

# Periprosthetic Fractures (PPX) of the Hip: Fix, Revise, or do Nothing?

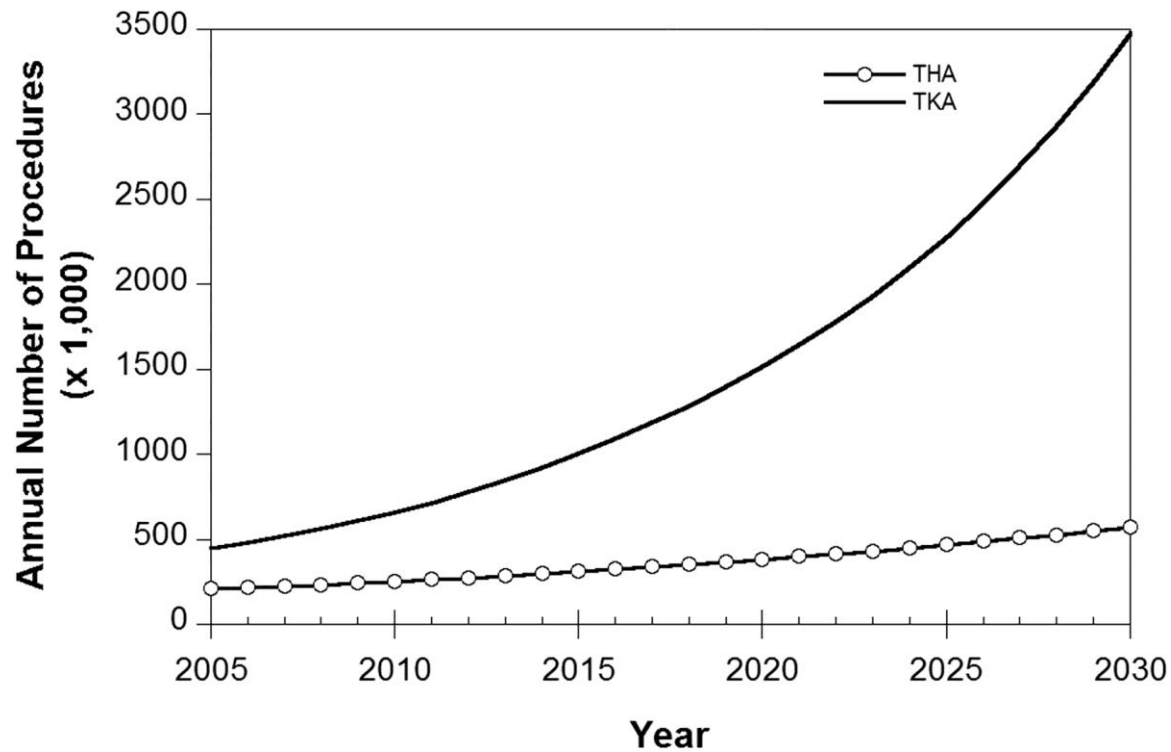
Paul Toogood, MD

# Objectives

- Review Epidemiology of PPX
- Apply the Vancouver Classification to some cases

# Epidemiology

As rates of primary & revision TJA continue to rise...



Kurtz, 2007

...so too will the number of PPX

[J Arthroplasty](#). 2015 Oct;30(10):1688-91. doi: 10.1016/j.arth.2015.04.038. Epub 2015 May 5.  
**Periprosthetic Fractures: A Common Problem with a Disproportionately High Impact on  
Healthcare Resources.**  
[Toogood PA](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Vail TP](#)<sup>2</sup>.

- National Hospital Discharge Survey 2006-2010
  - 26,000 primary TJA
  - 4,400 revision TJA
    - 259 for PPX
      - ORIF femur: 28-52%
      - Revision THA: 17-23%
      - Revision TKA: 5-13%
      - ORIF tibia, patellar ORIF/revision: rare

- **Demographics**

- Mean age: **75** (oldest of any revision category)
- **72% female** (largest % female of any revision category)

- **Outcomes**

- Admitted emergently/urgently: **83%** (most of any revision category)
- Mean LOS: **5 days** (longest of any revision category)
- Discharge to home: **21%** (lowest of any revision category)
- Mortality: **5%** (highest of any revision category)

Summary: Fragile, unprepared  
population undergoing long,  
technically challenging procedures  
leads to poor outcomes

# Vancouver Classification

A : Trochanteric fracture

AG : Greater trochanter

AL : Lesser trochanter

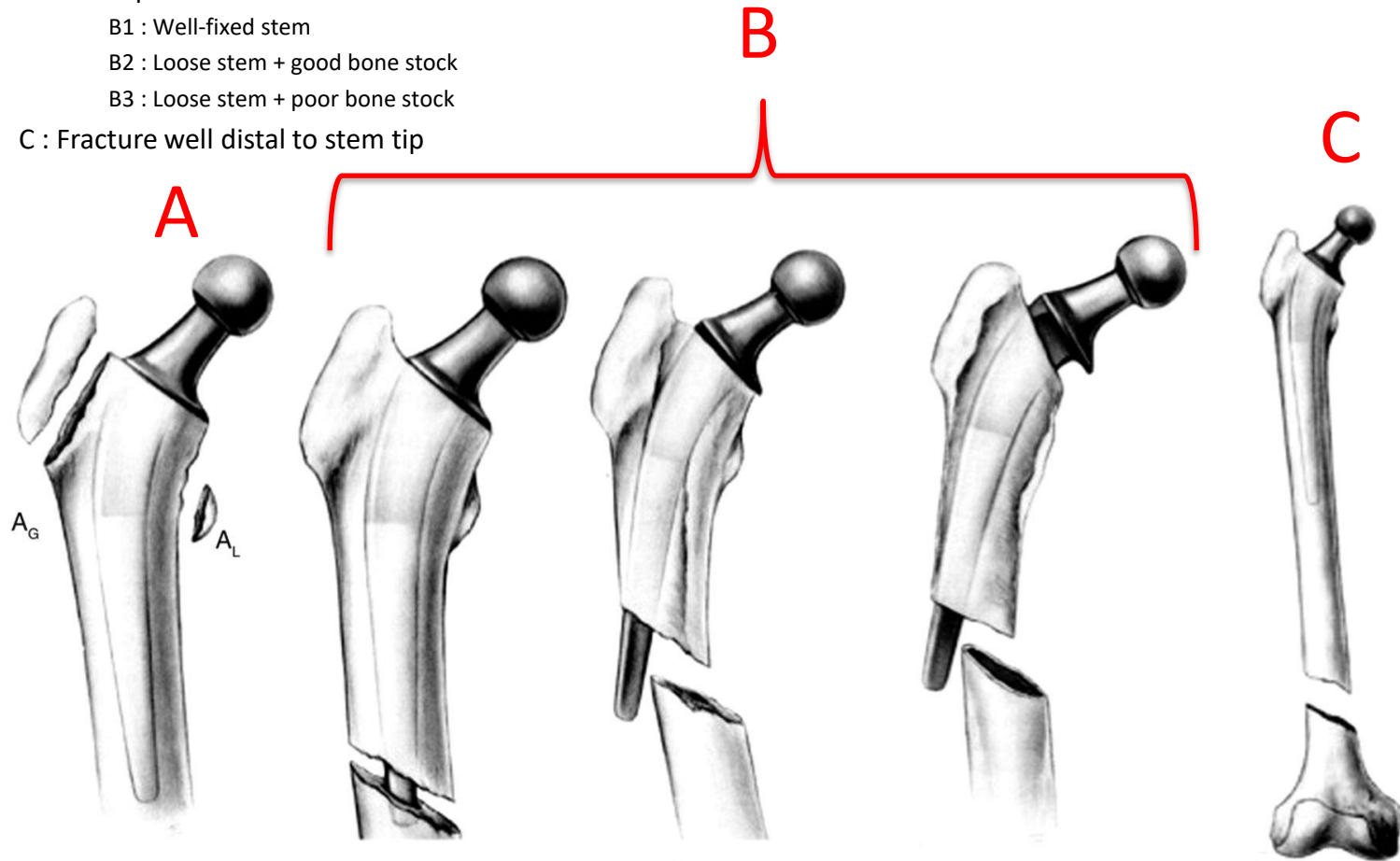
B : Fracture around stem or just distal to stem tip

B1 : Well-fixed stem

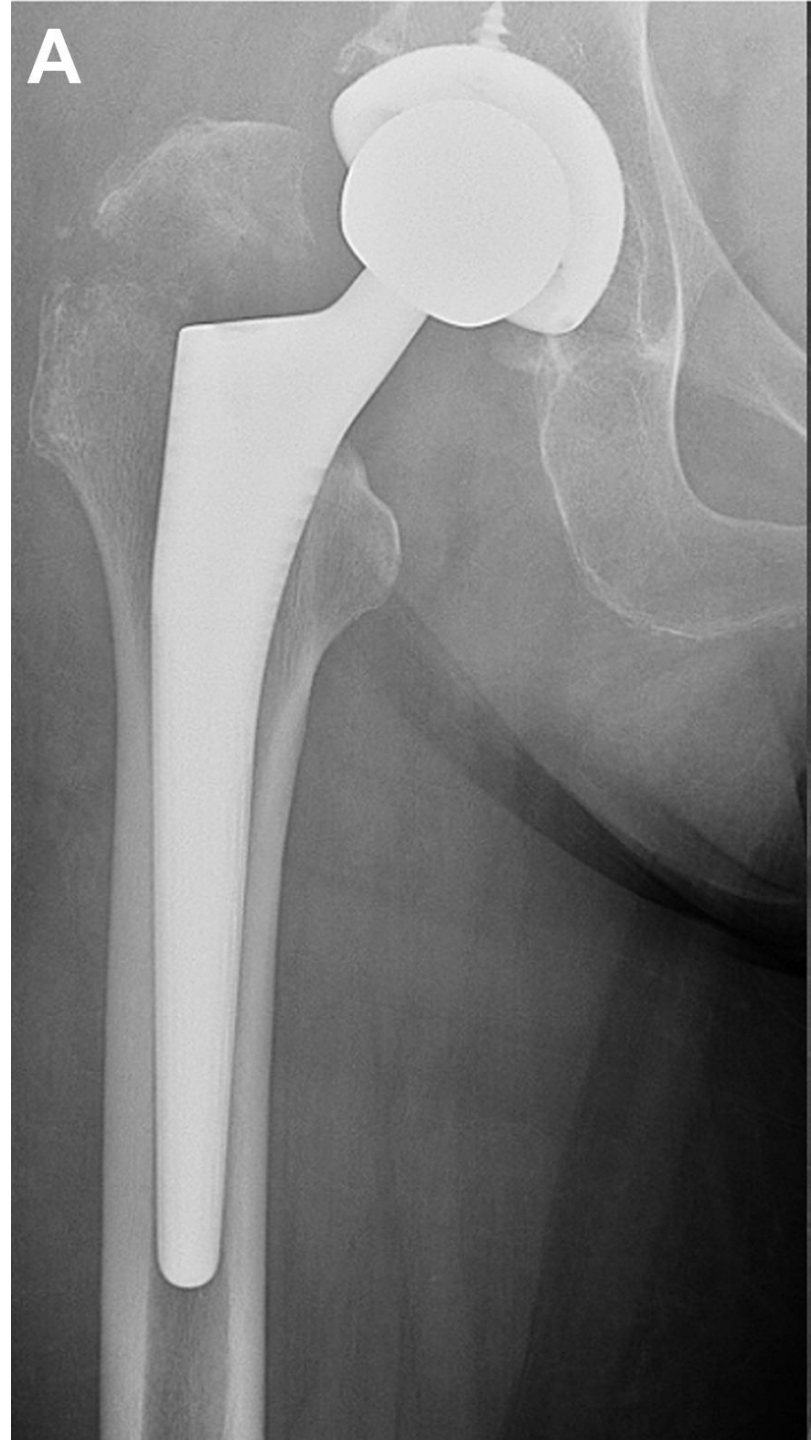
B2 : Loose stem + good bone stock

B3 : Loose stem + poor bone stock

C : Fracture well distal to stem tip



- 73yo F p/w R hip pain, radiographic OA, elects to proceed with THA
- During THA greater trochanter fractures
- Dx: Ag





- Tx
  - Implant Removal
  - Reduction
  - Provisional fixation with clamp/wires
  - Claw plate
  - Implant re-insetion



# Treatment: Ag

- Minimal displacement, minimal abductor dysfunction, low demand:
  - Do nothing!
    - TTWB, abduction brace
- Displacement, weakness, instability, higher demand
  - Fix it!
    - If hip unstable, be prepared to address this:
      - Increase head size
      - Increase offset/length
      - Dual mobility construct



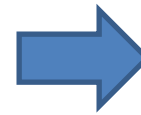
Cable/claw plate: soft tissue irritation



Suture/wire: poorer fixation

# Treatment: AI

- True AI
  - Do nothing!
    - Protected WB
- Medial calcar fracture/subsidence
  - Revision THA
    - Fluted, modular, taper stem



- 91yo F s/p GLF
- Revision R THA 5years ago
  - Cement mantle unchanged from immediate post-op
- Dx: B1



- Tx:
  - Anatomic reduction
  - Compression with lag screws
  - Neutralization plating:
    - Locking screws in short segment/poor bone
    - Cerclage to resist pull-off
    - Orthogonal plating to allow WBAT





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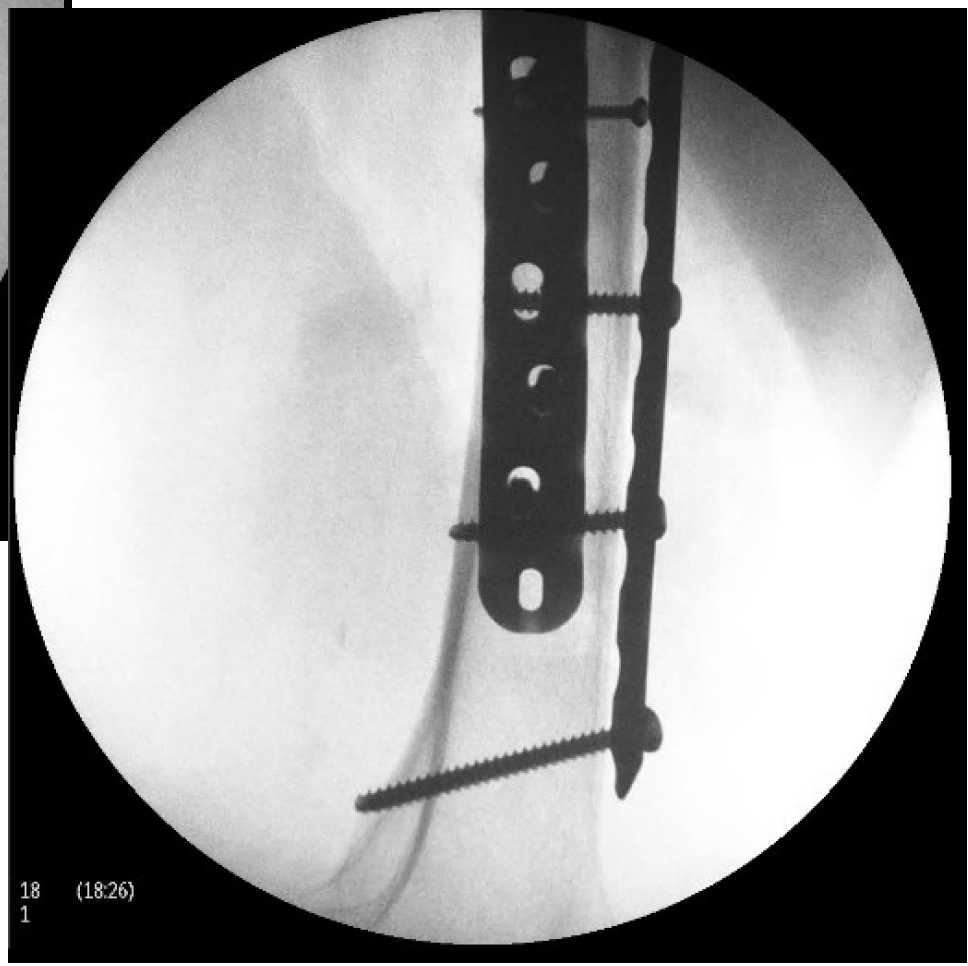
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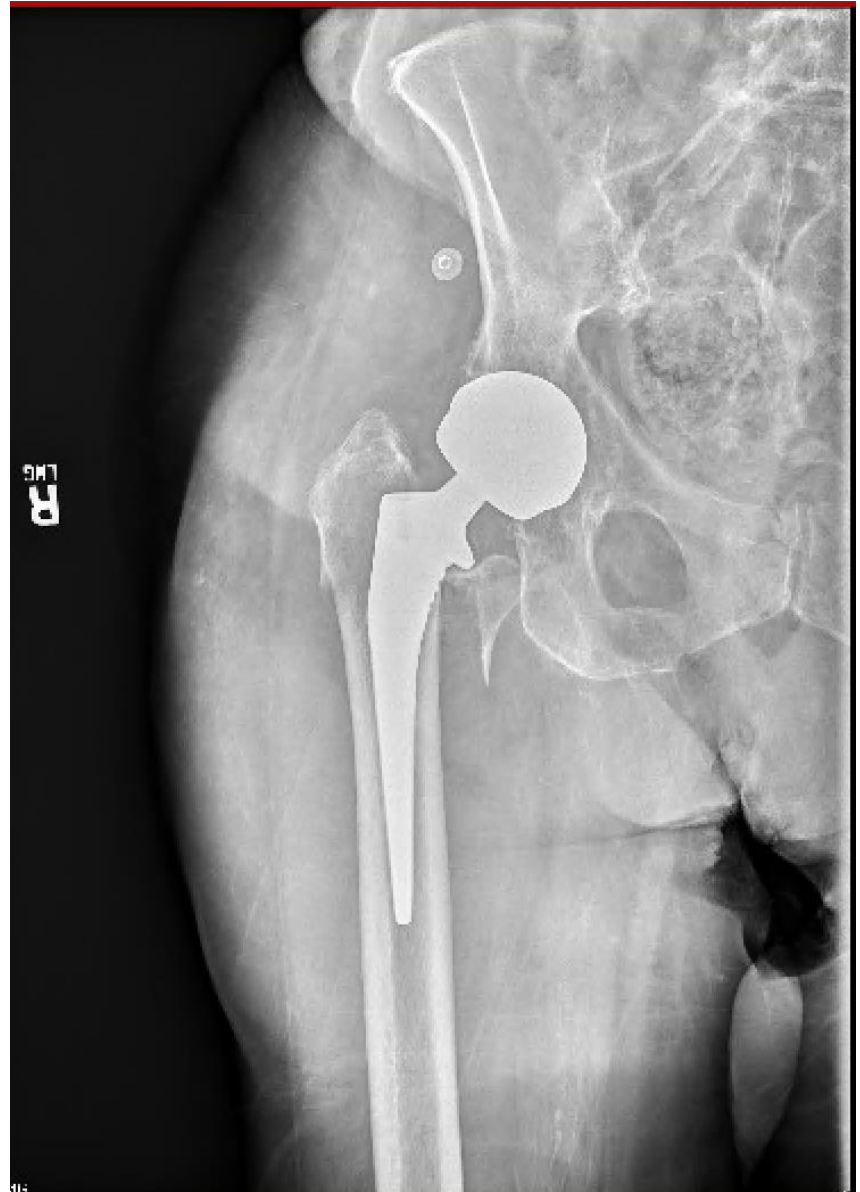


# Treatment: B1

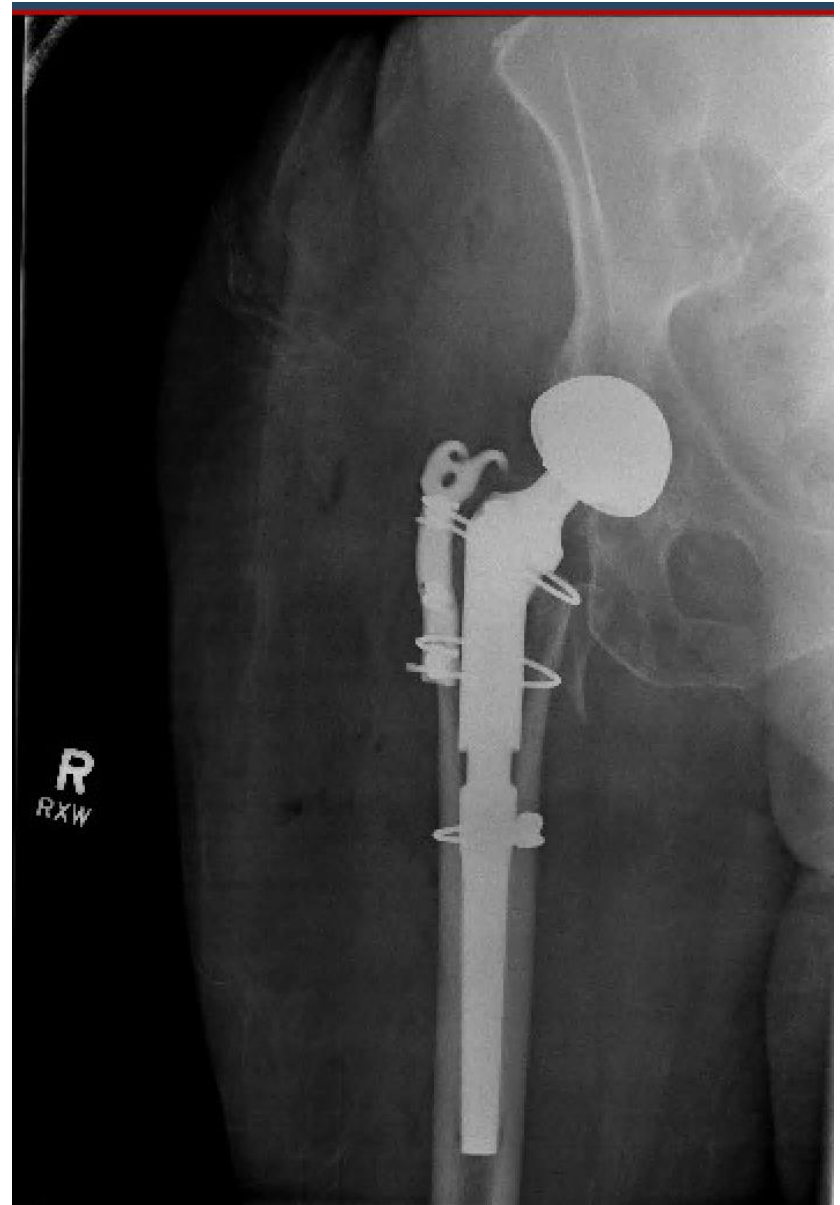
- Fix it!
  - Plates/screws
  - Cables
  - Locking screws (polyaxial)



- 86yo F s/p GLF
- Well functioning Metal-on-Metal hip 15 years prior
- Dx: B2



- Tx:
  - Modular diaphyseal engaging stem
  - Prophylactic cerclage wire distal to current fracture
  - Obtaining prior operative report to know inner diameter of current acetabular component
  - Dual mobility head
  - Capture trochanter
  - Was prepared for full revision



# Treatment: B2

- Revise it!
  - Remove prior implant
  - Revision stem with distal diaphyseal fixation
  - Proximal fracture fragments assembled around implant and secured with cerclage wires



- 77yo M p/w R hip pain after fall
  - Perthes as a child
  - First THA in 30s
  - Multiple revisions  
aseptic loosening and  
instability
  
- Dx: B3



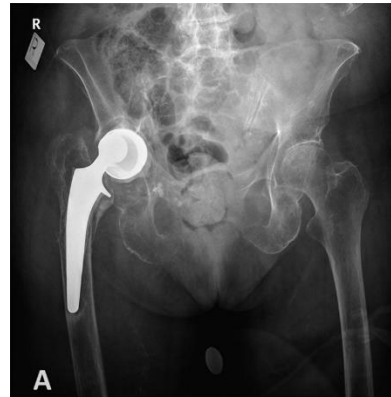


- Tx:
  - En Bloc resection of proximal femur
  - Proximal femoral replacement with long cemented stem
  - Constrained liner

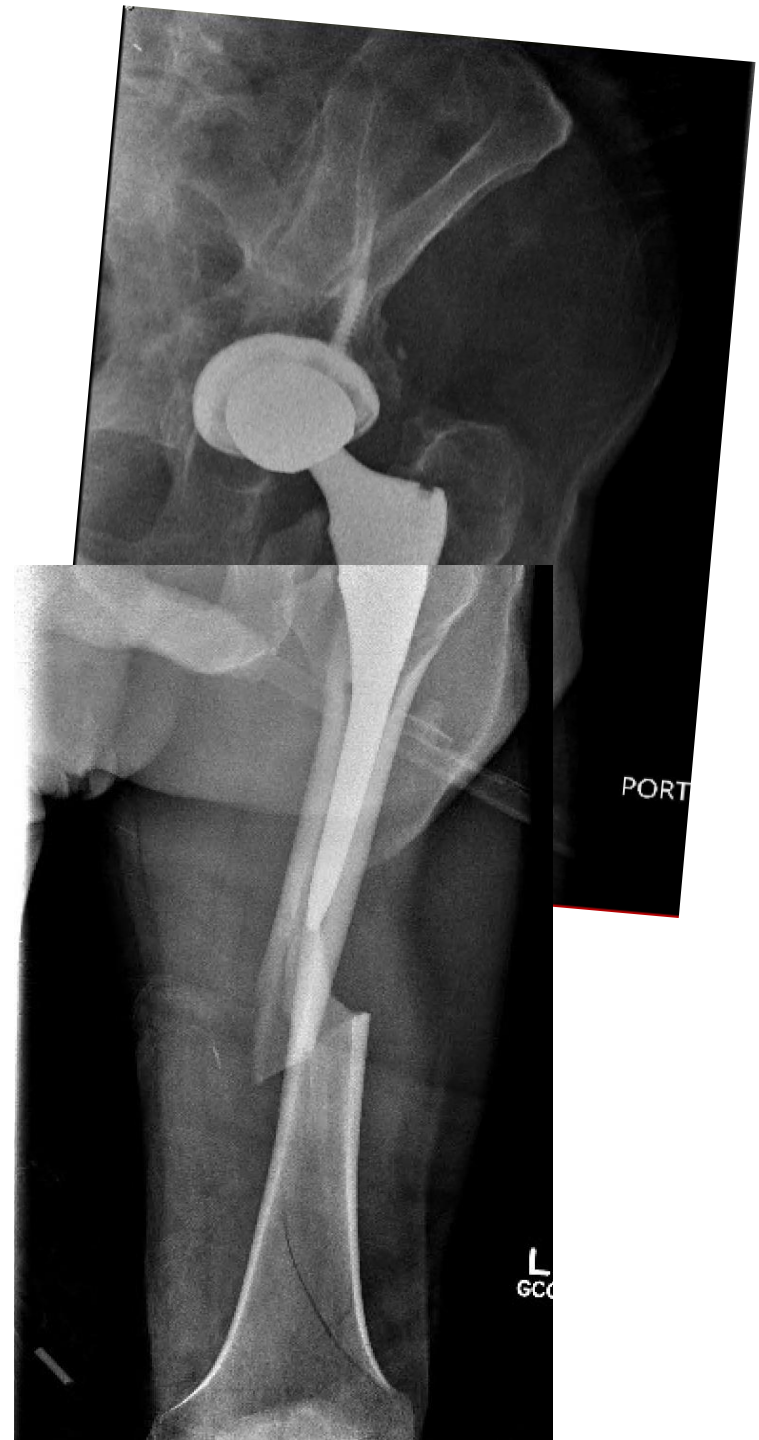


# Treatment: B3

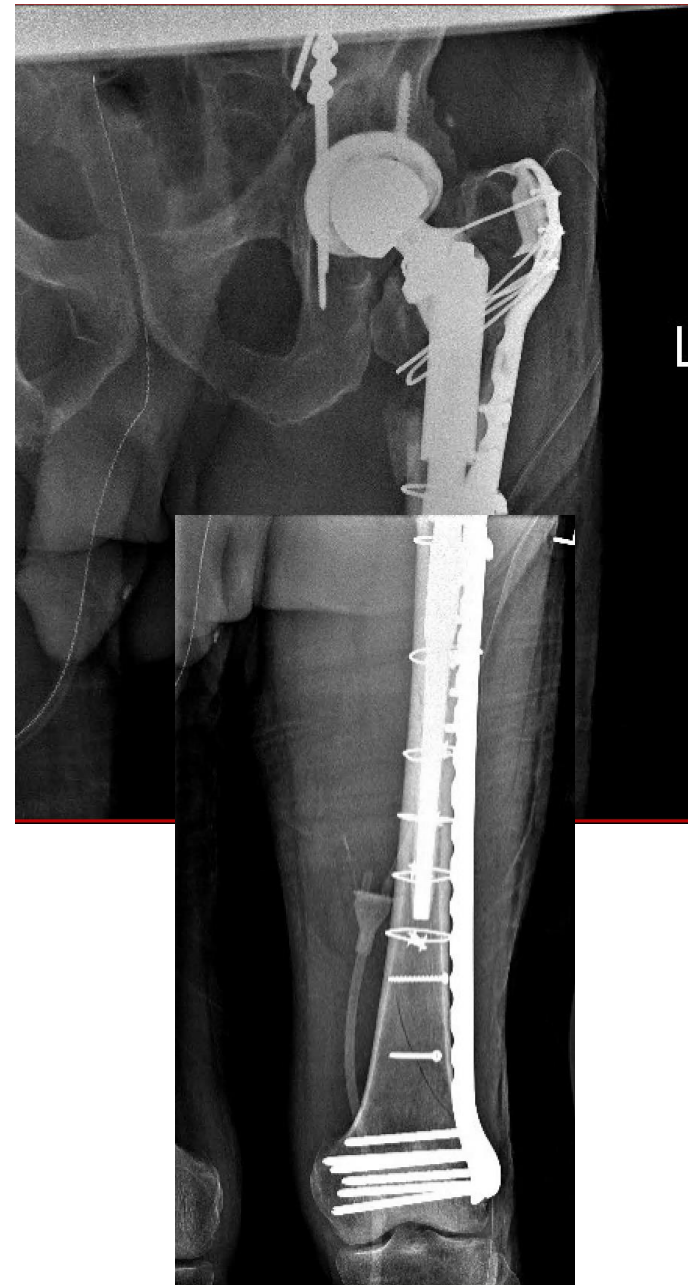
- Replace it... implant and bone!
  - Rebuild bone stock:
    - Diaphyseal engaging stem with allograft struts
    - Impaction grafting and long cemented stem
    - Allograft-prosthetic composite
  - Tumor prosthesis
    - Proximal femoral replacement

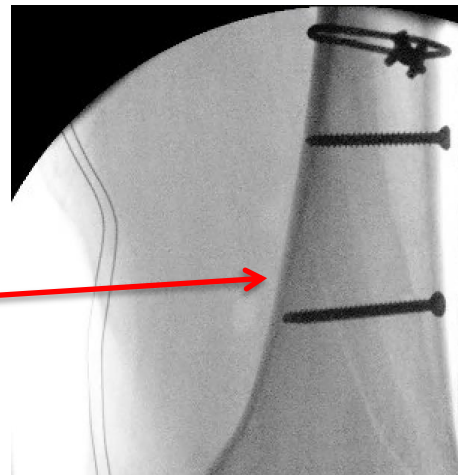
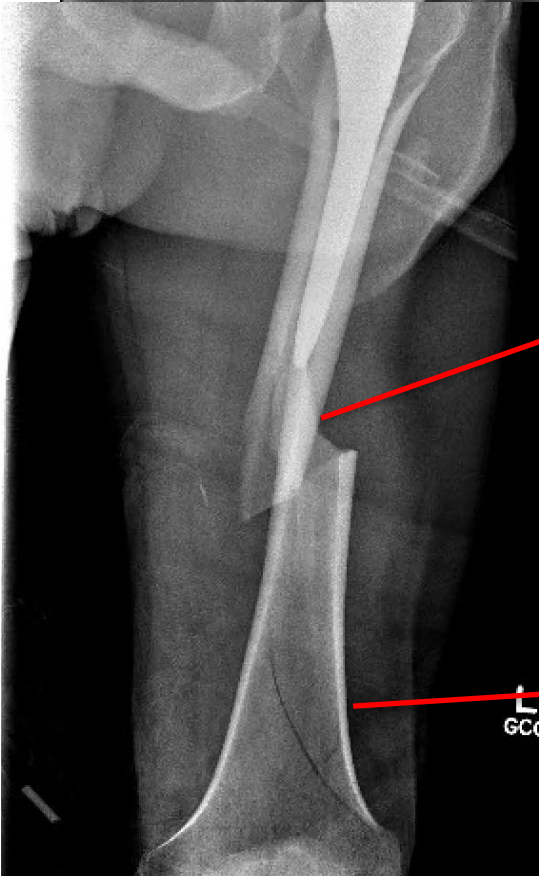


- 78yo M struck by car
- THA 12 years prior
- Ipsilateral LC2 pelvis fracture
- Dx: B2/C



- Tx:
  - Reduction of distal diaphysis and metaphysis
  - ORIF of C portion
    - Lag screws
    - Cerclage where new stem planned
    - Neutralization plate
  - Revision of B2 portion
    - Modular diaphyseal engaging stem
  - Capture trochanter w/ claw plate







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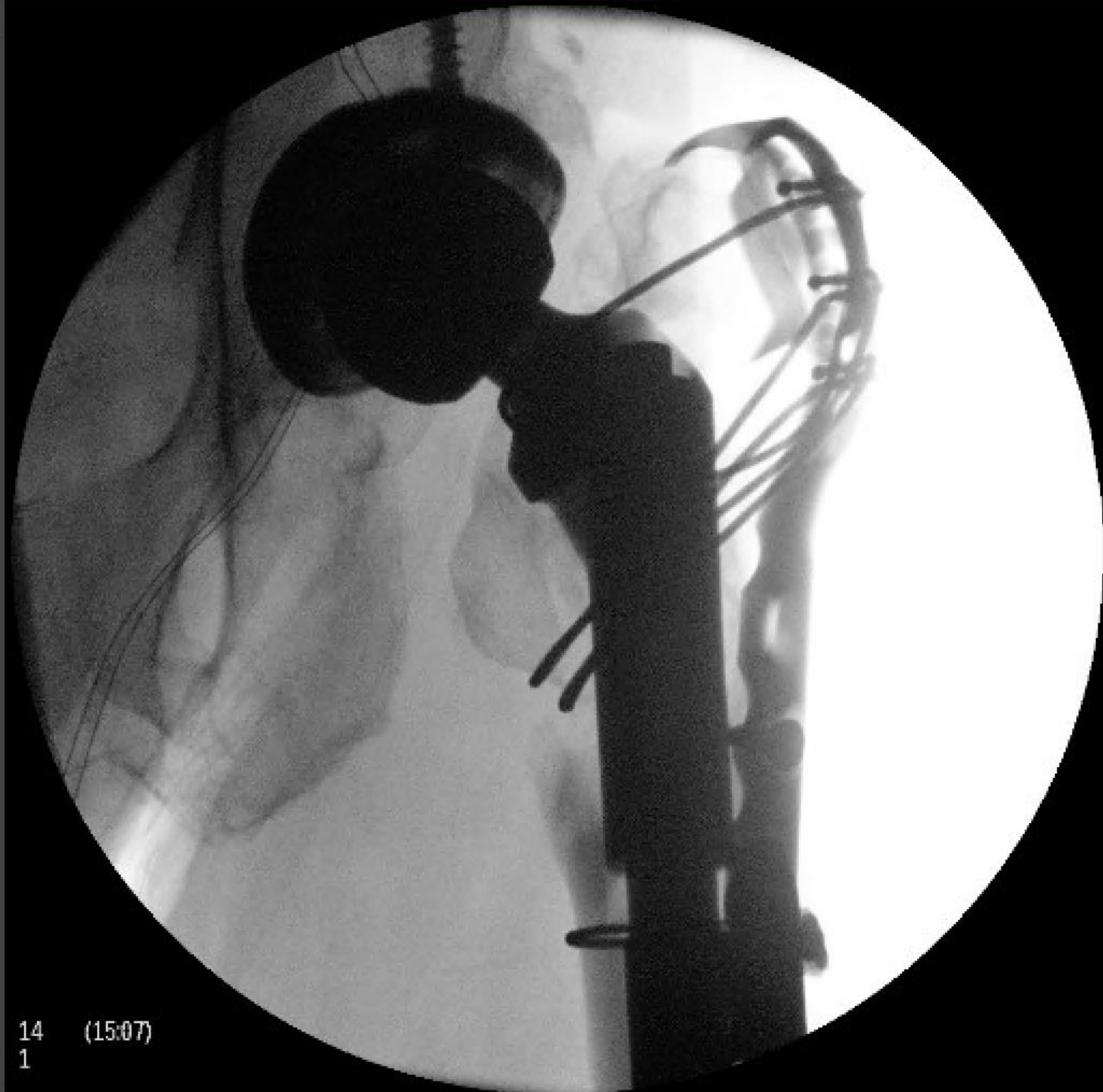




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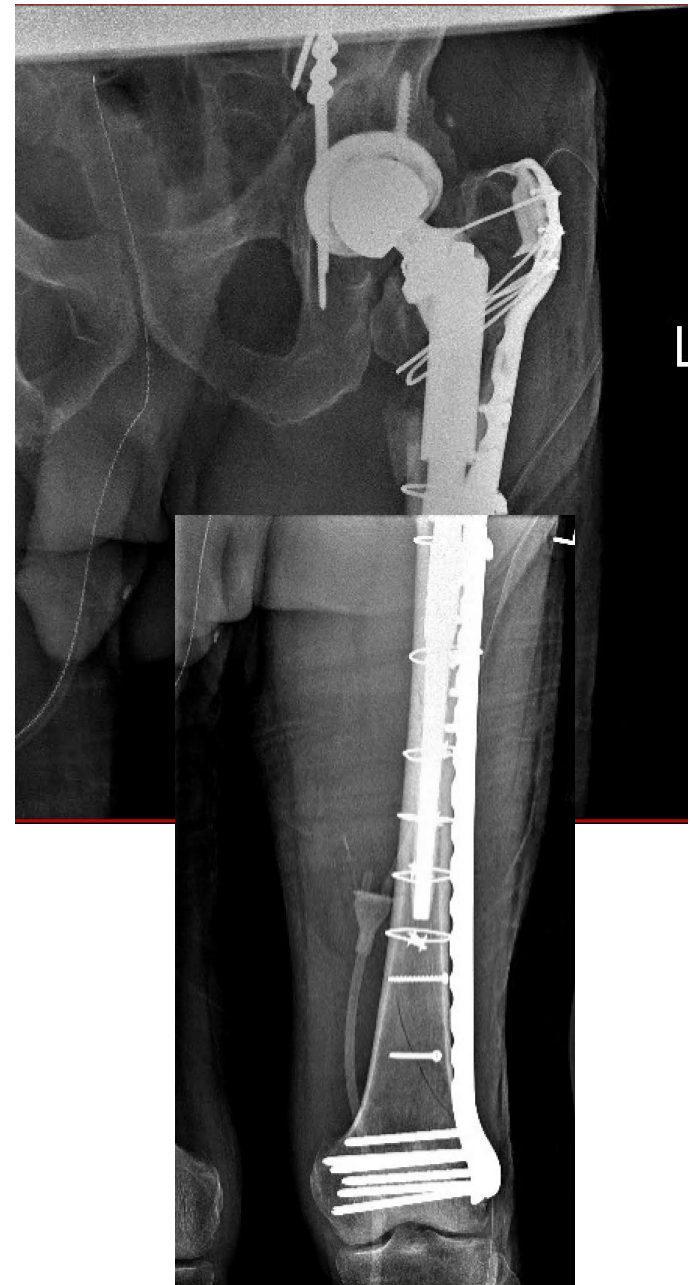


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- Keys for this Case:
  - Reconstruction of distal diaphysis and metaphysis
  - Avoiding lag screws in diaphysis where stem planned
  - Stem engagement in reconstructed diaphysis
  - Capture trochanter
  - Careful stability assessment
    - Length/offset/version



# Treatment: C

- Fix it!
  - Plat/screws
  - Cables
  - Locking screws
  - Take advantage of shaft fixation below prior implant

