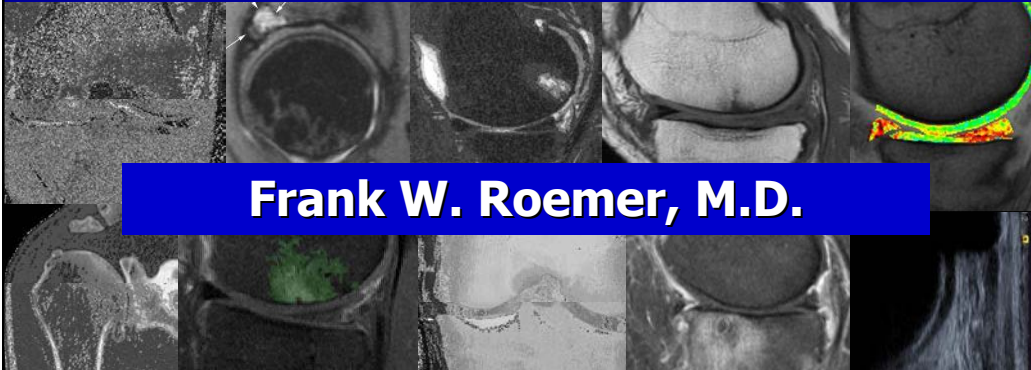


Overview of Current Imaging as Applied to OA Diagnostics and Clinical Studies:

What Methods are Currently Used and What are the Limitations?



Frank W. Roemer, M.D.



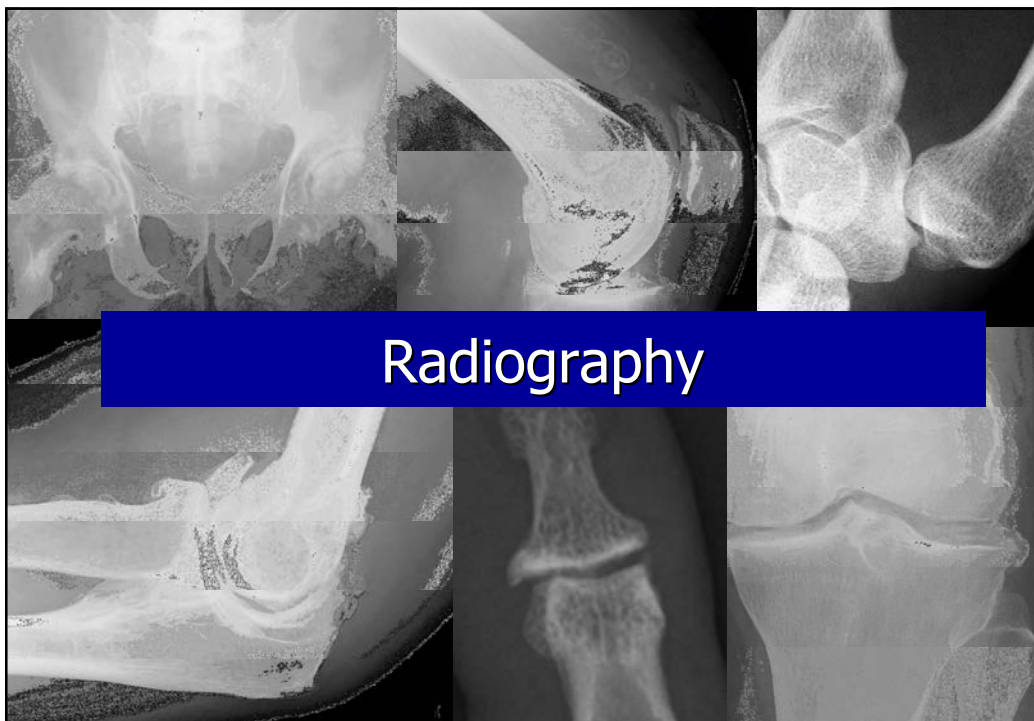
Overview

- Radiography
- MRI
- Ultrasound
- CT
- Others
- Relevance
- Summary



Disclosure

- CMO and shareholder of Boston Imaging Core Lab, LLC
- Consultant to Merck Serono, NIH



Radiography

- First line diagnostic imaging tool in a clinical setting
- Most of the time sufficient for clinical diagnostic purposes
- X-ray detected joint space narrowing only accepted imaging endpoint in clinical phase III trials (EMA/FDA)
- Important for inclusion into clinical trials and subject stratification

Radiographic OA assessment

- Semiquantitative assessment (K/L grading and OARSI Atlas)
- Joint space width measurement: manual/semi-automated/automated
- JSW only indirect surrogate of cartilage and meniscal damage and –extrusion ^{1,2,3}

¹Gale DR, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 1999 Nov;7(6):526-32.

²Hunter DJ, et al. Arthritis Rheum. 2006 Aug;54(8):2488-95.

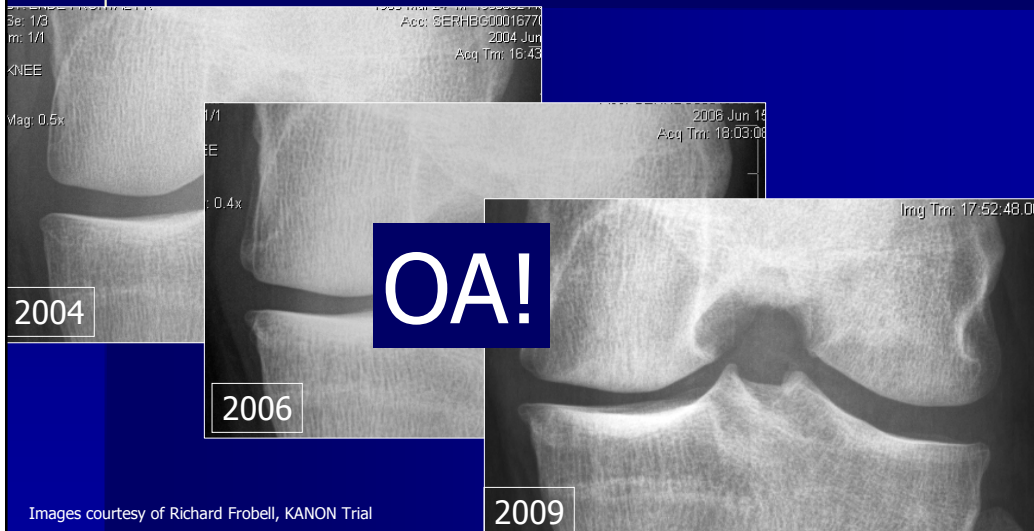
³Crema M et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2011;19(Suppl 1): S173.

Semiquantitative Xray assessment - Kellgren Lawrence Grading: composite score

- Grade 0: no feature of OA
- Grade 1: Doubtful JSN and possible osteophytic lipping
- Grade 2: **Definite osteophytes** and possible JSN
- Grade 3: Moderate multiple osteophytes, **definite JSN**, and some sclerosis and possible deformity of bone ends
- Grade 4: Large osteophytes, marked JSN, severe sclerosis, and definite deformity of bone ends

Kellgren JH, Lawrence JS. Radiological assessment of osteo-arthritis. Ann Rheum Dis 1957;16:494-502.

Definition Radiography Kellgren Lawrence



Semiquantitative Xray assessment - OARSI Grading: Atlas-based

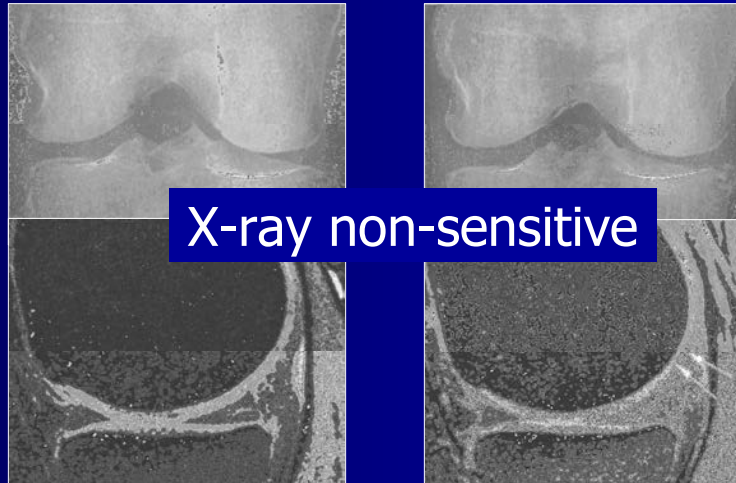
- Medial femoral osteophyte: 0-3
- Medial tibial osteophyte: 0-3
- Lateral femoral osteohyte: 0-3
- Lateral tibial osteophyte: 0-3
- Medial tibio-femoral JSN: 0-3
- Lateral tibio-femoral JSN: 0-3

Altman RD, Hochberg M, Murphy WA, et al. Atlas of individual radiographic features in osteoarthritis. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage* 1995;3(Suppl A):3-70
Altman RD, Gold GE. Atlas of individual radiographic features in osteoarthritis, revised. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage* 2007;15 Suppl A:A1-56

Atlas-based assessment



No longitudinal joint space narrowing an indirect marker of cartilage integrity?



Roemer FW, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2009;17(Suppl 1):S224

Longitudinal joint space narrowing an indirect marker of cartilage loss?

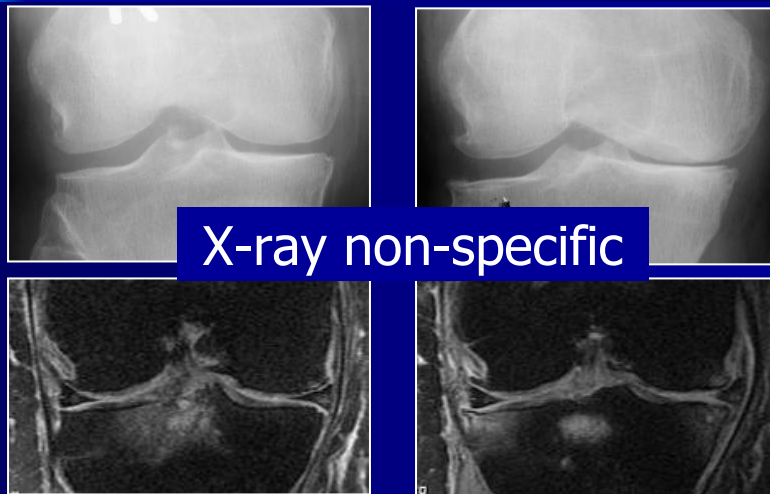


image from: Amin S, et al. Arthritis Rheum 2005;52:3152-9, Hunter DJ et al. A&R 2006, Gale D 1999

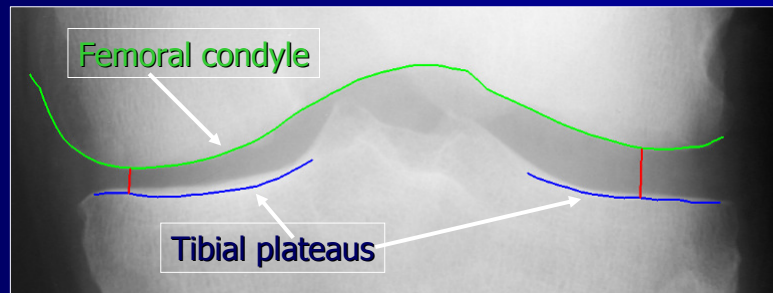
Radiographic OA assessment: JSW



MRI Predictor	Progression of JSN		Adjusted OR (95% CI)
	Absence	Presence	
Number of features worsening			
No worsening of all 3 features	366 (69.2%)	18 (3.4%)	1.0 (reference)
Worsening of 1 feature	85 (16.1%)	27 (5.1%)	6.5 (3.4;12.2)
Worsening of 2 features	10 (1.9%)	11 (2.1%)	22.5 (8.8,57.5)
Worsening of 3 features	2 (0.4%)	9 (1.7%)	92.6 (18.7, 457.4)

Crema M et al. The association of worsening of cartilage damage and meniscal pathology with increase in radiographic tibiofemoral joint space narrowing in persons with knee OA. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2011;19(Suppl 1): S17.

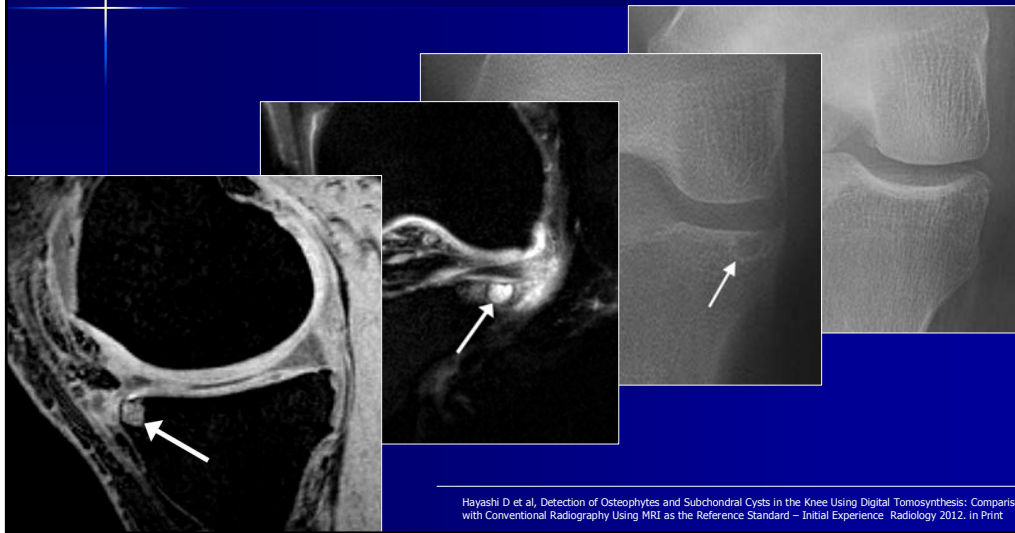
Minimum joint space width



Software automatically delineates joint margins and determines mJSW


•Duryea J, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2003;11:102-110
 •Duryea J, et al. Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2010 Jul;62(7):932-7.

Digital Tomosynthesis



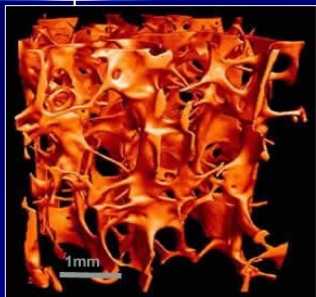
Hayashi D et al., Detection of Osteophytes and Subchondral Cysts in the Knee Using Digital Tomosynthesis: Comparison with Conventional Radiography Using MRI as the Reference Standard – Initial Experience. Radiology 2012. In Print

Digital Tomosynthesis

	Compartments	Prevalence		Sensitivity	Specificity
		N	(%)		
 X-ray	Lat Fem	35	(44)	0.73	1.00
	Med Fem	31	(39)	0.79	1.00
	Lat Tib	42	(53)	0.87	0.91
	Med Tib	42	(53)	0.90	0.83
DTS	Lat Fem	48	(60)	0.98*	0.97
	Med Fem	39	(49)	0.97*	0.98
	Lat Tib	49	(61)	1.00*	0.89
	Med Tib	42	(53)	1.00	0.93

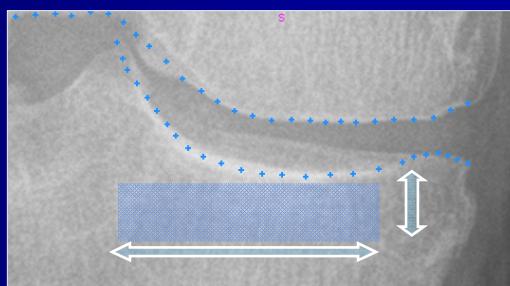
Hayashi D et al., Detection of Osteophytes and Subchondral Cysts in the Knee Using Digital Tomosynthesis: Comparison with Conventional Radiography Using MRI as the Reference Standard – Initial Experience. Radiology 2012. In Print

Fractal signature analysis



The radiograph gives a 2D projection of trabecular structure

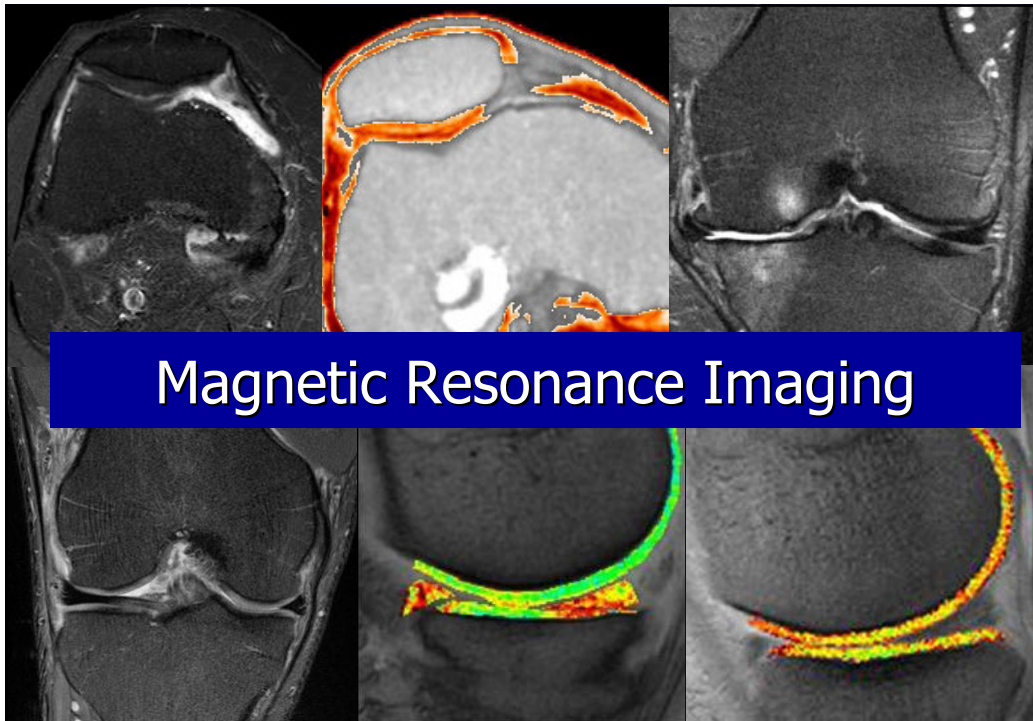
Texture or 'fractal' signatures are computed at a number of scales in the vertical and horizontal direction.



Images courtesy of Optasia

Fractal signature analysis

- Texture Analysis of macroradiographs of OA knees using fractal signature has long history
- Conflicting results in regard to prediction of OA progression
- Different dimensions of trabecular architecture are assessed
- Validation with histomorphometry and μ CT needed



Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Methods - MRI

MRI

- Tomographic technique
- No radiation
- Superior soft tissue contrast
- Clinically relevant for differential diagnosis
- Direct visualization of all joint structures: semiquantitative whole-joint assessment
- 3D quantitative analysis

MRI

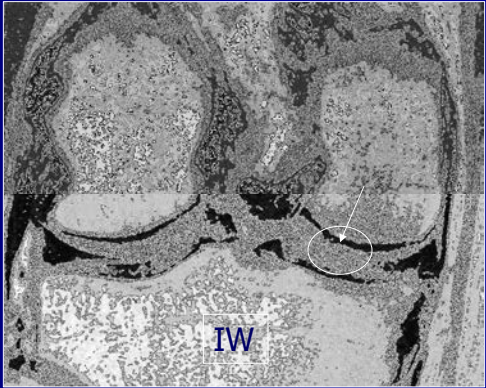
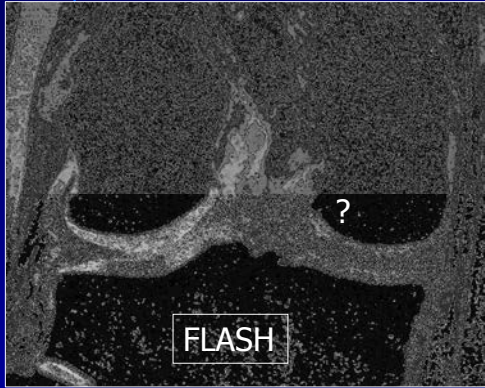
- Biochemical/compositional/metabolic/vascular analysis: T2 mapping, dGEMRIC, T1rho, Na⁺⁺, spectroscopy, diffusion, CEST, DCE MRI
- Imaging technique easily reproducible in multicenter studies and longitudinally
- Major drawback: costs
- Contraindications (e.g. pacemaker, claustrophobia)

MRI: Hardware

- Different MRI systems available that are suitable for image acquisition and MRI assessment in OA studies and clinical trials:
 - 1.0 T extremity systems
 - 1.5 T large bore systems
 - 3.0 T large bore systems

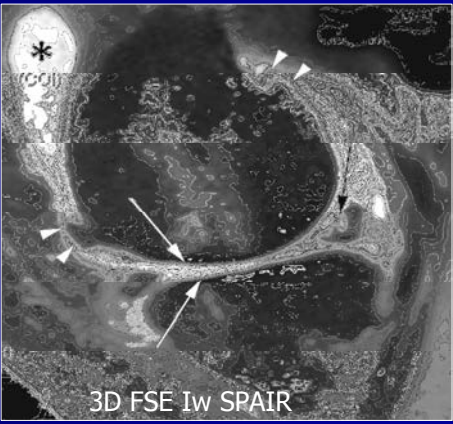


MRI: Relevance of sequences



1Roemer FW et al., Eur J Radiology, Eur J Radiol. 2011 Nov;80(2):e126-31. 2Mohr et al., Skeletal Radiol 2003; 32:396-402; 3Stahl R, et al., Skeletal Radiol 2008; 37:627-638; 4 Roemer FW, et al. Advances in Osteoarthritis and Cartilage Imaging. Radiology

MRI: Novel sequences – relevance for OA assessment



Crema MD, et al. Comparison between 2D and 3D Intermediate-weighted Fast Spin-Echo MRI for Semiquantitative Whole Organ Assessment of the Knee in Osteoarthritis Research. - RSNA 96th Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 28-December 3, 2011. SSM12-04

MRI-based OA Assessment

- Different imaging approaches to OA joint assessment using MRI available:

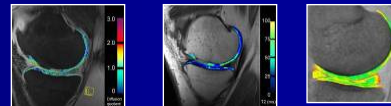
- Quantitative Analysis

(cartilage, meniscus, muscle)



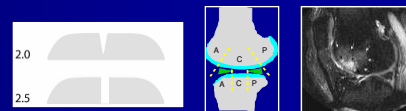
- Compositional Analysis

(cartilage, meniscus)



- Semiquantitative Analysis

(all joint tissues)



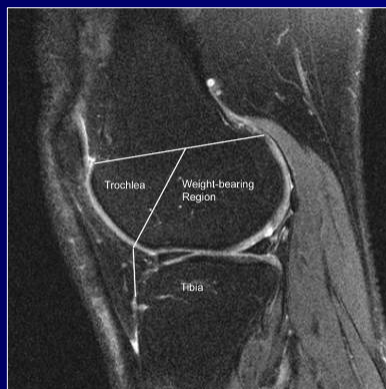
SQ MRI Assessment

- Semi-quantitative whole joint assessment
 - Assessment of articular cartilage directly
 - Assessment of other important articular structures
 - Meniscus
 - Osteophytes
 - Attrition
 - Subchondral bone marrow lesions and cysts
 - Ligaments
 - Synovium
 - Effusion
 - Periarticular structures

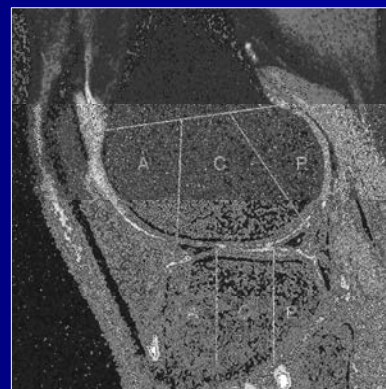
Semiquantitative MRI Scoring Systems

- **WORMS = Whole-Organ Magnetic Resonance Imaging Score**
Peterfy CG, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2004;12:177-190
- **KOSS = Knee Osteoarthritis Scoring System**
Kornaat PR, et al. Skeletal Radiol 2005;34:95-102
- **BLOKS = Boston Leeds Osteoarthritis Knee Score**
Hunter DJ, et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2008;67:206-211
- **SQ Synovitis Assessment Score**
Guermazi A, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2011;70(5):805-11
- **MOAKS = MRI Osteoarthritis Knee Score**
Hunter DJ, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2011;19(8):990-1002
- **HOAMS = Hip Osteoarthritis MRI Score**
Roemer FW, et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage. 2011;19(8):946-62
- **OHOA = Oslo Hand Osteoarthritis MRI Score**
Haugen IK, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2011 Jun;70(6):1033-8.

Semiquantitative MRI Scoring Systems: subregional division



BLOKS



WORMS/MOAKS

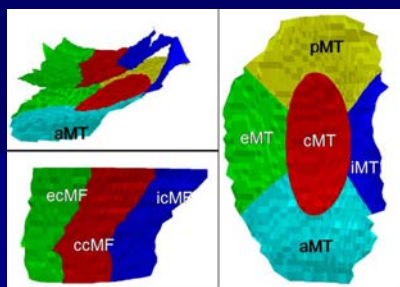
BLOKS: **8 articular subregions** for cartilage, bone marrow lesion (BML) and subchondral cyst assessment

MOAKS/WORMS: **15 articular subregions** for cartilage, bone marrow lesion (BML) and subchondral cyst assessment

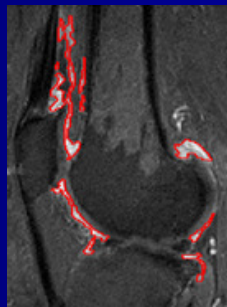
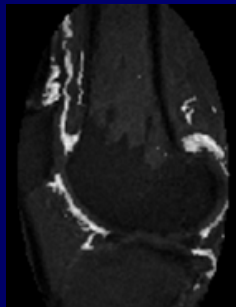
Quantitative MRI

- Cartilage (+++); sensitive to change
- May be applied in other joint structures (menisci, bone, synovium)
- Less observer dependent (more objective)
- Ordered values approach possible for analysis
- Minimal changes over large areas can be depicted
- Less sensitive than SQ to small focal (early) changes

Eckstein F et al. Radiol Clin N Am 2009;47:655-673
 Wirth W et al. Magn Reson Med 2010;63:1162-71
 Wirth W et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2011;19:689-99
 Fotinos-Hoyer AK et al. Magn Reson Med 2010;64:604-9



Regional assessment of cartilage (Courtesy of Chondrometrics)

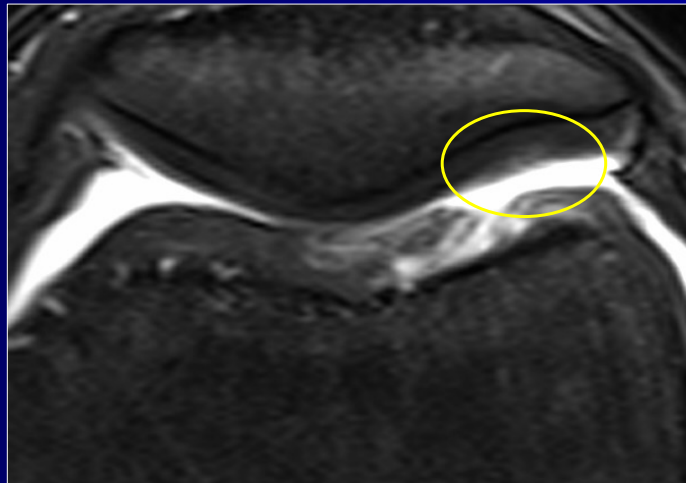


Segmentation of synovitis (IV+)

Compositional MRI

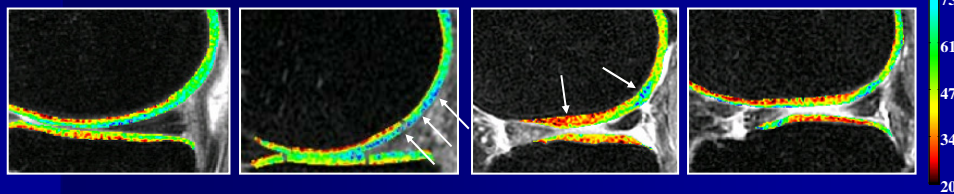
- Compositional MRI detects cartilage alterations before surface damage is evident
- Changes in GAG, collagen and water content detectable by sophisticated MR techniques
- Applicable on most clinical MR scanners but at present not in clinical routine due to unknown relevance and difficult implementation
 - T2 and T2* mapping
 - T1 rho
 - dGEMRIC
 - Sodium MRI
 - Diffusion MRI / Diffusion Tensor Imaging
 - CEST

Compositional MRI



Compositional MRI: T2 Mapping

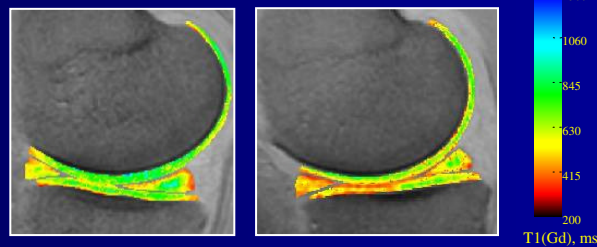
- T2 values reflect collagen and water content
- High inter- and intraindividual variability
- T2 maps may be useful to identify subjects with sites of early degeneration (normal surface morphology).
- Available in OAI
- T2 maps may be used in the future for monitoring surgical cartilage repair



•Baum T et al. J Magn Reson Imaging 2012;35:370-8
 •Pan J et al. Radiology 2011;261:507-15
 •Zarins ZA et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2010;18:1408-18
 •Mosher TJ, et al. Arthritis Rheum. 2004;50:2820-8.
 •Dunn TC, et al. Radiology 2004;232:592-8.

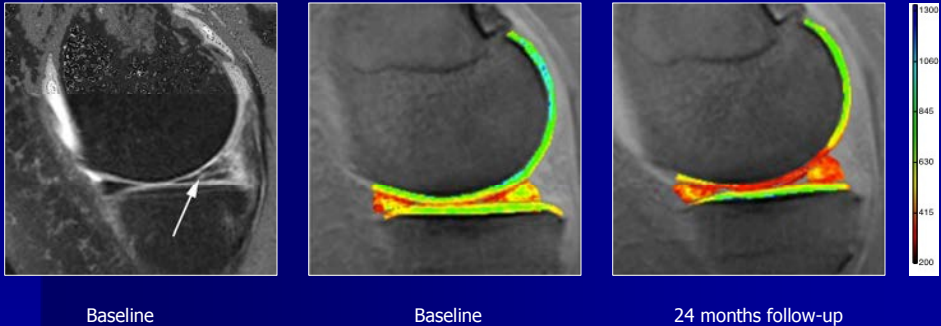
Compositional MRI: dGEMRIC

- Negatively charged Gad molecules diffuse into the cartilage and will inversely distribute according to the concentration GAG molecules
- Depletion of negatively charged GAG: Gd-DTPA2-
- Needs IV administration of contrast; time-consuming
- Applied also to the menisci
- Longitudinal effect on cartilage morphology not yet well understood

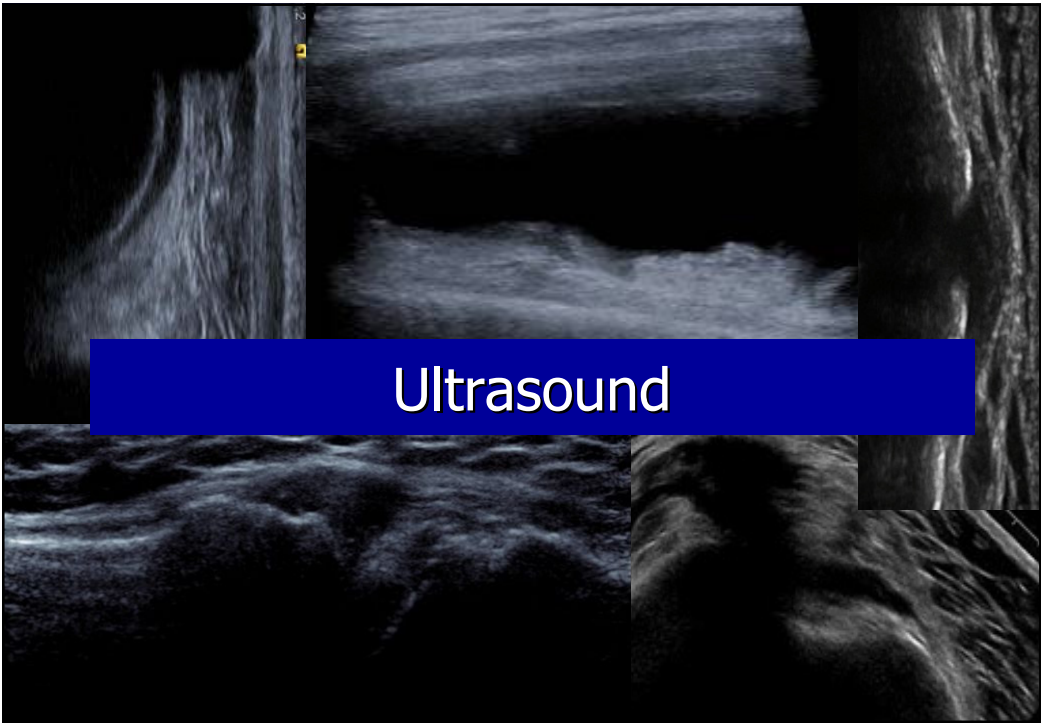


•Burstein D, Velyvis J, Scott KT, et al. Magn Reson Med 2001;45:36-41.
 •Williams A, Sharma L, McKenzie CA, et al. Arthritis Rheum 2005;52:3528-35.

Compositional MRI: dGEMRIC

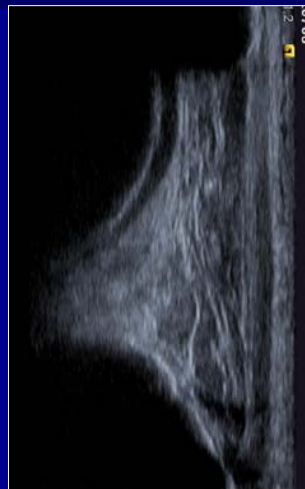


Crema MD, et al.; Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2011;19(Suppl 1): S161.
Crema MD et al.; Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2011;19(Suppl 1): S163.

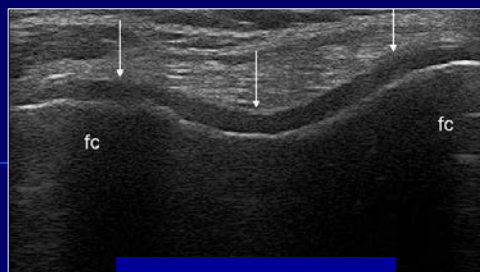


Ultrasound

- Visualization of soft tissue structures in multiple planes
- Real time, mobile scanners
- Dynamic exam
- No radiation
- Inexpensive
- No contrast agent needed for synovial assessment
- Good soft-tissue contrast



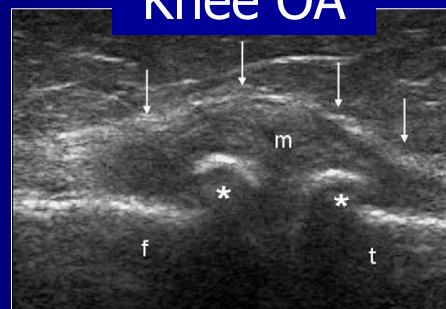
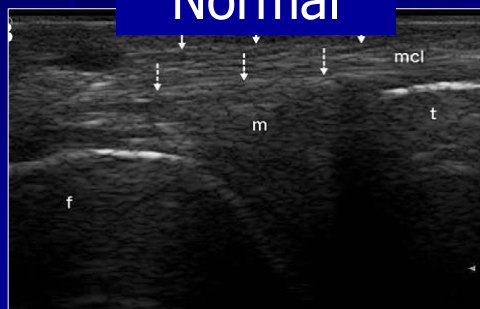
Keen HI, et al. A systematic review of ultrasonography in osteoarthritis. Ann Rheum Dis. 2009 May;68(5):611-9. Review



Normal

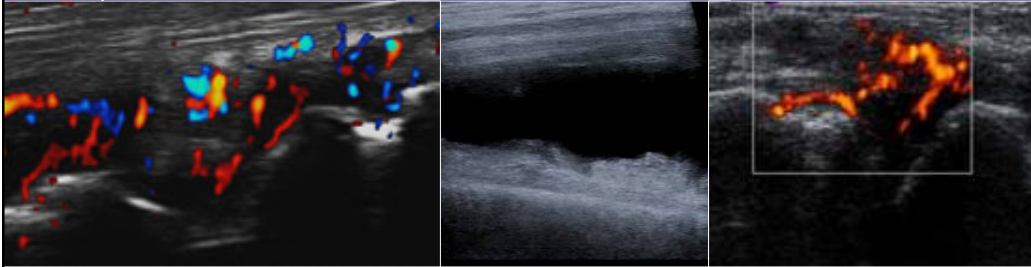


Knee OA



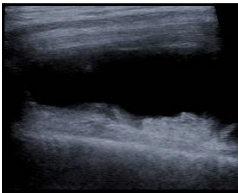
Keen HI, Conaghan PG. Radiol Clin North Am 2009;47:581-94

Ultrasound: Synovitis and Effusion



Wakefield RJ et al. J Rheumatol 2005;32:2485-7
 D'Agostino MA et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2005;64:1703-9
 Conaghan PG et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2005;64:1710-4
 Conaghan PG et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2010;69:644-7

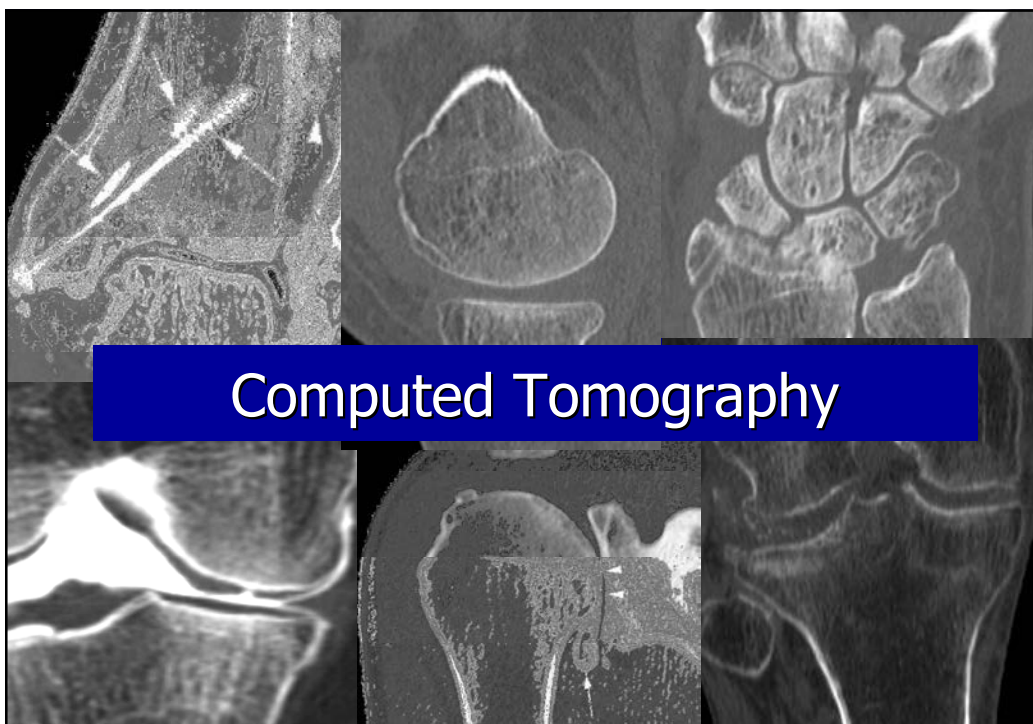
Ultrasound



- User-dependent
- Physical properties of sound limit its application
 => no visualization of subchondral bone and deep intra-articular structures!
- Low negative predictive value for cartilage assessment ¹
- Not yet validated as an outcome tool in OA ²
- Documentation difficult (screenshots)

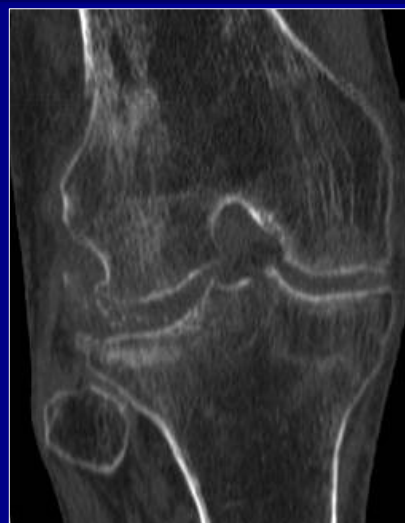
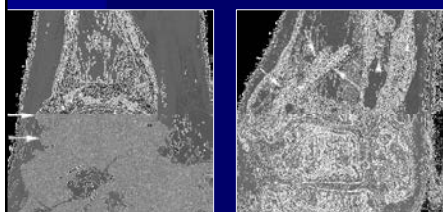
¹ Saarakkala S et al. Osteoarthritis Cartilage 2012 Feb 1 [Epub ahead of print]

² Keen HI et al. Ann Rheum Dis 2008;67:651-5



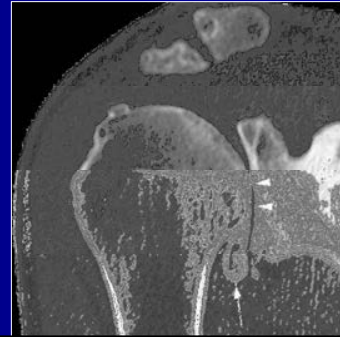
CT

- Widespread availability
- Fast exam
- Few artifacts
- Non-invasive



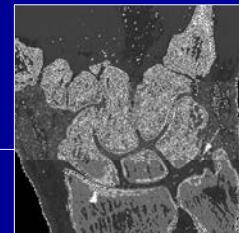
CT

- High spatial resolution
- Not user-dependent
- Multiplanar reconstructions possible with MDCT
- Large scanning volumes possible



CT

- Depicts cortical bone and soft tissue calcifications superiorly to MRI¹
- High sensitivity in detection of intraarticular loose bony fragments^{2,3}
- Established clinical role in assessment and treatment of facet joint OA of spine^{4,5}
- Radiation exposure
- Poor soft tissue contrast



¹Gerster JC, et al. Ann Rheum Dis. 2002 Jan;61(1):52-4.

²Dubberley JH, et al. J Bone Joint Surg Br. 2005 May;87(5):684-6.

³Zubler V, et al. AJR Am J Roentgenol. 2010 Jun;194(6):W515-20.

⁴Meleka S, Patra A, Minkoff E, Murphy K. AJNR Am J Neuroradiol. 2005 May;26(5):1001-3.

⁵Kalichman L. et al. Spine 2008 Nov 1;33(23):2560-5.

Dual Energy CT

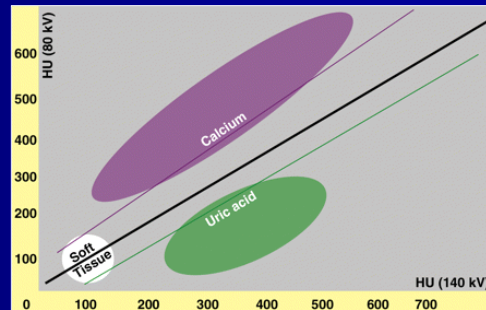
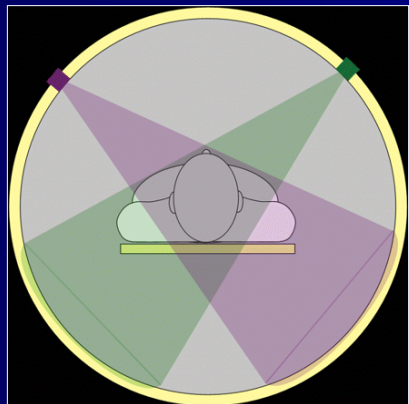
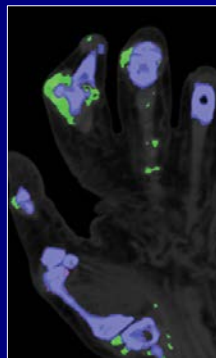


Image from: Desai MA, et al. Clinical Utility of Dual-Energy CT for Evaluation of Tophaceous Gout. Radiographics 2011;31:1365-75

Dual Energy CT



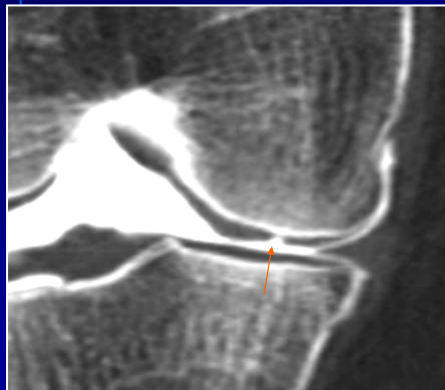
- Potential application of dual energy CT: assessment of synovitis (?)

CT-Arthrography

- Potentially very useful in OA assessment
- Limited access to MR facilities
- Contraindications to MR imaging
- No 1 in depiction of superficial cartilage damage (superior to MRI due to high resolution)
- Invasive
- Subchondral bone marrow, synovitis, extraarticular ligaments, periarticular structures not visualized

Vande Berg BC, et al. Eur Radiol. 2002 Jul;12(7):1800-10.
Vande Berg BC, et al. Skeletal Radiol. 2002 Nov;31(11):643-9.
Moser T, et al. Radiology. 2008 Jan;246(1):193-7.
Kraniotis P et al Skeletal Radiol 2012;41:803-9

CT-Arthrography



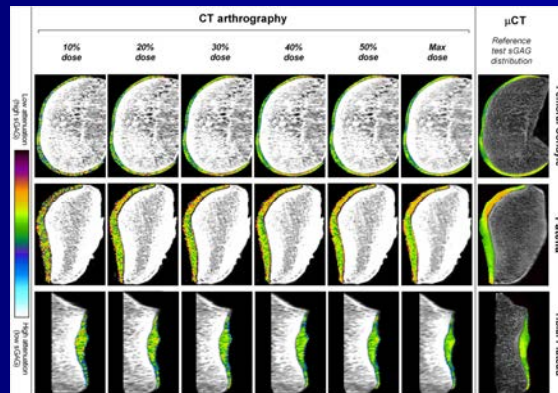
CT-Arthrography



Images Kraniotis P et al Skeletal Radiol 2012;41:803-9

CT-Arthrography

- Intrachondral GAG composition
- Good correlation with EPIC- μ CT
- High radiation dose
- Presently only ex vivo application

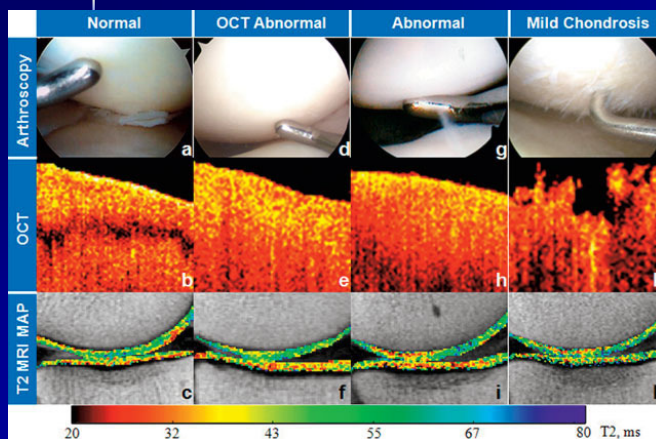


Van Tihel J et al., Osteoarthritis Cartilage;20::678-85

Optical Coherence Tomography

- FDA-approved for ophthalmology and cardiology
- Analogous to ultrasound
- Measuring back-reflected infrared light
- Incorporated into arthroscope
- High resolution
- 2-5 mm wide, 1-2 mm depth

Optical Coherence Tomography



- invasive
- covers only small area of articular surface
- smaller devices in development
- validation still ongoing

Nuclear medicine

- Assesses metabolic activity of different joint tissues
- ^{99m}Tc -HDP scintigraphy
 - Increased tracer uptake during bone phase
- 2- ^{18}F -fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (FDG) PET
 - Injection of radioactively marked glucose
 - Increased uptake in the periarticular region, intercondylar notch, subchondral bone marrow

FDG-PET

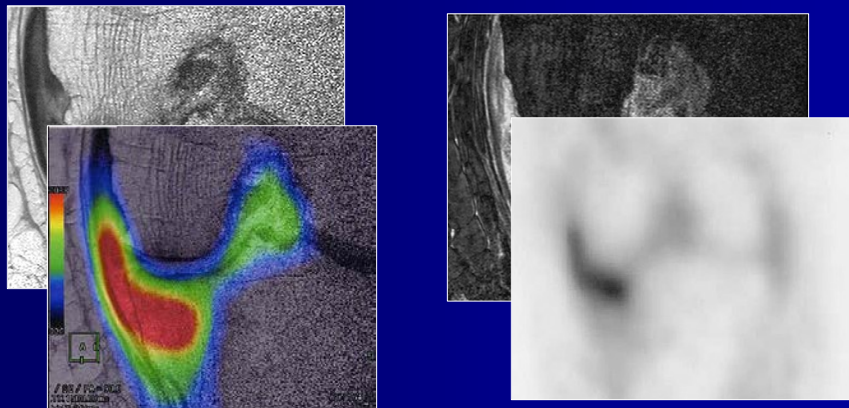


Image: Nakamura H et al. Positron emission tomography with ^{18}F -FDG in osteoarthritic knee. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage* 2007;15:673-81.

PET-MRI

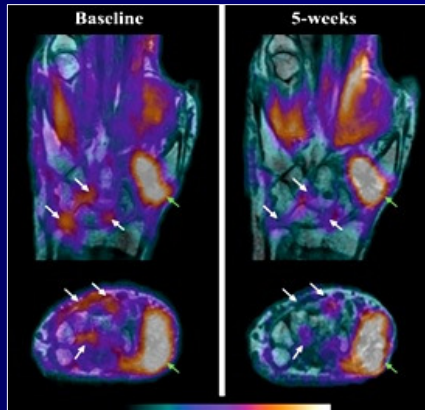
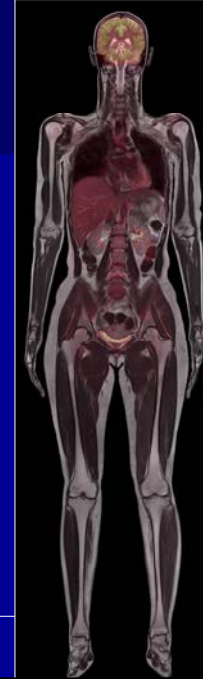


Image: Chaudhari AJ, Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging (2010) 37:1047

Image:
Siemens Healthcare



Nuclear Medicine

- Non specific: trauma, tumor, degeneration, infection, inflammation
- Sensitive concerning hypermetabolism
- Radiation exposure
- Very low spatial resolution
- New hybrid techniques (PET-CT/PET-MRI)

Relevance: Research and Clinical Trials

- Radiography and MR imaging are valuable tools for diagnosis and assessment of progression of OA in clinical trials
- X-ray-detected JSN has limitations
 - Not sensitive to change, - “too slow” in longitudinal studies
 - Indirect (does not visualize cartilage directly)
 - Non-specific (meniscal subluxation can mimic cartilage loss)
 - Positioning difficult to reproduce, e.g. in multicenter studies

Relevance: Research and Clinical Trials

- MRI offers advantages
 - Direct visualization of cartilage using multiple parameters
 - Direct visualization of other features of OA: Bone marrow abnormalities, synovitis, effusion, menisci, ligaments, osteophytes
- MRI reproducible in multicenter studies
- MRI detects pre-radiographic OA features

Summary

- Multiple imaging tools are available with MRI the most important one today
- MRI induced change of perception from “wear and tear” to “multi-tissue / whole organ” disease
- Strong associations between imaging findings and symptoms
- Clinical role of MRI today still minor, in a research setting No 1 tool to investigate structural changes
- Further validation of other methods needed

Roemer FW, Crema MD, Trattnig S, Guermazi A. Advances in imaging of osteoarthritis and cartilage. Radiology. 2011 Aug;260(2):332-54.

