

## Cerebral Palsy: Surgical Treatment of the Upper Extremity



AACPD Annual Meeting ICL 2015

ANN E. VAN HEEST, MD

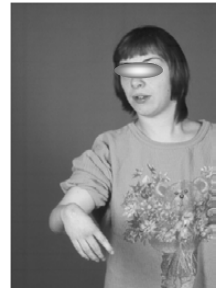
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

GILLETTE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SHRINER'S HOSPITAL-TWIN CITIES

## OBJECTIVES

- ETIOLOGY
- PATIENT EVALUATION
- TREATMENT OPTIONS



## “Primary Problems” of C.P.:

- Problems with equilibrium
- Loss of selective motor control
- Abnormal tone /spasticity
- “Weakness”
- Impaired sensation



## The “Primary Problems”

- Generally, not remediable

## The “Secondary Problems”

- *JOINT MALPOSITIONING*
- *MUSCLE IMBALANCE*
- *FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT*

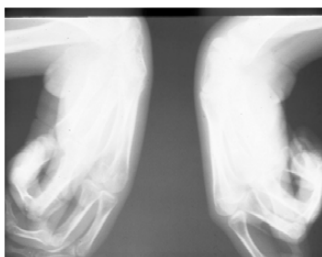


## The “Secondary Problems”

- Generally, remediable by a variety of methods
  - *therapy, splints, medications, surgery*

## “Tertiary Problems”

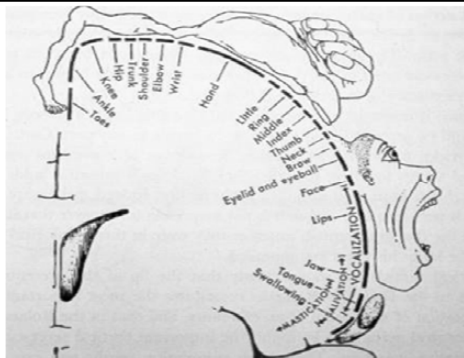
- Skeletal Deformity
- Joint Contracture
- Muscle Contracture



## “Tertiary Problems” of C.P.

- Prevention by early intervention
- Operative salvage procedures

## MOTOR HOMUNCULUS



- CP
- CVA
- TBI

The Cerebral Cortex of Man, Penfield & Rassmussen 1950

## C. P. MANIFESTATIONS

- SHOULDER INTERNALLY ROTATED
- ELBOW FLEXED
- FOREARM PRONATED
- WRIST FLEXED
- THUMB-IN-PALM



## PATIENT EVALUATION

- PROM
  - Joint contracture, muscle contracture

## JOINT vs MUSCLE CONTRACTURE

- FINGER FLEXORS ARE BI-ARTICULAR MUSCLES
- WRIST POSITION AFFECTS FINGER POSITION IF FINGER FLEXOR MUSCLE CONTRACTURE



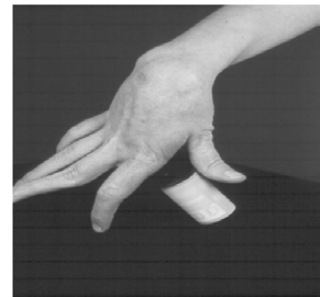
Volkmann's Angle

## PATIENT EVALUATION

- PROM
  - Joint contracture, muscle contracture
- AROM
  - Patterns of muscle activity

## MUSCLE MOVEMENT ASSESSMENT

- SPASTIC
- FLACCID
- ATHETOID



## C.P. Disease Specific ASSESSMENT TOOLS

- House Upper Extremity Use (JBJS 1981)
- Manual Skills Assessment Classification (Dev Med Child Neurol 2006)
- Shriner's Hospital Upper Extremity Evaluation (Davids JBJS 2005)
- Video Analysis (Waters J Hand Surg 2004, Carlson J Hand Surg)
- Melbourne Analysis of Unilateral Limb (Dev Med Child Neurol 2001)
- Motion Lab Analysis (VanHeest Hand Clinics 2003)
- Assistive Hand Assessment (Krumlinde-Sundholm, Develop Med & Child Neuro 2007)

## VIDEO TAPE ANALYSIS OF ADL'S

- OBSERVE ARM POSITIONING IN SPACE
- Carlson et al JHandSurg 2007
- Pre-surgical plan
- Video analysis
- 72% changed surgical plan after video review





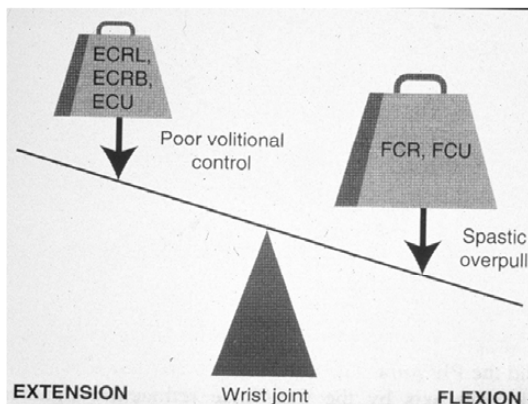
Hand Clin 19 (2003) 565-571

HAND  
CLINICS

## Functional assessment aided by motion laboratory studies

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## Use of Motion Lab to assess muscle spasticity vs phasic control

127022  
November 7, 196  
Heavy Cans

124040  
September 22, 2000  
Heavy Cans

## “TOOLS OF THE TRADE”

- Soft-tissue Releases
- Tendon Transfers
- Bone/Joint Stabilization

## Common CP Deformities

- ELBOW: Flexion
- FOREARM: Pronation
- WRIST: Flexion-Ulnar deviation
- THUMB: In-the-Palm
- FINGERS: Swan-neck  
Flexor tightness

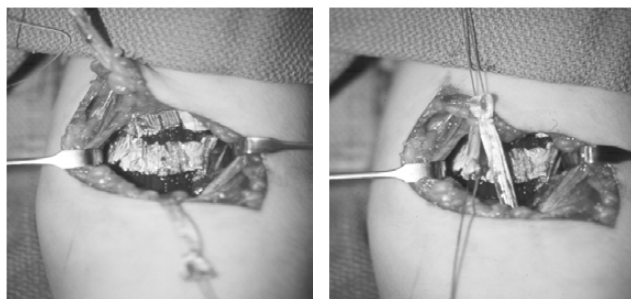
## ELBOW FLEXION DEFORMITY

Soft-tissue Releases

Biceps lengthening

Brachialis lengthening

## Biceps and Brachialis Lengthening



## PRONATION DEFORMITY

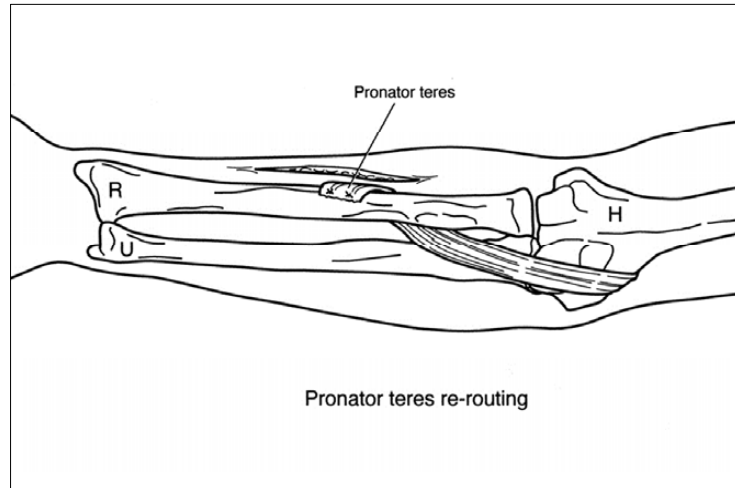
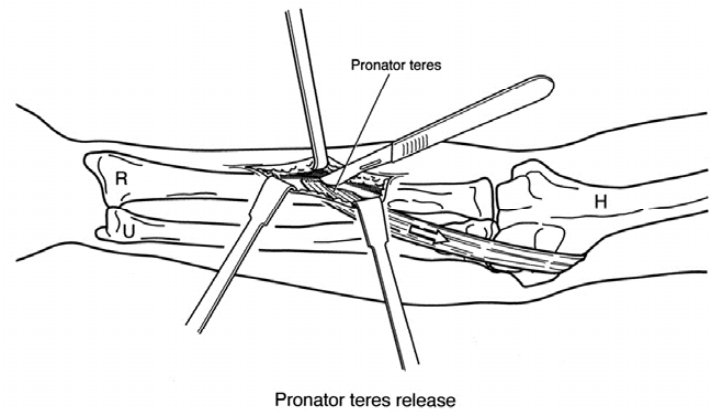
Soft-tissue Releases

Pronator Teres release

Tendon Transfers

Pronator Teres re-routing

## Pronator teres release

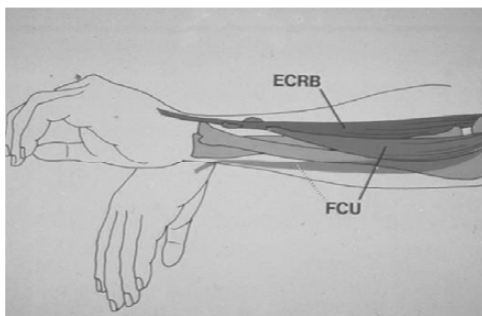


## WRIST FLEXION DEFORMITY

Soft-tissue Releases	FCR lengthening FCU lengthening Flexor pronator slide
SPASTIC CONTRACTED MUSCLE	
Tendon Transfers	ECU to ECRB/L FCU to ECRB/L (Green transfer) BR to ECRB/L Contraindicated: FCR to ECRB/L P. Teres to ECRL
VOLITIONAL CONTROL MUSCLE	
Joint Stabilization	Wrist fusion with PRC PRC

## FCU to ECRB transfer (Green transfer)

Green and Banks, JBJS. 44A, 1962



## Wrist flexion deformity

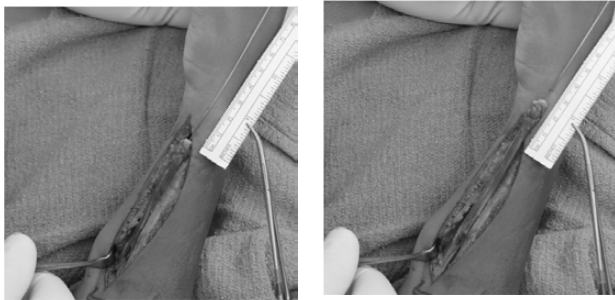


## FCU to ECRB

- Incision
- FCU exposure



## Mobilize to allow for muscle excursion



## Tensioning



## Neutral position at rest



### The Supination Effect of Tendon Transfer of the Flexor Carpi Ulnaris to the Extensor Carpi Radialis Brevis or Longus: A Cadaveric Study

Ann E. Van Heest, MD, Naveen S. Murthy, MD, Michael R. Sathy, MD, Fred A. Wentorf, MS, Minneapolis, MN

Flexor carpi ulnaris (FCU) transfer to the extensor carpi radialis brevis (ECRB) and/or the extensor carpi radialis longus (ECRL) is most often performed to correct for wrist dysfunction. Thus,



## Post-operative Result: FCU to ECRB



## WRIST FLEXION DEFORMITY

Soft-tissue Releases	FCR lengthening FCU lengthening Flexor pronator slide
Tendon Transfers	ECU to ECRB/L FCU to ECRB/L (Green transfer) BR to ECRB/L Contraindicated: FCR to ECRB/L P. Teres to ECRL
Joint Stabilization	Wrist fusion with PRC PRC

### Wrist Arthrodesis in Cerebral Palsy

Ann E. Van Heest, MD, David Strothman, MD  
J Hand Surg 2009

- Union
  - 41/42 wrists united
- Wrist Position
  - Preop: Max passive ext 28 deg of flexion
  - Postop: 5 deg of extension
  - Mean change: 40 deg
- Finger deformities
  - Swan Neck: 3 hands
  - Thumb in palm: 7 hands
  - Finger flexor tightness: 21 hands



## Indications for Wrist Fusion

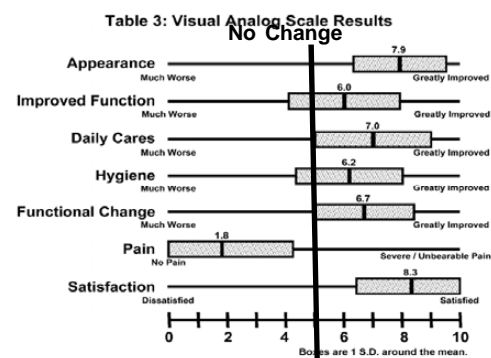
- Severe joint contracture
- Poor Hygiene
- Difficulty with daily care activities
- Cosmesis
- Poor function
- Poor sensibility
- Poor volitional control



## Demographics

- 24 males, 11 females
- Average age at surgery: 21 years (14-50)
- Average follow-up 13 months (1-70)
- CP: 21 triplegia, 14 quadriplegia
- CP: 33 spastic, 2 mixed tone
- Pre-op functional use: House scale 0.5 (range 0-2)

## Subjective Visual Analog Scale



## DJD and Carpal Tunnel Syndrome



## Complications

- Complication Rate 5 wrists (12%)
- Fractures: 4 wrists (10%)
  - 3pts fractured at proximal screw holes
  - 1 pt fractured at distal screw hole
- Nonunion: 1 wrist



## 91% fusion, improved wrist position



## Summary: WRIST FLEXION DEFORMITY

Soft-tissue Releases	FCR lengthening
SPASTIC	FCU lengthening
CONTRACTED	Flexor pronator slide
MUSCLE	
Tendon Transfers	ECU to ECRB/L
PHASIC	FCU to ECRB/L (Green transfer)
CONTROLLED	BR to ECRB/L
MUSCLE	Contraindicated: FCR to ECRB/L
	P. Teres to ECRL
Joint Stabilization	Wrist fusion with PRC
NO DIGITAL	PRC
CONTROL	

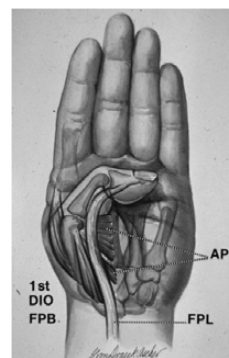
## THUMB IN PALM DEFORMITY

Soft-tissue Releases

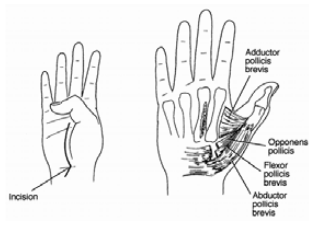
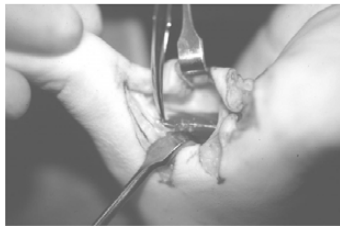
Tendon Transfers

Bone/Joint Stabilization

### STEP 1: RELEASE OF CONTRACTURES



## ADDUCTOR RELEASE



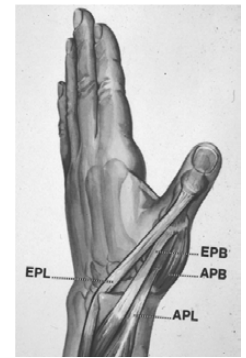
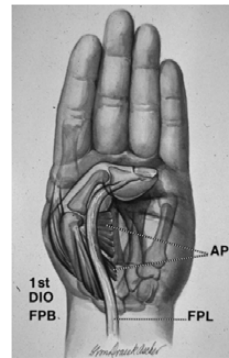
Matev I. Surgical treatment of spastic "thumb-in-palm" deformity.  
*J Bone Joint Surg [Br]*, 1963;45:703-708

## Thumb Muscle Function:

Flexion-Adduction vs Abduction-Extension

Release Tight Structures

Augment Weak Structures



## EPL Re-routing to 1st Dorsal Compartment

Manske, Hand Clinics, 1990



Thumb as ADductor



Thumb as ABductor

## Skeletal Joint Stabilization

- MCP Fusion
- MCP Joint Capsulodesis



## SURGICAL OUTCOMES

- House, J. Van Heest, A. Cariello, C. Surgical Treatment of the Upper Extremity in Cerebral Palsy J. Hand Surgery 24A, 323-330, 1999
- 134 Patients: age 4-37 (Ave=14years)
- Male=79 : Female=55
- 180 Operations with 718 Procedures
- 4 Procedures/operation

## OUTCOME: Functional Use Scores

Level

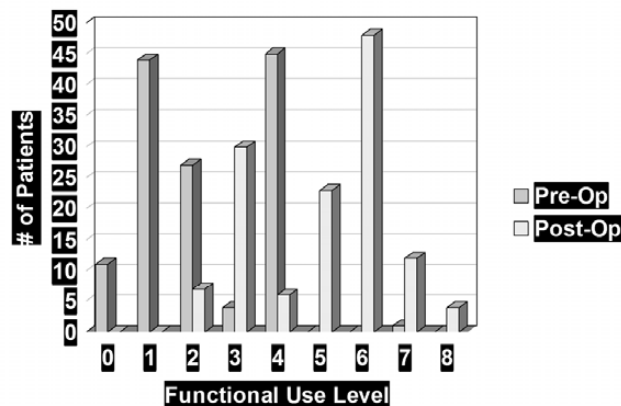
JBIS 63A:216-225, 1981

- 0 Does not use
- 1 Poor passive assist
- 2 Fair passive assist
- 3 Good passive assist
- 4 Poor active assist
- 5 Fair active assist
- 6 Good active assist
- 7 Partial spontaneous use
- 8 Spontaneous use

Improvement  
Average 2.6

Pre-operative Average 2.3

Post-operative Average 5.0



## OUTCOME: Predictive Factors

Functional Activity Level

- CP Type p=0.09
- Intelligence p=0.40
- Stereognosis p=0.51
- Two-point discrimination p=0.49
- Voluntary Control p=0.039

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## Tendon Transfer Surgery in Upper-Extremity Cerebral Palsy Is More Effective Than Botulinum Toxin Injections or Regular, Ongoing Therapy

Ann E. Van Heest, MD, Anita Bagley, PhD, Fred Molitor, PhD, and Michelle A. James, MD

Investigation performed at Shriners Hospitals for Children: Chicago, Illinois; Greenville, South Carolina; Northern California, Sacramento, California; Salt Lake City, Utah; Shreveport, Louisiana; Tampa, Florida; and Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota

## Disclosure



**SHC  
UECP** Shriners Hospitals  
for Children  
Upper Extremity  
Cerebral Palsy Study

- Clinical Outcomes Studies Advisory Board Grant, Shriners Hospital for Children
- Multi-center Study
  - Northern California
  - Twin Cities
  - Greenville
  - Intermountain
  - Shreveport
  - Tampa
  - Chicago
- No other Disclosures

## Hypothesis

For children with upper extremity cerebral palsy who meet standard clinical indications for tendon transfer, those who receive surgical treatment would have greater improvement in function than either children receiving botulinum toxin injections, or children receiving regular ongoing treatment, as measured by validated appropriate assessment tools.



## Materials and Methods

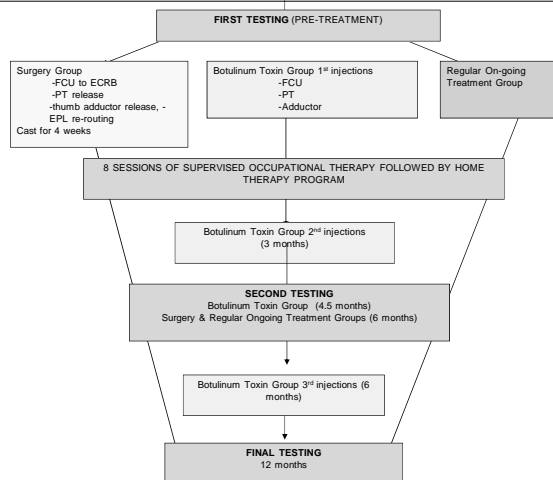
- Surgery (P. teres release, FCU to ECRB tendon transfer, thumb adductor release, EPL re-routing)
- Botulinum toxin injections (10u/kg max, P. teres, FCU, thumb adductor, 3 injections)
- Regular Ongoing Therapy (standardized protocol)
- Comparison at Pre- vs 12 months Post of 3 treatment groups (ANOVA, p,0.05)

## WHO Definition of Disability

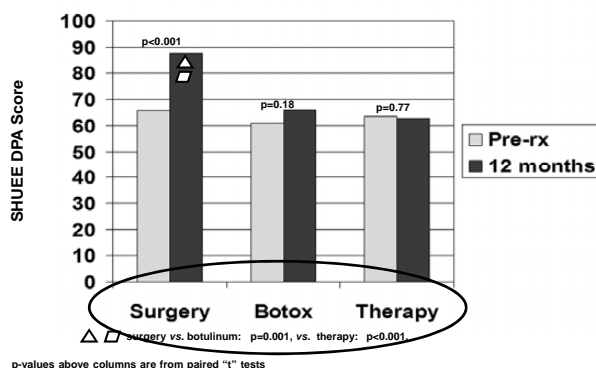


- Bodily Impairment
  - Grip, Pinch Strength, Stereognosis, VAS, AROM
- Activity Limitation
  - SHUEE, Box and Blocks, AHA
- Participation Restriction
  - PODCI, PedsQL (CP module), CAPE, COPM

**Standardized, Validated Outcome Tools**



## SHUEE Dynamic Positional Analysis



**CONCLUSION:** Those children receiving surgical treatment showed significantly greater improvement

**Standardized, Validated Outcome Tools**

- Bodily Impairment
  - Grip, Pinch Strength, VAS (Parent), AROM (Supination<sup>↑</sup>, Wrist Ext<sup>↑</sup>, Wrist Flex<sup>↓</sup>)
- Activity Limitation
  - SHUEE DPA, Box and Blocks, AHA
- Participation Restriction
  - PODCI (UE, Transfers, Global scales) PedsQL (CP movement, eating), CAPE, COPM (satisfaction)



## For Hemiplegic Children meeting standard indications for surgical treatment

- Tendon Transfer Surgery in Upper Extremity Cerebral Palsy Is More Effective than Botulinum Toxin Injections or Regular Ongoing Therapy
- Based on our findings, the authors of this study no longer recommend Botulinum toxin injections
- This study did not provide evidence against therapeutic modalities as maintenance treatments, and we continue to recommend them.



SELF

