Polyethylene The Hip: Long-term Results

Stuart B. Goodman M.D. Ph.D., Ellenburg Professor of Surgery, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA









The Problem: Wear, Particles and Osteolysis



Particle Disease



Rationale for Alternative Bearings Decreased Volumetric Wear Rates

- "Conventional" UHMWPE: 30 120 mm³/yr
- X-linked UHMWPE: 17 mm³/yr
- Metal-on-metal bearings: 6 mm³/yr
- Ceramic-on-ceramic bearings: 0.04 mm³/yr

Highly Cross-linked Polyethylene in Total Hip Arthroplasty

Table 4

Summary of Highly Cross-linked Polyethylene Clinical Studies

Author	Cross-linked Polyethylene (Fixation)	Conventional Polyethylene	Follow-up (years)	Wear Reduction of Cross-linked Polyethylene
Digas et al ³⁹	Durasul	Gamma/Nitrogen	2	50% linear wear
Digas et al ⁴⁰	Durasul (cemented)	Gamma/Nitrogen	3	50% linear wear
	Longevity (hybrid)	Gamma/Nitrogen	2	62% linear wear
Martell et al ⁴¹	Crossfire	Gamma/Nitrogen	2	40% to 50% linear wear
Heisel et al ⁴²	Marathon	Gamma/Air	2	81% volumetric wear
Dorr et al ⁴³	Durasul	Gamma/Nitrogen	5	50% linear wear; 60% to 75% less head penetration
Rohrl et al ⁴⁴	Crossfire	Gamma/Air	2	85% linear wear

Gordon AC, D'Lima DD, Colwell CW Jr. Highly cross-linked polyethylene in total hip arthroplasty. J Am Acad Orthop Surg. 2006 Sep;14(9):511-23.

- 50 cemented hip arthroplasties
- wear and migration of the PE cup measured with RSA
- 20 had a normal gamma-in-air-sterilized PE
- 20 had a PE sterilized with 30000 Gy followed by heat stabilization (Duration, Stryker)

 10 had highly cross-linked PE cups irradiated with 100000 Gy (Crossfire; Stryker)

> Rohrl S, Nivbrant B, Mingguo L, Hewitt B: In vivo wear and migration of highly cross-linked polyethylene cups - a radiostereometry analysis study. J Arthroplasty 2005 Jun;20(4):409-13.

 initial 2 months, head penetration (creep) was 63 µm on average for the 3 groups. 2 to 24 months, the mean proximal head penetration (wear) was: •156 µm for standard PE •138 μ m for stabilized PE (P = .45) 23 µm for highly cross-linked PE (P <.001) The low in vivo wear rate for highly cross-linked cemented cupslooks promising.

> Rohrl S, Nivbrant B, Mingguo L, Hewitt B: In vivo wear and migration of highly cross-linked polyethylene cups - a radiostereometry analysis study. J Arthroplasty 2005 Jun;20(4):409-13.

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THE OTTO AUFRANC AWARD

Highly Cross-linked Polyethylene in Total Hip Arthroplasty

Randomized Evaluation of Penetration Rate in Cemented and Uncemented Sockets Using Radiostereometric Analysis

Georgios Digas, MD, PhD; Johan Kärrholm, MD, PhD; Jonas Thanner, MD, PhD; Henrik Malchau, MD, PhD; and Peter Herberts, MD, PhD

Thirty-two patients (12 men, 20 women; 64 hips), median age = 48 years (range, 29–70) with bilateral arthrosis of the hip had <u>hybrid</u> THA with liners made of highly cross-linked polyethylene (Longevity, Zimmer) on one side and conventional polyethylene on the other.

Another group, comprised of 60 patients (61 hips), median age of 55 years (range, 35–70), was randomized to receive either highly crosslinked polyethylene (Durasal, Zimmer) or conventional <u>cemented</u> allpolyethylene of the same design.

All patients received Spectron stems with 28-mm Co-Cr heads.

- penetration rate almost identical in the study and control groups at 6 months after the operation
- At 2 years the highly cross-linked polyethylene liner showed 62% lower proximal penetration and 31% lower total (three-dimensional) penetration when the patients were examined in the supine position.

 The highly cross-linked all-polyethylene cemented cups showed lower proximal penetration in both supine and standing positions.

Digas et al: Highly cross-linked polyethylene in total hip arthroplasty. CORR 2004;429;6-16.

Uncemented versus Cemented Socket and Highly Cross-Linked Polyethylene







Fig 5. This graph shows the proximal femoral head penetration into the cemented acetabular component in 18 patients with highly crosslinked (Durasul) and 25 patients with conventional (control) polyethylene. The examination was done with the patient in the standing position. Mean ± SE

• 56 hips (47 patients) highly cross-linked (Crossfire) polyethylene versus 53 conventional (N2Vac[™]) polyethylene total hip bearings.

• 28-mm Co-Cr head with a low friction ion treatment (LFIT) surface treatment, cementless femoral stem (Omnifit HA)

D'Antonio JA, Manley MT, Capello WN, Bierbaum BE, Ramakrishnan R, Naughton M, Sutton K; Five-year experience with Crossfire highly cross-linked polyethylene. Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2005 Dec;441:143-50.

• 56 hips highly cross-linked (Crossfire) polyethylene versus 53 conventional polyethylene bearings

 control group - ram extruded GUR 1050 UHMWPE inserts gamma sterilized to 3 Mrad in nitrogen and vacuum packaged (N2Vac™; Stryker).

• experimental group (Crossfire) - cup manufactured from ram extruded GUR 1050 UHMWPE that had been irradiated to 7.5 Mrad and annealed for 8 hours at 130°C. After machining, the Crossfire inserts were sterilized in the same manner as the conventional UHMWPE inserts.

D'Antonio JA, Manley MT, Capello WN, Bierbaum BE, Ramakrishnan R, Naughton M, Sutton K: Five-year experience with Crossfire highly cross-linked polyethylene. Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2005 Dec;441:143-50.

- minimum 4-year and average 5-year follow-up
- Livermore method for femoral head penetration from plain radiographs

• linear femoral head penetration rate from radiographs was 0.055 ± 0.022 mm/year for the Crossfire polyethylene and 0.138 ± 0.073 mm/year for the control, a reduction of 60% for the Crossfire components.

D'Antonio JA, Manley MT, Capello WN, Bierbaum BE, Ramakrishnan R, Naughton M, Sutton K: Five-year experience with Crossfire highly cross-linked polyethylene. Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2005 Dec;441:143-50.





- 40 1° THRs with HXLPE matched with 40 1° THRs with conventional polyethylene (articulating with a 28 mm head)
- inserts: 10° hood packed in Nitrogen environment
- follow-up = 47.7 months

2-D femoral head penetration rate from radiographs was
0.05 (0.01-0.09) mm/year for the HXLPE and
0.12 (0.02-.29) mm/year for the conventional polyethylene, a reduction of 58.33% (p<0.001).

Krushell RJ, Fingeroth RJ, Cushing MC: Early femoral head penetration of a highly cross-linked polyethylene liner vs a conventional polyethylene liner: a case-controlled study. J Arthroplasty. 2005 Oct;20(7 Suppl 3):73-6.

- wear performance of electron beam-irradiated, post irradiation-melted, highly cross-linked (HXLPE) *versus* traditional UHMWPE compared via the Martell method
- 70 HXLPE cementless cups (MGH) with 31.4 mo. f/u
- 111 conventional cementless cups (Rush U) 48 mo. f/u
- patients matched for age, sex, body mass index
- steady state wear rates after 2 years:
 .007 mm/year for HXLPE
 .174 mm/year for traditional UHMWPE

Manning DW, Chiang PP, Martell JM, Galante JO, Harris WH: In vivo comparative wear study of traditional and highly cross-linked polyethylene in total hip arthroplasty. J Arthroplasty 2005 Oct;20(7):880-6.

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Large Diameter Femoral Heads on Highly Cross-linked Polyethylene

Minimum 3-year Results

Jeffrey A. Geller, MD*; Henrik Malchau, MD, PhD†; Charles Bragdon, PhD†; Meridith Greene, BS†; William H. Harris, MD†; and Andrew A. Freiberg, MD†

prospective series of 42 patients (45 hips) who had total hip replacement using large diameter cobalt-chrome femoral heads (36, 38, 40 mm) articulating with highly cross-linked polyethylene (electron beam ram extruded)
minimum of 3 years follow-up (mean = 3.3 years)
average steady state wear rate = -0.06 ± 0.41 mm/year



37 1° THRs with HXLPE (Durasul, Zimmer) matched with 37 1° THRs with conventional polyethylene (articulating with a 28 mm head)
follow-up at least 5 years
no clinical differences
Linear penetration rate: Durasul versus conventional

One year
0.074 mm
0.151 mm
Five years
0.011 mm
0.04 mm

data showed a 45% reduction in wear with HXLPE

Dorr LD, Wan Z, Shahrdar C, Sirianni, L, Boutary M, Yun A: Clinical performance of a Durasul highly cross-linked polyethylene acetabular liner for total hip arthroplasty at five years. J Bone Joint Surg **2005** Aug;87(8):1816-21

- prospective randomized study
- wear performance of HXLPE (Marathon, DePuy) versus traditional UHMWPE (Enduron, DePuy)
- mean follow-up = 5.7 years
- clinical outcomes the same
- increased osteolysis in the traditional UHMWPE group
- mean wear rates:

.001 ± .007 mm/year for HXLPE .19 ± .12 mm/year for traditional UHMWPE

Engh CA et al: A randomized prospective evaluation of outcomes after total hip arthroplasty using cross-linked marathon and non-cross-linked Enduron polyethylene liners. J Arthroplasty. 2006 Sep;21(6 Suppl 2):17-25.

Thank you



Stanford University