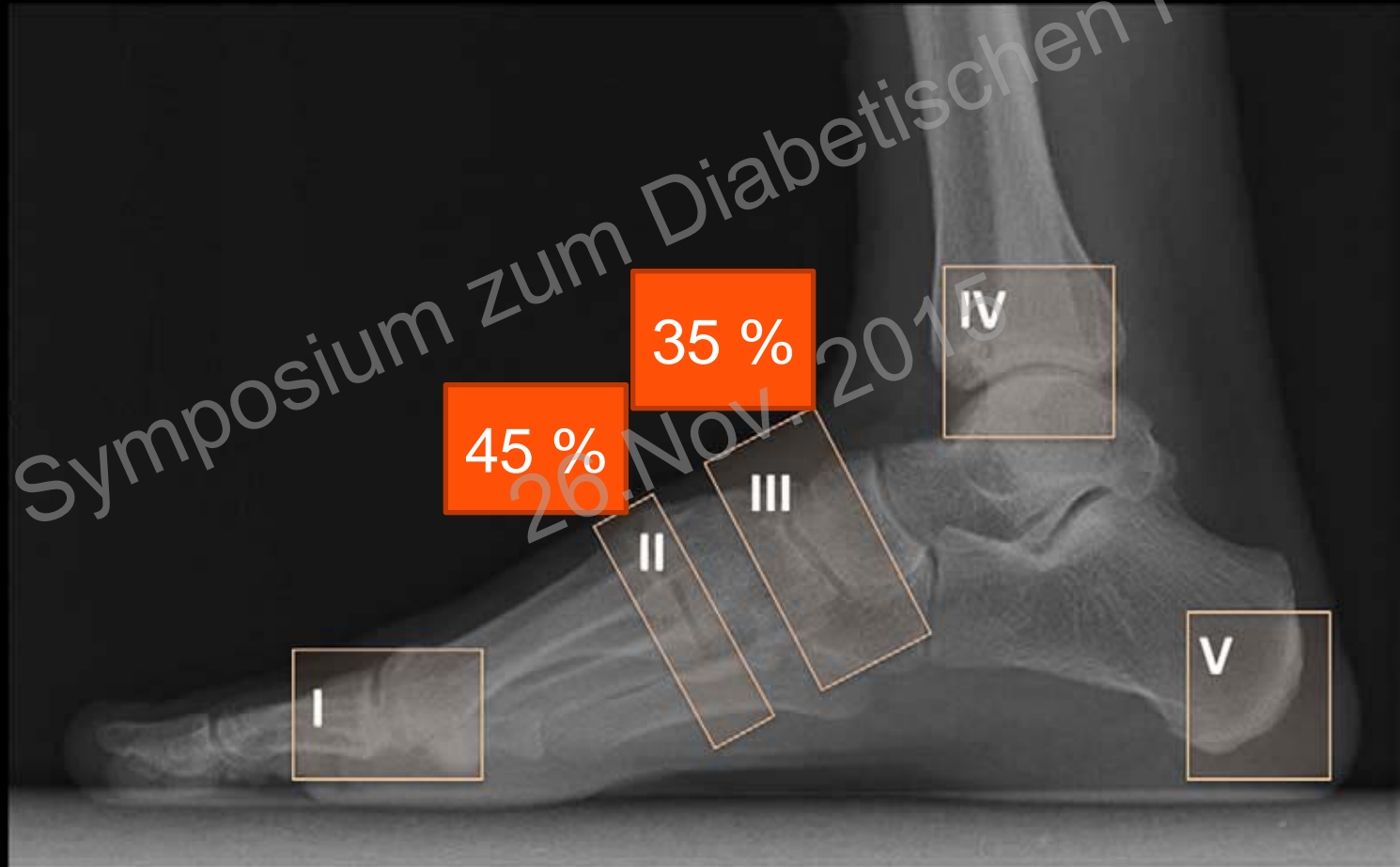
# Charcot Foot

Irreversible Deformation :  
«Rocker Bottom Foot»

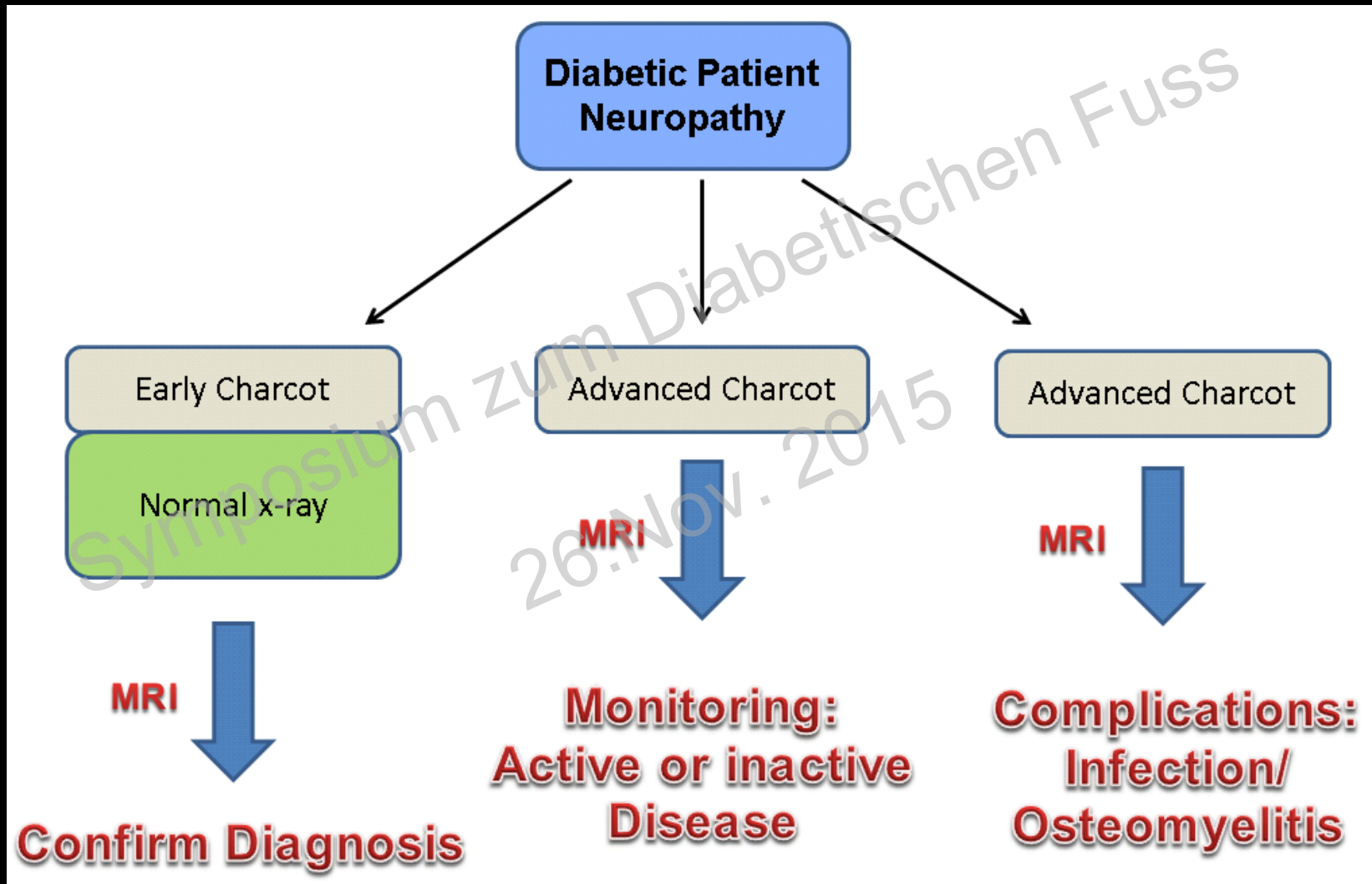


# Charcot Foot

Anatomical Distribution (Sanders and Frykberg):



# Role of MRI





# MR Imaging protocol



Sag stir whole foot



Sag T1 whole foot



Tra T1 incl. TMT joints

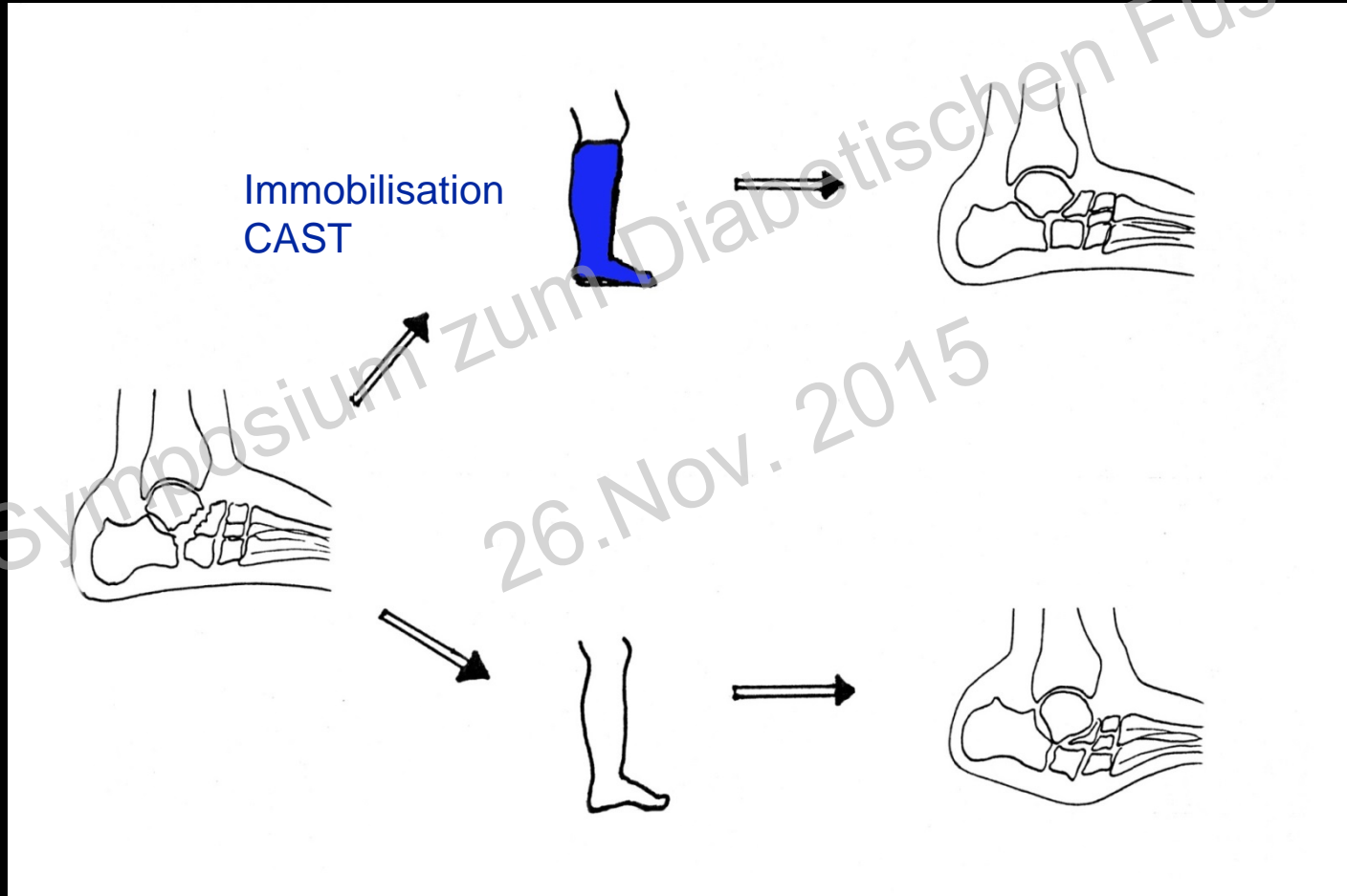


Cor T2 incl. TMT joints

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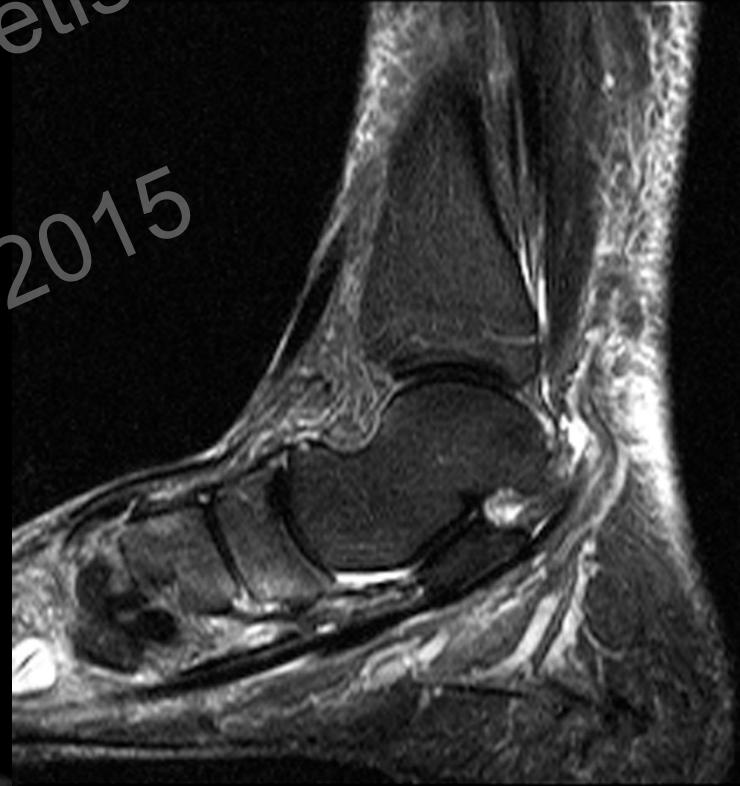
# Benefit of MRI

## 1. Early detection of Charcot



# Benefit of MRI

## 1. Early detection of Charcot



# Benefit of MRI

## Early MR – findings:

- Bone marrow edema
- Soft tissue edema
- Lisfranc joint disease
- Subchondral bone marrow edema
- Joint effusion
- Microfractures



# Charcot Foot

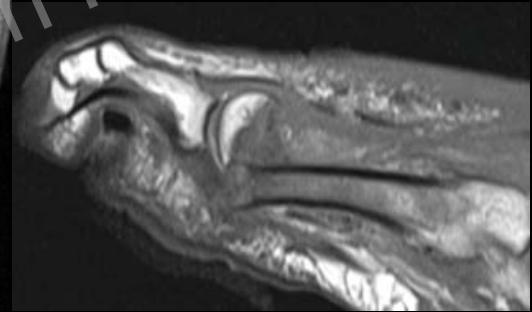
## Late MR - Findings:

- Joint destructions
- Bone fragmentation
- Subchondral cysts
- Bone proliferation/Debris

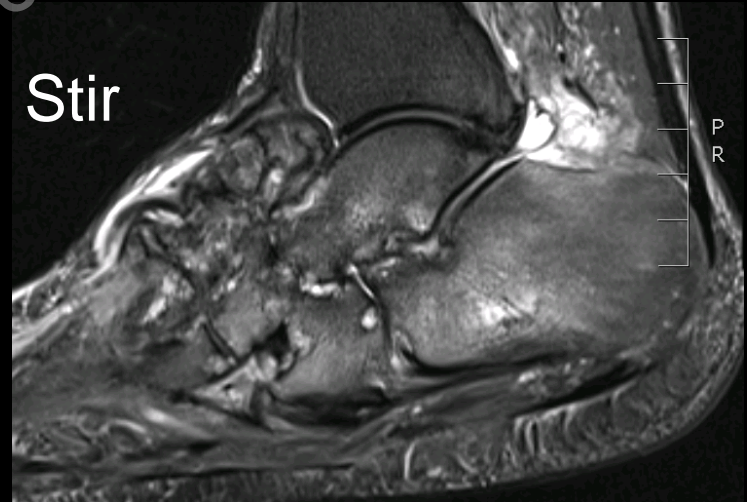
Stir



T1



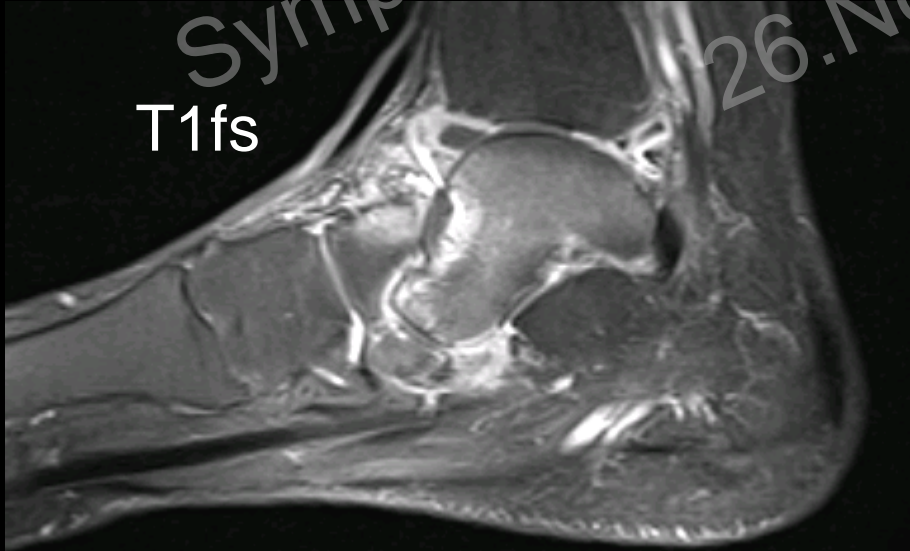
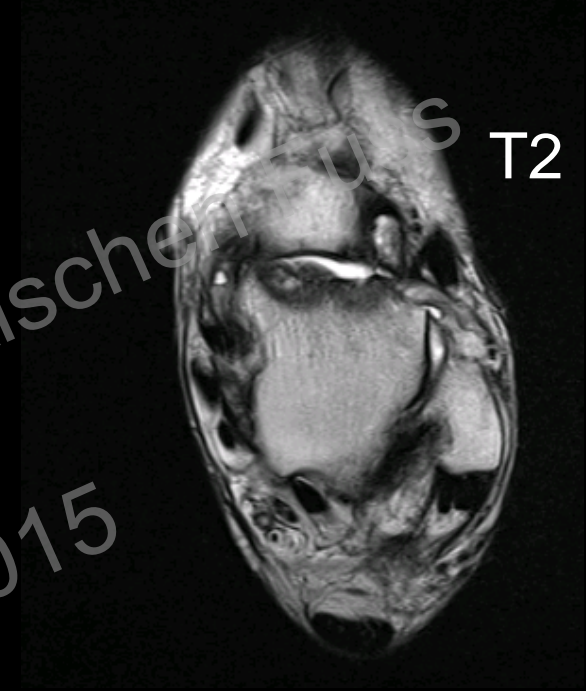
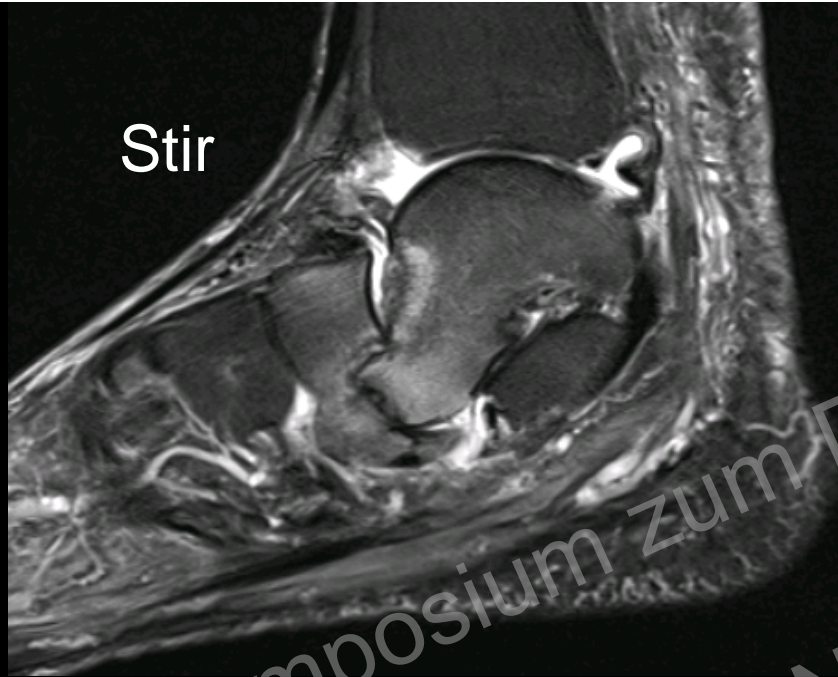
Stir



P  
R



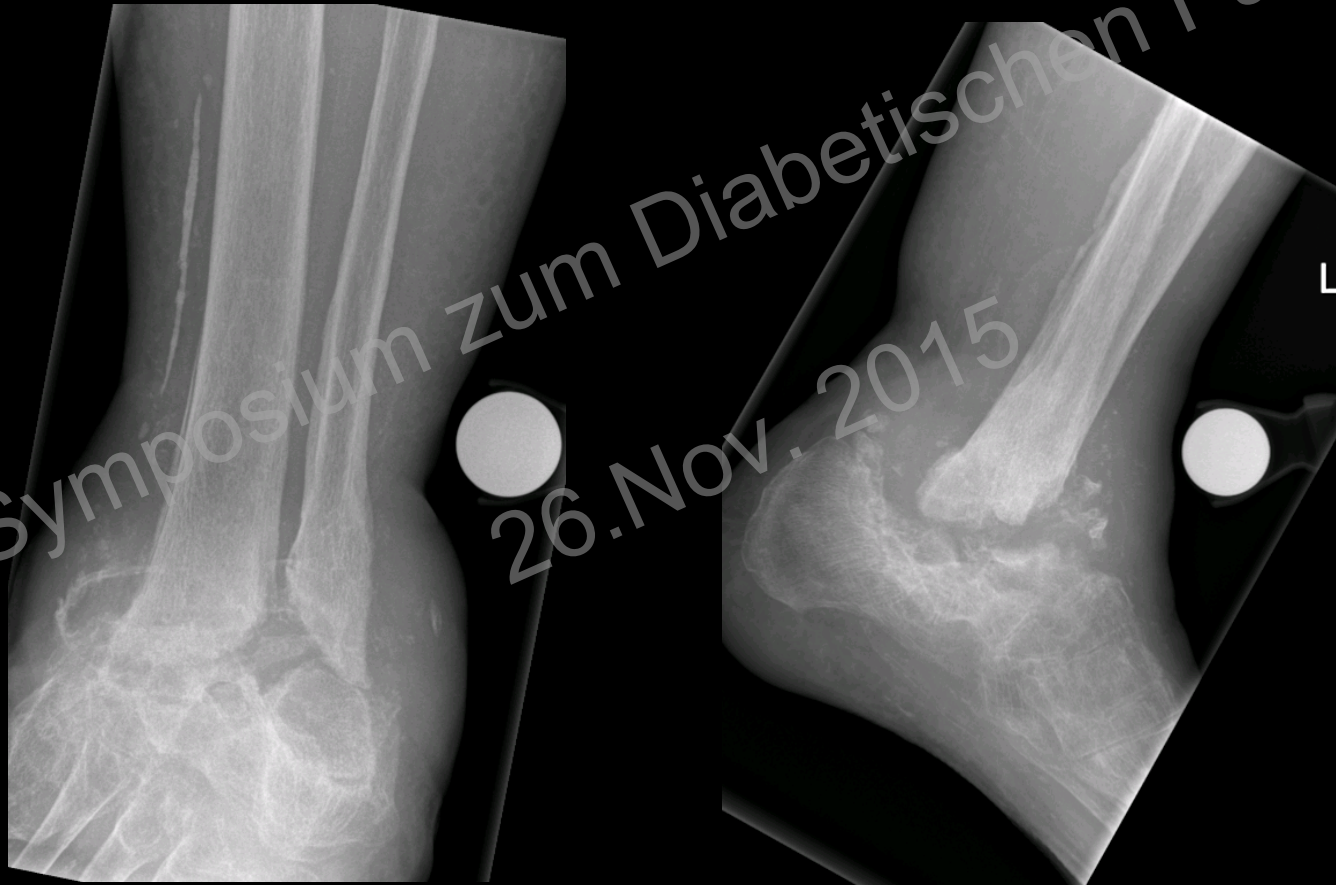
# Longstanding Charcot



Symposium zum Diabetischen Fuß TUS  
26. Nov. 2015

# Case

58-year-old, male , IDDM Type I (26 years), polyneuropathy,  
left leg suddenly shorter



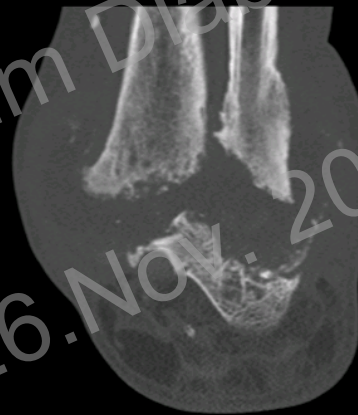
# Case

58-year-old, male , IDDM Type I, polyneuropathy

CT



supine

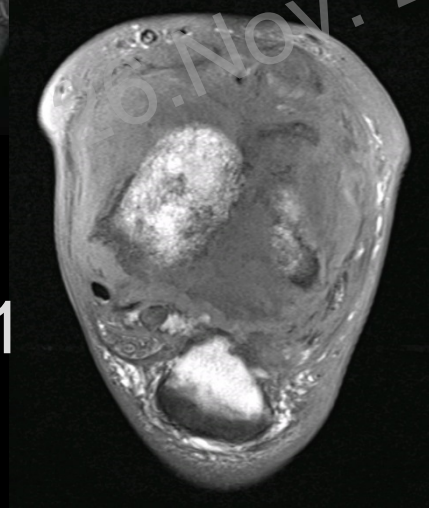
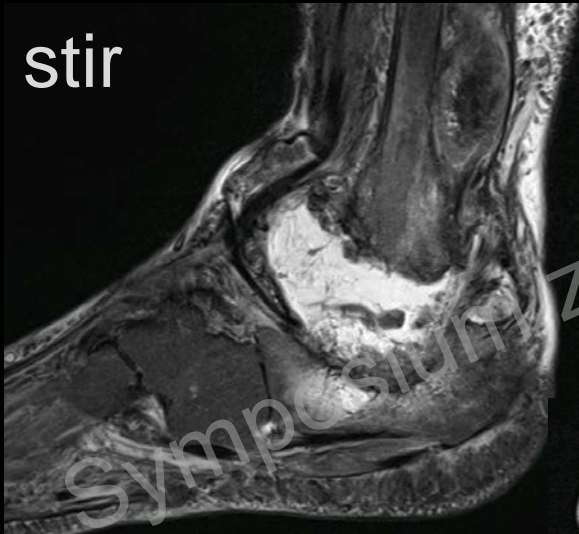


standing



# Case

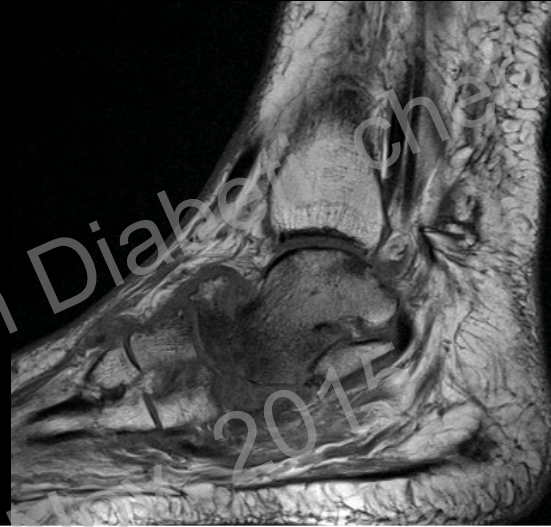
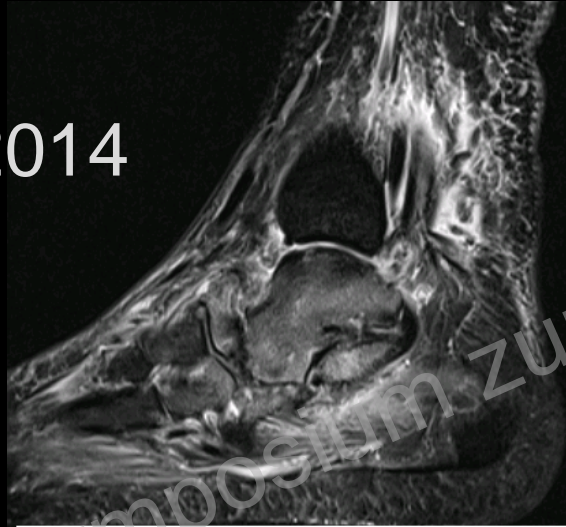
58-year-old, male , IDDM Type I, polyneuropathy



# Benefit of MRI

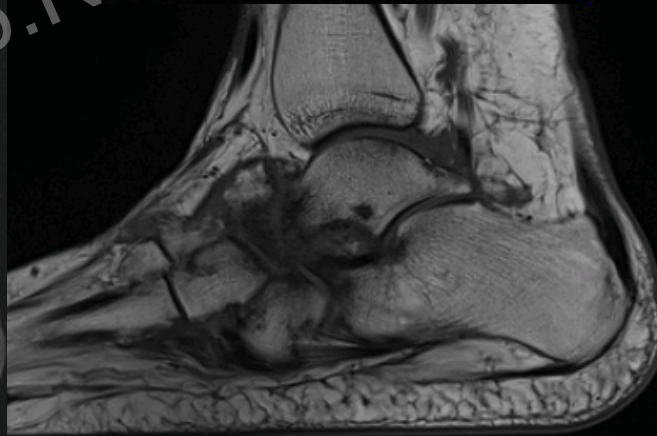
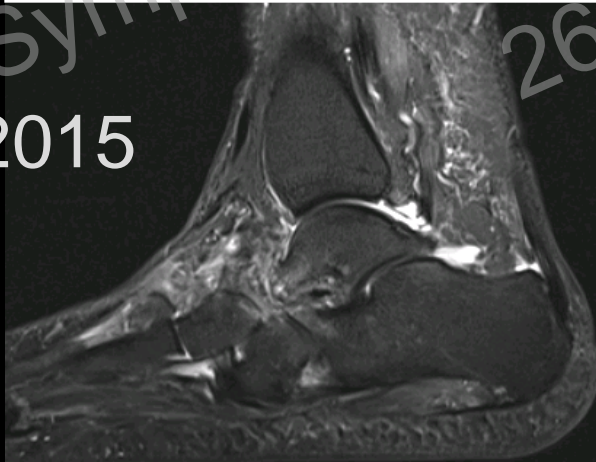
## 2. Monitoring: Active versus inactive disease

8/2014



60-year old,  
female

3/2015





# Benefit of MRI

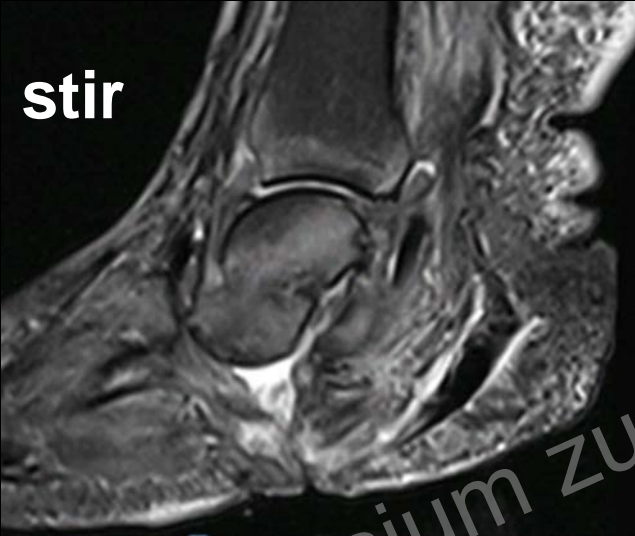
## 3. Complication: Infection/Osteomyelitis

- Infection by direct continuity
- Rocker bottom deformity
- Typical location: Cuboid bone  
(lowest part of foot)

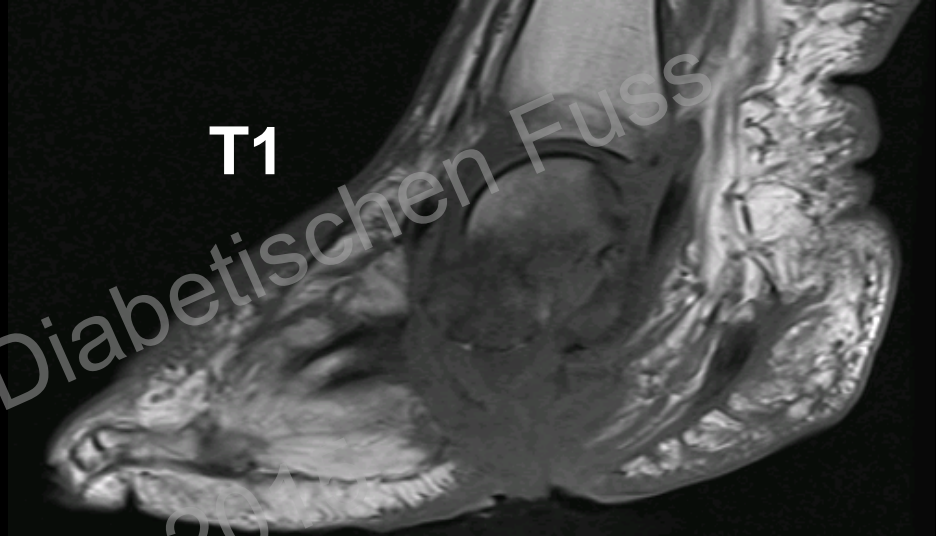


# Charcot with Osteomyelitis

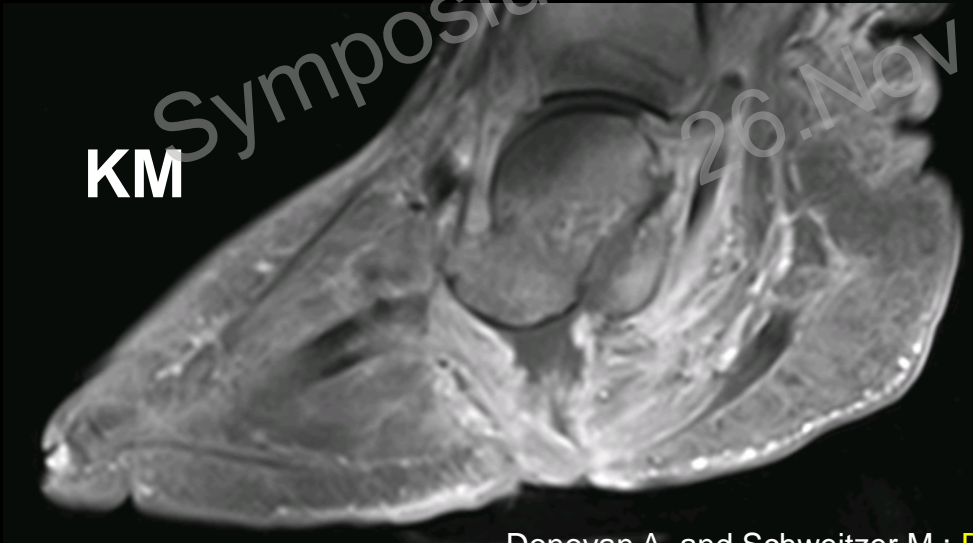
stir



T1



KM



- Loss of cysts
- Large fluid collections
- Progression of bone erosions
- «Ghost sign»

Donovan A. and Schweitzer M.: [Radiographics 2010;30:723-736](#)

Toledano T. et al. [Semin Musculoskeletal Radiol 2011; 15:257-268](#)



# Case

66-year-old, male – Charcot foot, IDDM Type II, new ulcer Dig II & V





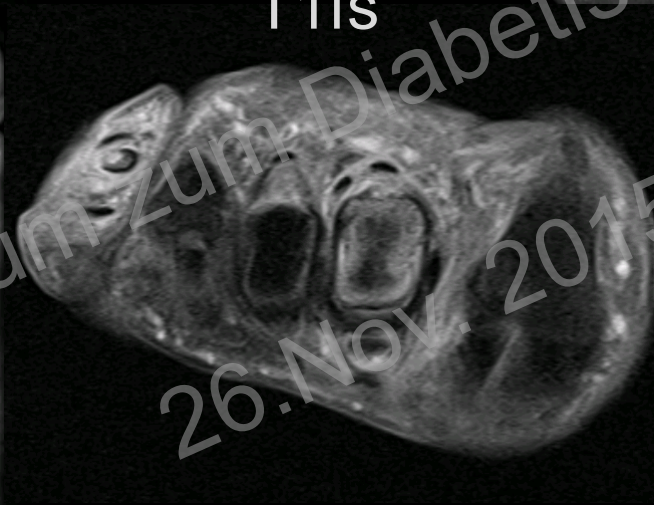
# Case

66-year-old, male – Charcot foot, new ulcer Dig II & V

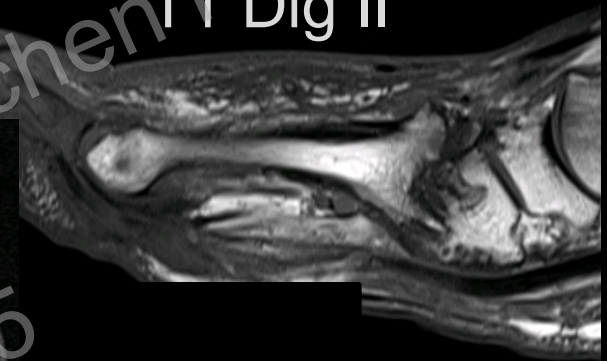
Stir



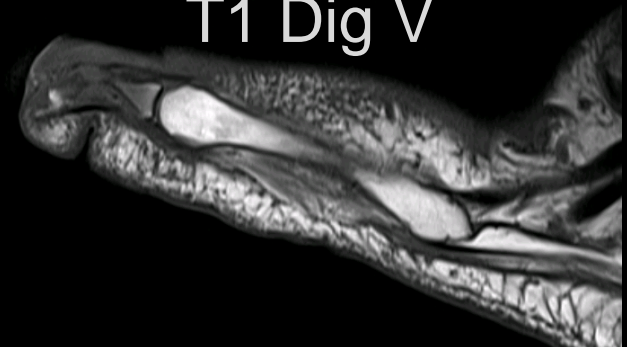
T1fs



T1 Dig II



T1 Dig V



Charcot Foot & Pedal Osteomyelitis

# Summary

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## Pedal Osteomyelitis

- Plain radiographs and MRI for evaluation
- MRI: Confirm/exclude Diagnosis: **Key sequence native T1**
- MRI: Exact extent of infection in bone and soft tissue

## Charcot Foot & Osteomyelitis:

- Plain radiographs & MRI for diagnosis & complications
- MRI: «ghost sign»



# Thank you

