

# **Osher Mini Med School: Osteoarthritis**

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- No Disclosures

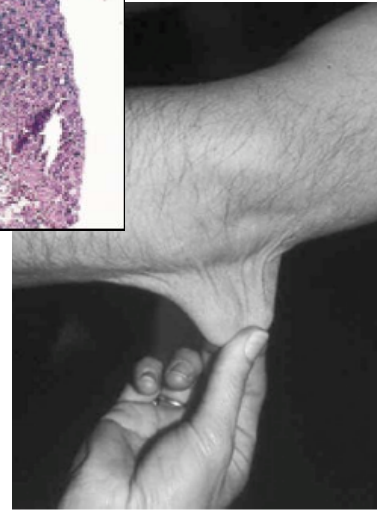
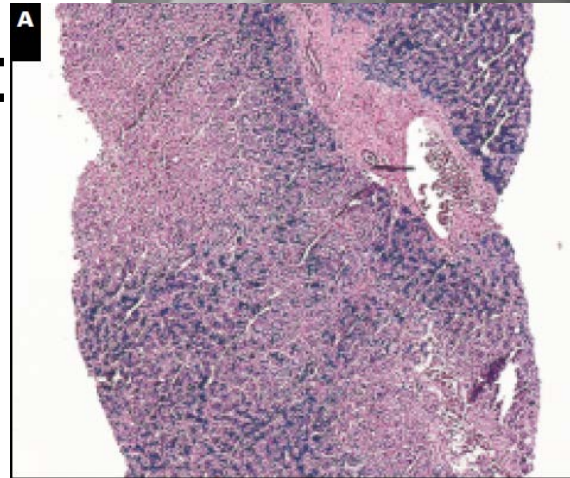
# Outline

- Causes of OA
  - Knowledge gaps
- Treatment options
  - Medication
  - Non-Medication
- “Holy Grail”: Disease Modifying Drug?

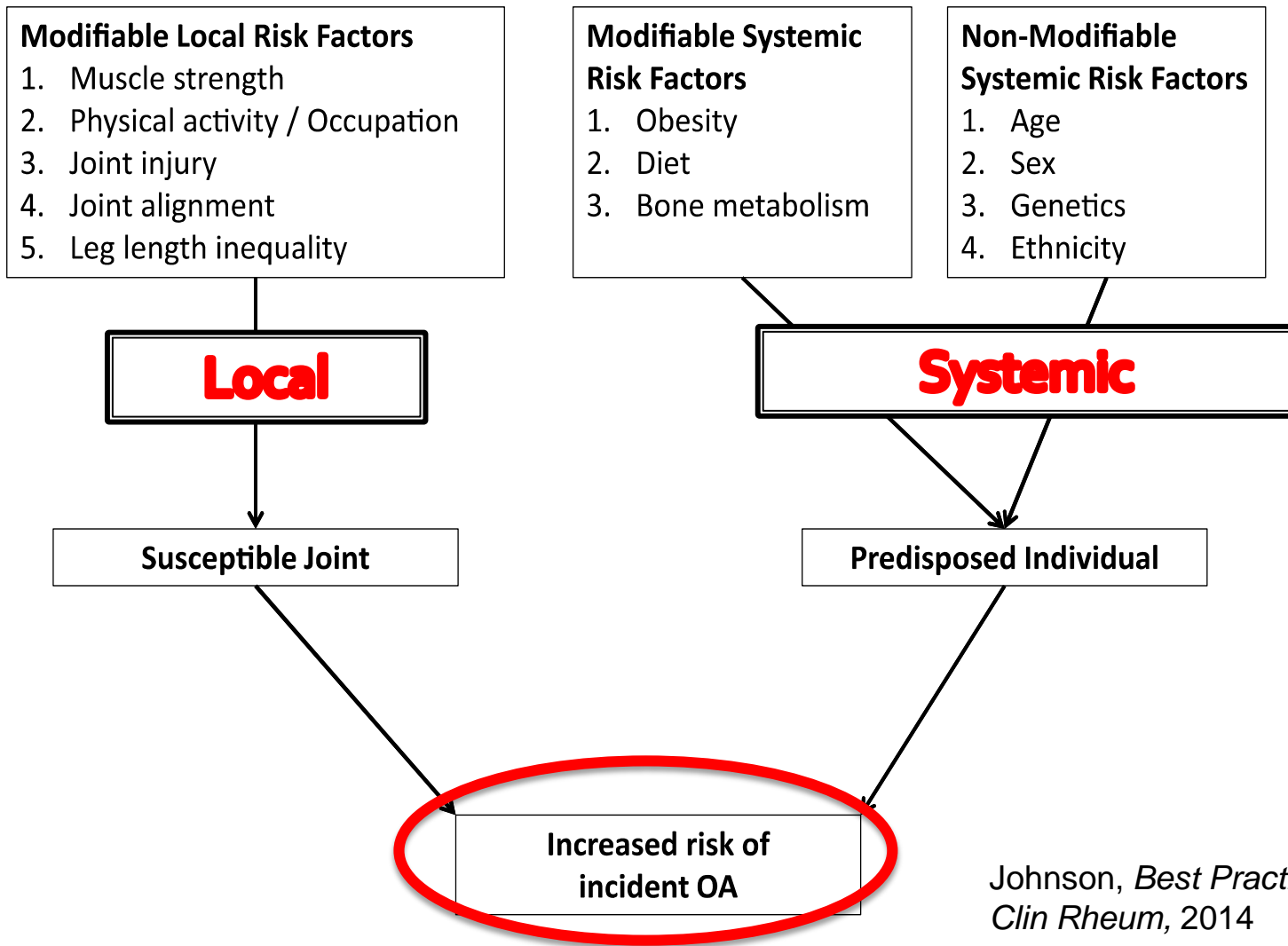


# Osteoarthritis: Causes

- Primary v Secondary OA
- Secondary OA:
- Congenital or acquired:
  - Dysplasia
  - Collagenopathy
  - Inflammatory arthritis
  - Metabolic disorders (iron metabolism)

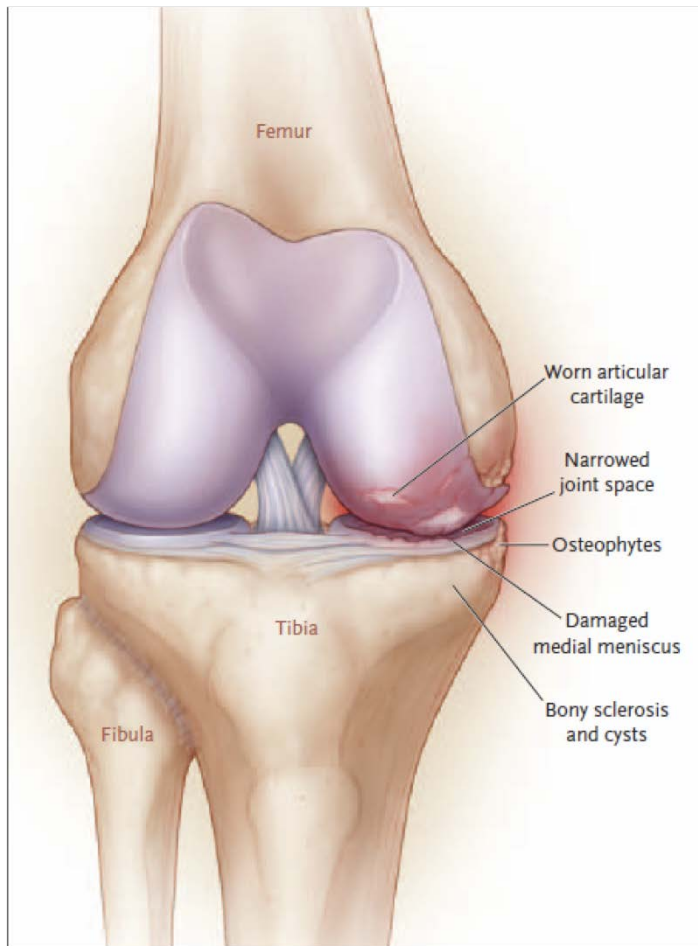


# OA: Primary



Johnson, *Best Practice & Research Clin Rheum*, 2014

# OA: Pathogenesis



## Disease of the Whole Joint

- Cartilage
- Bone
- Meniscus
- Soft Tissue Structures

# OA pathogenesis: Subchondral Bone and Cartilage Changes



Articular  
cartilage

Calcified  
cartilage

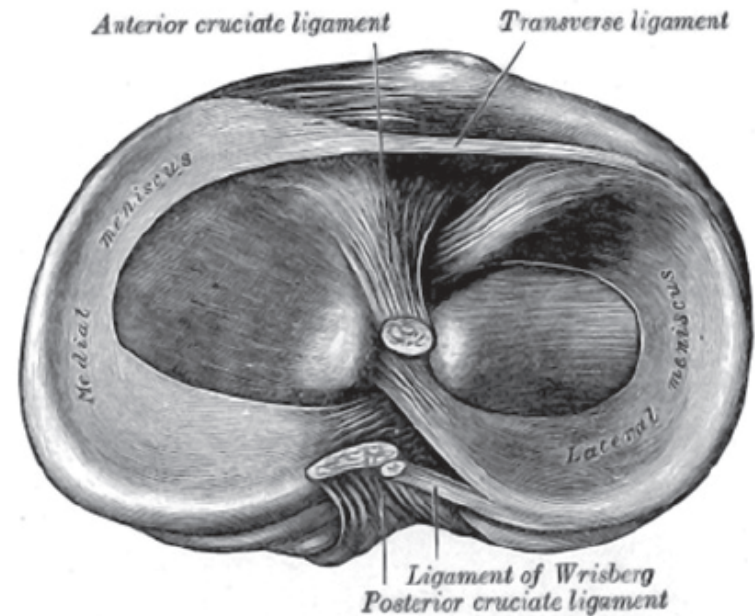
Vascular  
invasion

Tidemark  
duplication

Subchondral  
bone

# OA pathogenesis: Meniscus

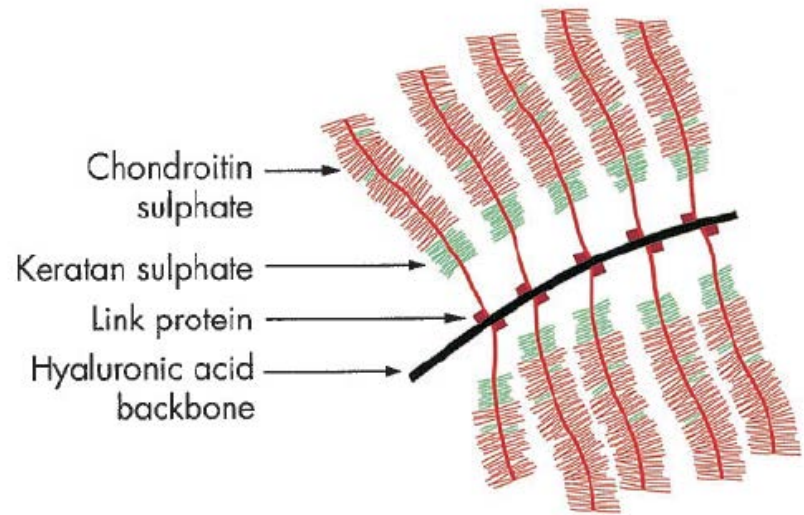
- Meniscal damage
- Can be risk factor for accelerated incident OA
- X-ray: “joint space” = **meniscus**



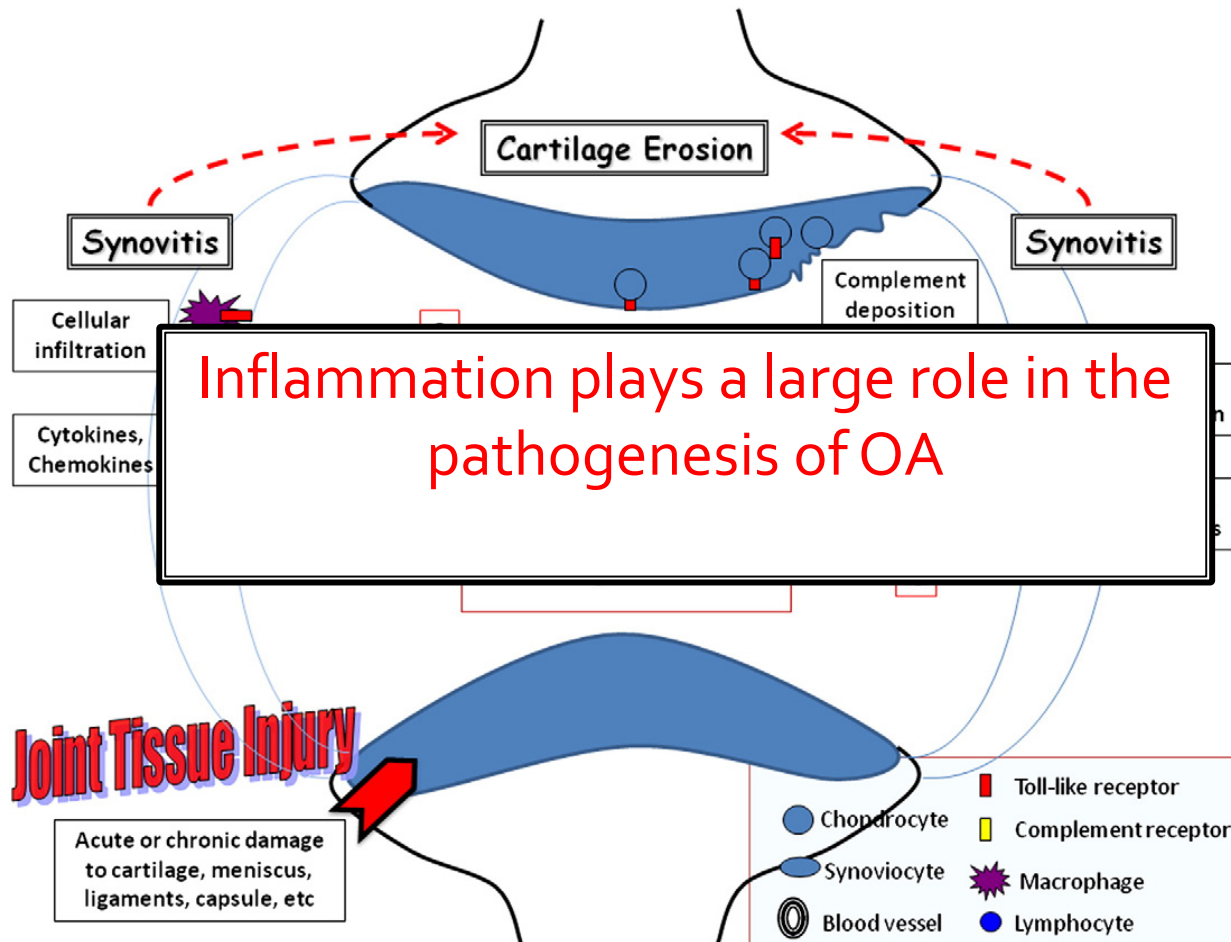


# Cartilage Components

- Water
- Collagen
- Proteoglycan
  - = Core protein chain + glycosaminoglycans (GAGs)
  - GAGs= keratan sulfate, chondroitin sulfate, hyaluronic acid



# Inflammation and OA



model of Toll-like Receptor (a) and complement activation (b) in the joint leading to synovitis and potentiation of cartilage erosion in OA. Joint tissue injury, either a

# Genetics of OA

- **Complicated by heterogeneity of populations and OA disease**

- **Monozygotic twin studies**  
(Spector et al., Rheumatology, 2009)

	Heritability, % (95% CI)
DIP	65 (57, 73)
PIP	53 (44, 62)
CMC	68 (60, 75)
Hip	28 (15, 40)
Knee	37 (28, 48)

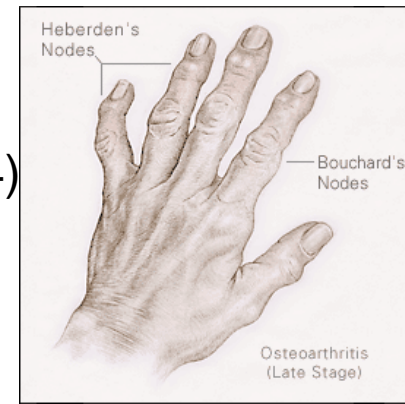
- **SNP analysis**

- IL1R antagonist gene variants
- Higher risk of knee OA progression by SNP analysis (X. Wu et al., OA&C, 2013)

Macgregor, Rheum, 2009

- **GWAS analyses**

- Hand OA: ALDH1A2 gene variants (Styrkasdottir, 2014)
- UK population, (Zeggini et al., Lancet 2012)



# OA: Treatment



“It’s fine to discover cures, but remember chronic conditions are our bread and butter”

# Case:

- 73 yo woman with Hx of severe knee DJD
- Hx of gastritis, responded to PPI in the past, not currently taking
- On ASA 81 mg
- Wants to know what medication(s) she can safely take regularly when in pain?

# American College of Rheumatology 2012 Guidelines

**Table 4. Pharmacologic recommendations for the initial management of knee OA\***

We conditionally recommend that patients with knee OA should use one of the following:

- Acetaminophen
- Oral NSAIDs
- Topical NSAIDs
- Tramadol
- Intraarticular corticosteroid injections

We conditionally recommend that patients with knee OA should not use the following:

- Chondroitin sulfate
- Glucosamine
- Topical capsaicin

We have no recommendations regarding the use of intraarticular hyaluronates, duloxetine, and opioid analgesics

\* No strong recommendations were made for the initial pharmacologic management of knee osteoarthritis (OA). For patients who have an inadequate response to initial pharmacologic management, please see the Results for alternative strategies. NSAIDs = non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs.

Recommendations  
are similar for  
hip osteoarthritis  
except no role for  
topical agents in hip  
OA

Use Acetaminophen first

Cymbalta is a last option

Hochberg MC, et al.  
Arthritis Care Res 2012

# NSAID toxicity

## GI TOXICITY

### High risk

1. History of a previously complicated ulcer, especially recent
2. Multiple (>2) risk factors

### Moderate risk (1–2 risk factors)

1. Age >65 years
2. High dose NSAID therapy
3. A previous history of uncomplicated ulcer
4. Concurrent use of aspirin (including low dose) corticosteroids or anticoagulants

### Low risk

1. No risk factors

*H. pylori* is an independent and additive risk factor and needs to be addressed separately (see text and recommendations).

Our patient: **moderate risk**, use lower-dose NSAID with PPI

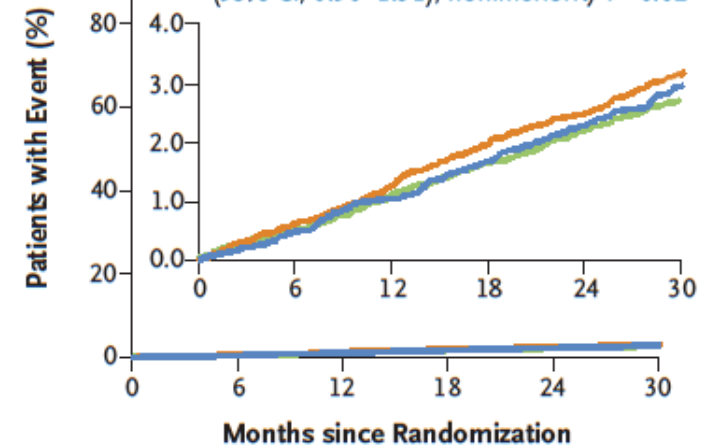
## CARDIOVASCULAR RISK

### A Primary APTC Outcome: Intention-to-Treat Population

Celecoxib vs. ibuprofen, hazard ratio, 0.85 (95% CI, 0.70–1.04); noninferiority  $P < 0.001$

Celecoxib vs. naproxen, hazard ratio, 0.93 (95% CI, 0.76–1.13); noninferiority  $P < 0.001$

Ibuprofen vs. naproxen, hazard ratio, 1.08 (95% CI, 0.90–1.31); noninferiority  $P = 0.02$



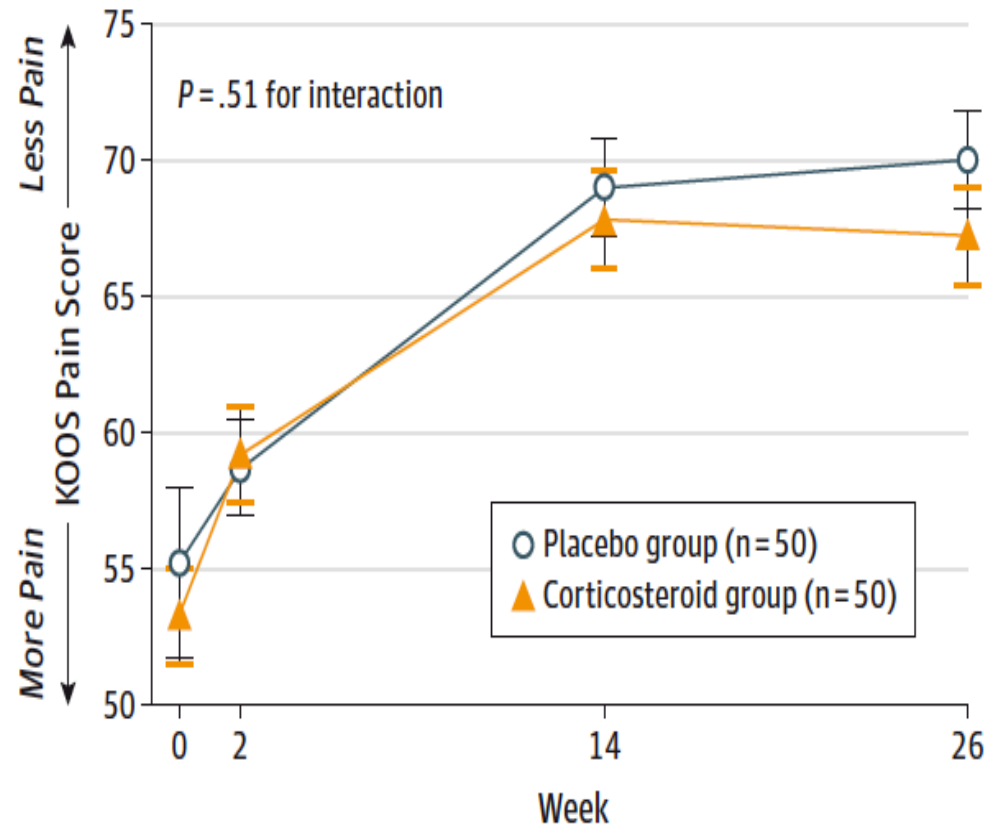
### No. at Risk

Ibuprofen	8040	7445	7103	6794	6080	5516
Naproxen	7969	7428	7215	6817	6115	5515
Celecoxib	8072	7545	7198	6863	6203	5645

# Intra-articular Corticosteroids for Knee Osteoarthritis

## Cochrane Meta-analysis

- Less pain at 1-4 weeks
- Effect decreases over time
- No effect after 6 mo.
- Adverse effects do not seem to be a problem\*



Self reported pain assessed



# Intra-articular Hyaluronic Acid for Knee Osteoarthritis

Viscosupplementation with hyaluronic acid (HA) - a natural constituent of joint fluid - to restore the viscoelasticity of synovial fluid

- Debatable efficacy based on data
  - Chevalier et al., Ann Rheum Dis 2010
  - Campbell et al, OA &C, 2007
- Slow acting – benefits appreciated at 5-13 weeks post injection
- Few adverse events reported: acute reaction of inflammation and synovitis



# Opioids for the management of Osteoarthritis

Two Meta-analyses:

- Patients with osteoarthritis had improvement in pain and physical function from treatment with opioids although the effect size was relatively small (0.7 cm on a 10-cm visual pain scale, 0.6 units on a disability 0-10 scale)
- \*Adverse events → limit opioid usefulness
- The long-term efficacy and safety unclear



# Case:

- Our (same) patient would prefer not to take any “dangerous” medications, and would prefer more “natural” methods of pain relief.
- She would like to try the herbal medication Boswellia for pain
- What should she do?

# Herbal medications for OA

- Boswellia
- Turmeric
- Cat's claw
- Avocado-soybean unsap.
- No known diet that halts OA

## Counsel the patient:

- May be of benefit
- Costly?

**-Risk is unclear**

## ■ Resources:

- Osher Centers for Integrative Medicine

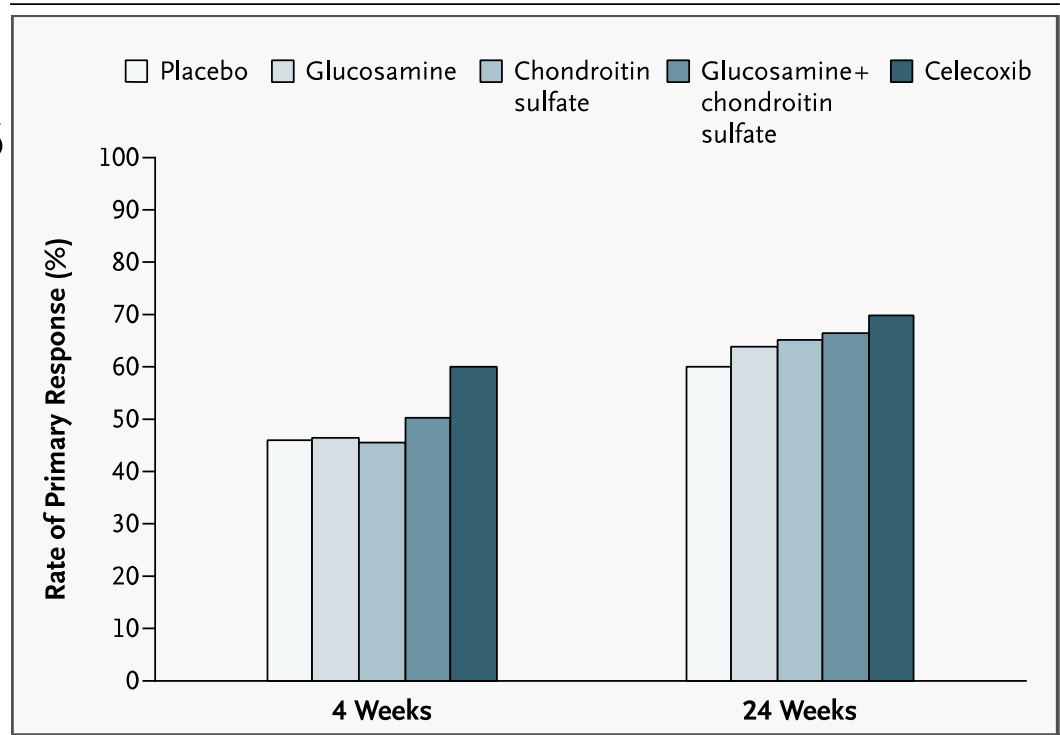
- Memorial Sloan Kettering herbal references:

<https://www.mskcc.org/cancer-care/diagnosis-treatment/symptom-management/integrative-medicine/herbs>

# Glucosamine/Chondroitin

Most past studies indicate no significant benefit in:

- Pain
- Function
- Joint Structure



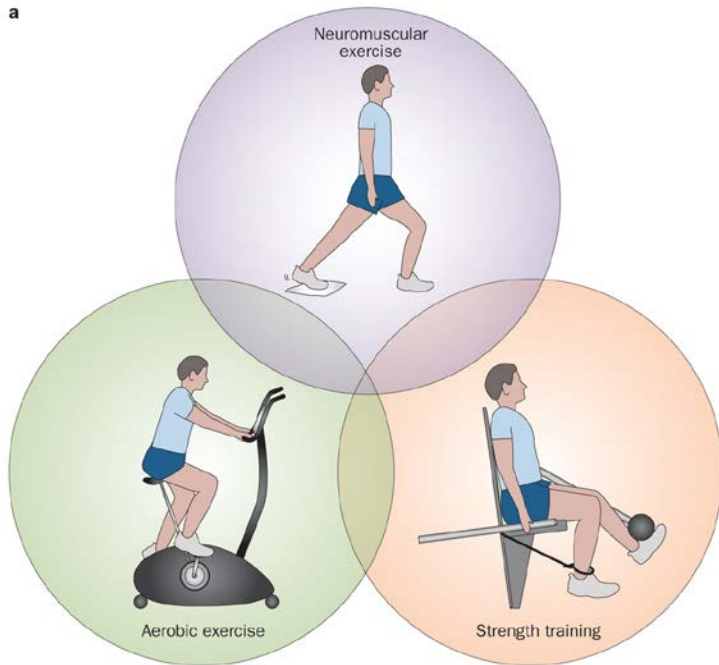
GAIT Study (Clegg DO et al., NEJM, 2006)

# OA Treatment: Knee (and Hip)

## ■ Treatment

- Non-pharmacologic Rx of OA
- Pharmacologic Rx of OA
- Joint Injections for OA
- **Mainstay: Combination of pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy**

# ACR : Knee (and Hip) OA Treatment



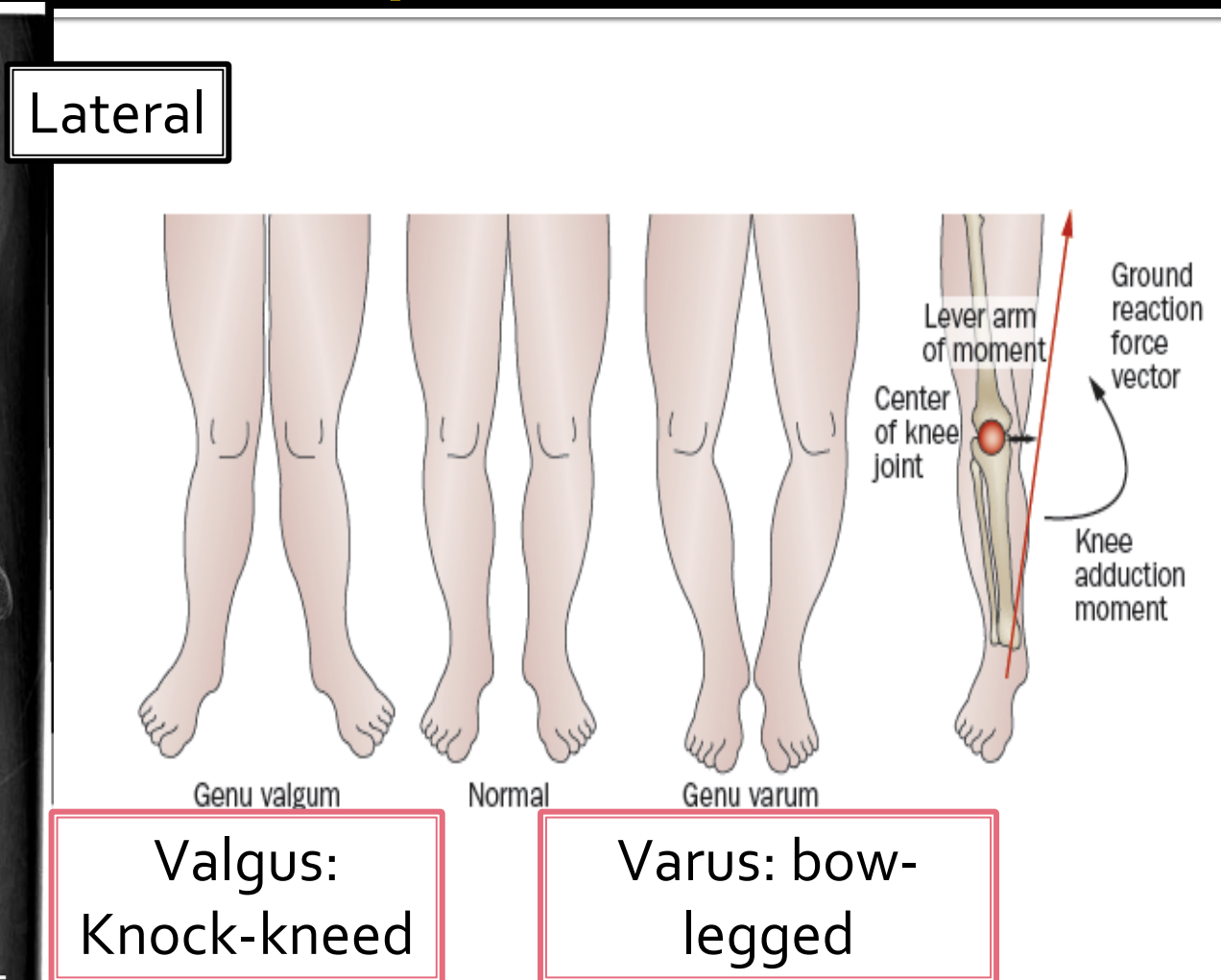
- Exercise
- Weight Loss
- Walking
- Tai Chi
- Accupuncture
- *Water Therapy*

# Exercise Decreases Pain in OA

- Improvement in pain with regular PT /gentle exercise program more than just weight loss alone (JAMA, 2013)
- Decrease in pain → increase in function  
→ “Move it or lose it”
- Effect on central pain pathways



# Varus Deformity Biomechanics (Medial Knee OA)



# Varus Deformity Biomechanics

- Corrective Devices
  - Shift the weight-bearing axis towards the center of the affected varus knee → towards **neutral** alignment
  - Directly Unload Medial Knee
    - Unloader Braces
    - Lateral Wedges
    - Canes
    - Flexible Shoes





- Methotrexate
- TNF-inhibitors
  - Etanercept (Enbrel)
  - Adalimumab (Humira)
- Hydroxychloroquine
- Strontium relanate
- Tanezumab

# Regenerative Medicine

- PRPP (TGF-beta, PDF-GF, VEGF)
- Bone Marrow Matrix
- Adipose MSC
- Autologous BM Aspirate
- Allogeneic MSCs
- Umbilical cord derived MSCs
- Wide variation in methodology, poor clinical data to support use at this time
- More standardized methodology and outcome measures needed

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Thank You!

# OA Pathogenesis: Bone

**OSTEOPHYTE**



**BUTTRESSING**



# Hand OA



DIP



CMC



PIP

- Increases with age, especially postmenopausal women
- Women > Men
- Heberden's and Bouchard's nodes → genetic predisposition



# Hand OA: Pharmacologic

## RECOMMEND

- Topical capsaicin
- Topical NSAIDs
- Oral NSAIDs
- Tramadol
- >75 years old →  
Topical NSAIDs  
more than oral

## DON'T RECOMMEND

- Intraarticular  
therapies
- Opioid Analgesics



# Cane Use with Stairs

- Use stairs one at a time, use cane on **contralateral** side of the affected (bad) leg
  - Going **up**: Advance with the good (unaffected) leg first
  - Going **down**: descend with the BAD leg first, and contralateral cane at the same time
- “Up with the good, down with the bad.”

# Base of Thumb Splints

- Splints are used to support, stabilize, protect painful joint
- RCT : nighttime use decreased pain & hand disability compared with usual care at 1 year. (took time for effect)
- Avoid 24 hr use of splints → muscle atrophy.



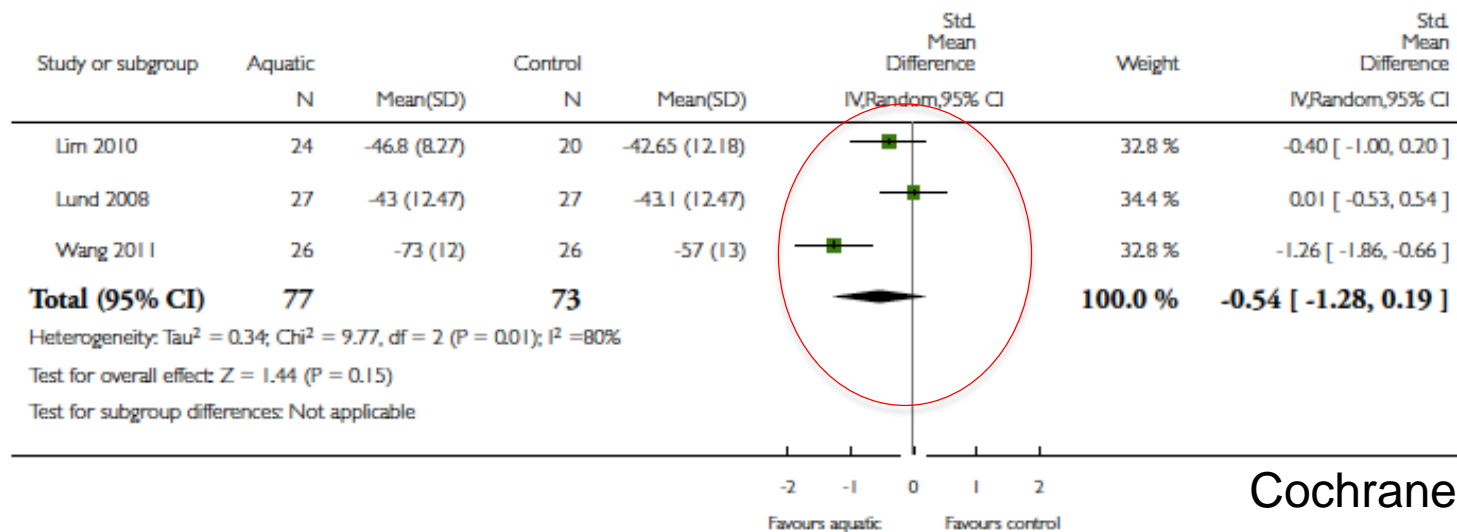
# Water therapy: Improves pain

## Analysis 2.3. Comparison 2 Aquatic exercise vs control immediately after treatment: knee OA, Outcome 3 Quality of life.

Review: Aquatic exercise for the treatment of knee and hip osteoarthritis

Comparison: 2 Aquatic exercise vs control immediately after treatment: knee OA

Outcome: 3 Quality of life



Cochrane, 2016

Water therapy helps with pain, not clear if effects are lasting

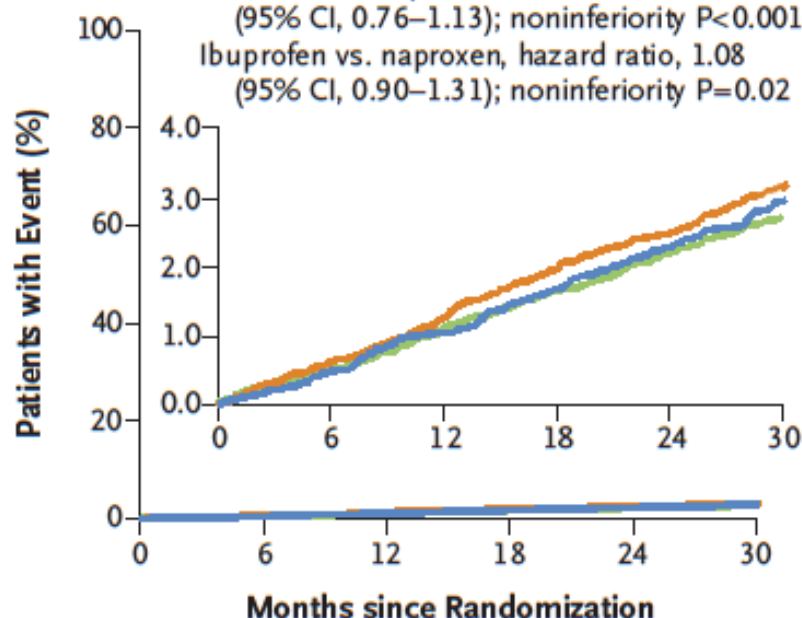
# NSAIDs and Cardiovascular risk

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- PRECISION trial
- Non-inferiority RCT of CV safety of celebrex v ibuprofen and naproxen
- Outcome: hemorrhagic death, nonfatal MI, nonfatal stroke

Nissen, et al., NEJM, 2016