



2^ο ΘΕΡΙΝΟ ΣΧΟΛΕΙΟ
ΑΚΤΙΝΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΜΥΟΣΚΕΛΕΤΙΚΟΥ
“BACK TO BASICS”

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1 ΙΟΥΛΙΟΥ
2018
ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟ
ΚΡΗΤΗΣ
Ibis Styles
Heraklion
Central

Deep gluteal syndrome: *Causes, Imaging and Imaging-guided treatment*



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Outline

25 min



DQS

- Anatomy
- Definition



DQS etiologies

1. fibrous/fibrovascular bands
2. piriformis muscle syndrome (PMs)
3. ischiofemoral impingement syndrome (IFIs)
4. quadratus femoris muscle pathologies
5. hamstrings' pathology
6. obturator internus/gemellus syndrome



Imaging-guided treatment options

Definition

DGS: pain in the gluteal area due to extraspinal sciatic nerve entrapment by intrapelvic or subgluteal space pathologies

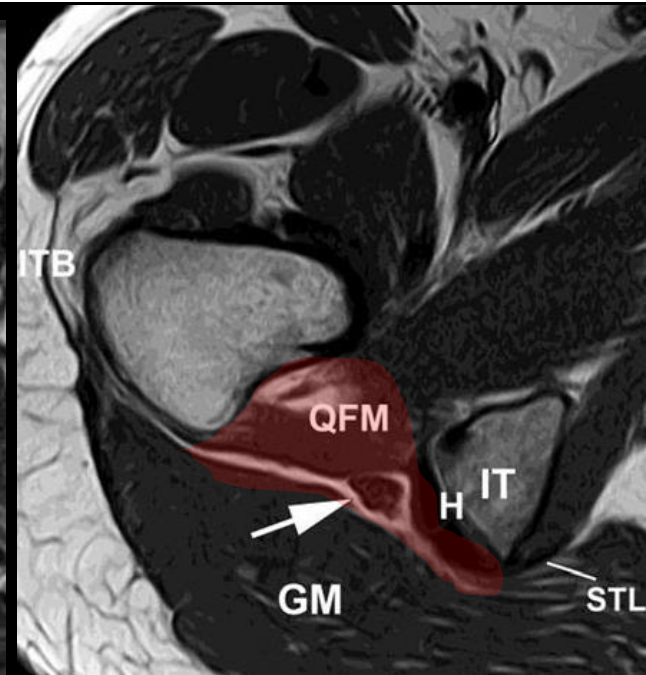
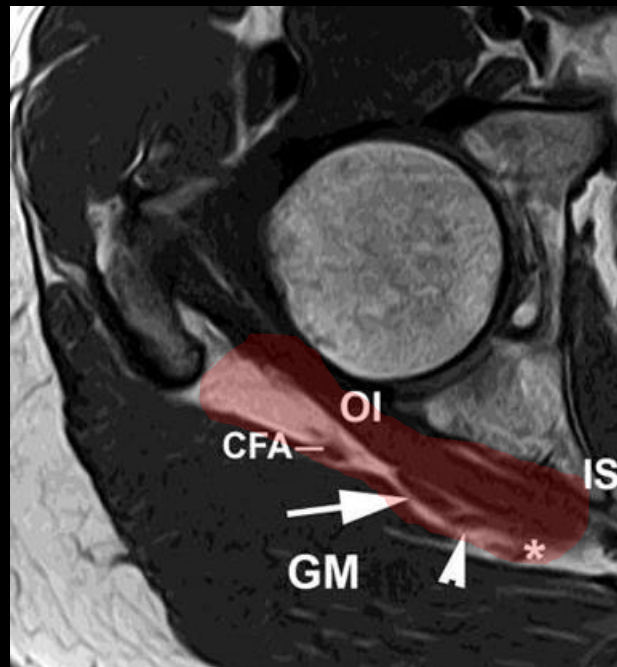
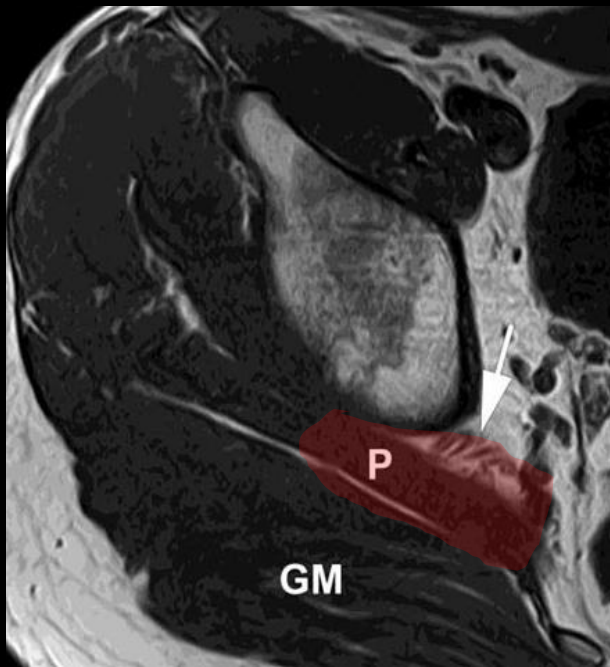
- Numerous definitions (*piriformis syndrome ...*) => **controversial**
 - Limited reports of prevalence
 - DD. Piriformis m. entrapment
- High sensitivity of clinical diagnosis, but sciatic nerve entrapment often remain **underdiagnosed**

Etiologies

1. fibrous/fibrovascular bands
2. piriformis muscle syndrome (PMs)
3. ischiofemoral impingement syndrome (IFIs)
4. quadratus femoris muscle pathologies
5. hamstrings' conditions
6. obturator internus/gemellus syndrome
7. gluteal disorders

Subgluteal space

Anatomy



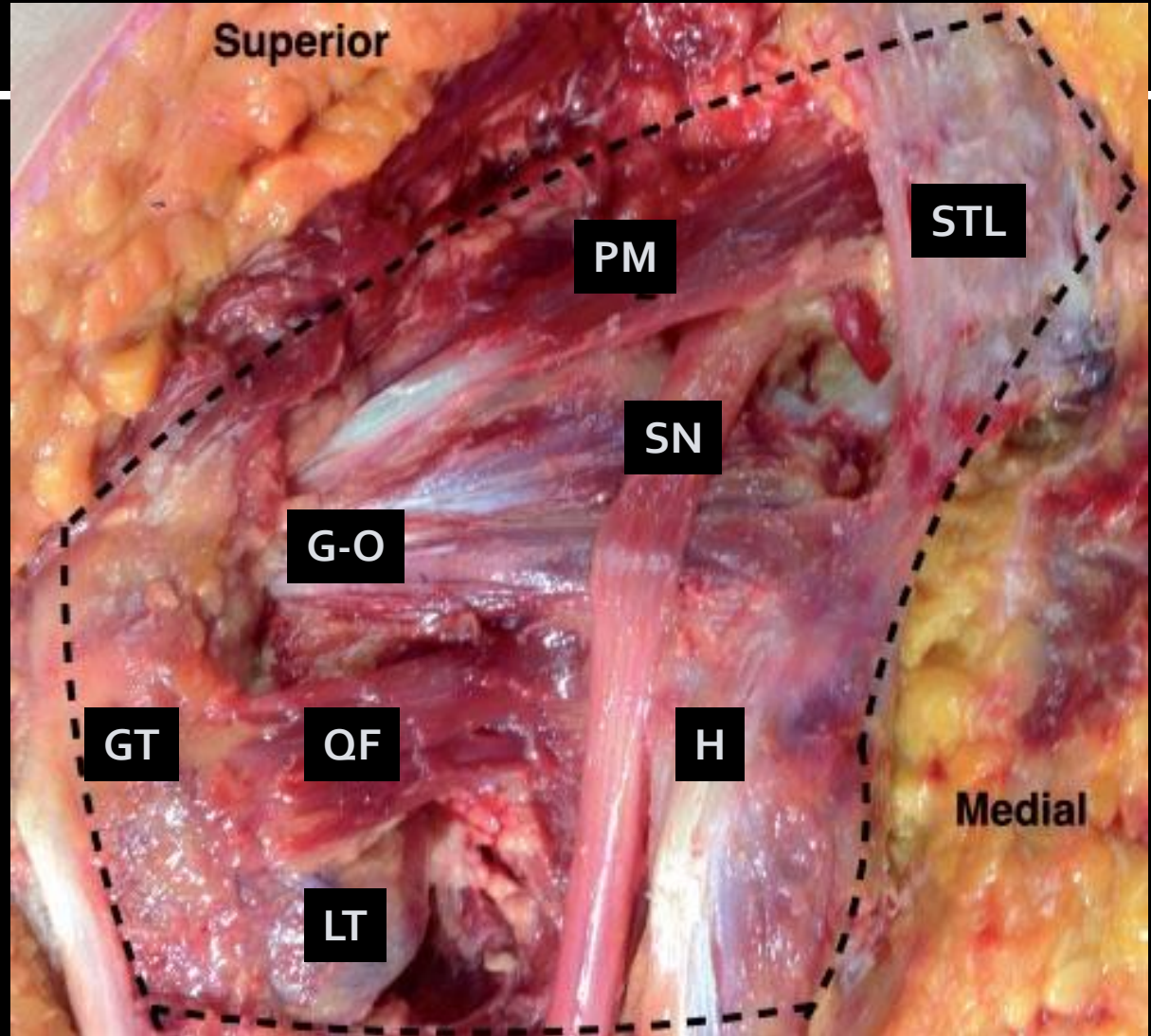
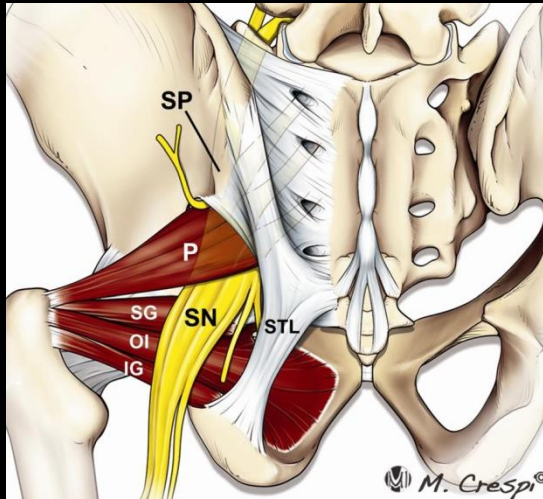
Cellular/fatty tissue space

Borders

- **Superior:** inferior margin of the sciatic notch
- **Inferior:** origin of hamstrings
- **Posterior:** gluteus maximus muscle
- **Anterior:** posterior acetabulum, hip joint capsule, proximal femur
- **Lateral:** lateral fusion of middle/deep gluteal aponeurosis
- **Medial:** sacrotuberous ligament

Subgluteal space

Anatomy



DGS etiology

1. *Fibrous and fibrovascular bands*

- Frequently missed diagnosis !
 - endoscopic hip procedures
 - anatomy

Diminish sciatic nerve mobility during hip and knee movements:
ischemic neuropathy

Macroscopic structure

- fibrovascular
- pure fibrous
- pure vascular

Location

- proximal
- middle
- distal

Fibrous and fibrovascular bands

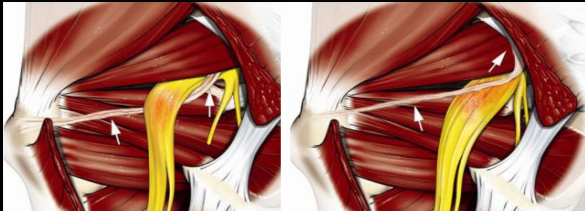
Pathogenic mechanism

Compressive

Compress the nerve

Origin: GT

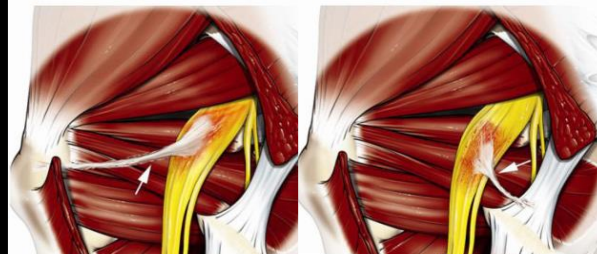
Insertions: variable



Adhesive

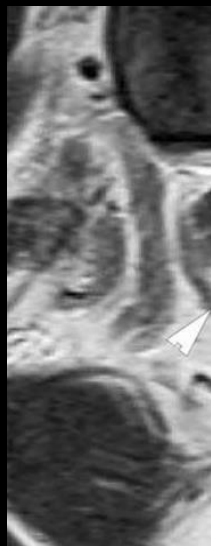
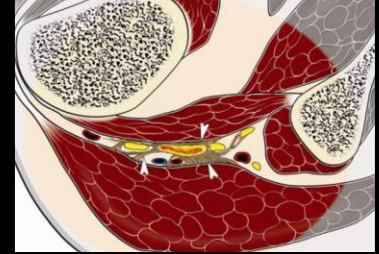
Ancor nerve on single site

Origin: GT, sacrospinous ligament

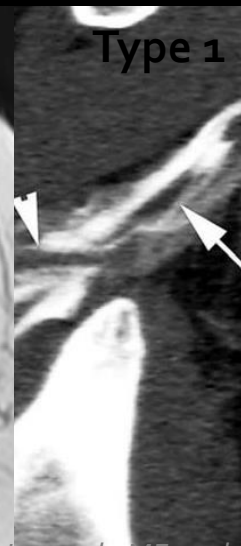


Undefined distribution

Ancor nerve at multiple sites



Type 3



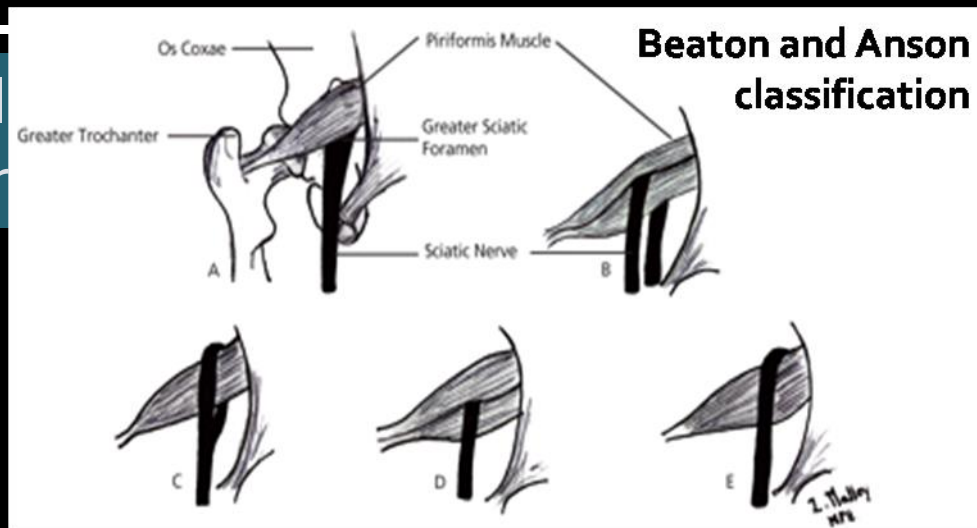
Type 1

DGS etiology

2. Piriformis muscle syndrome

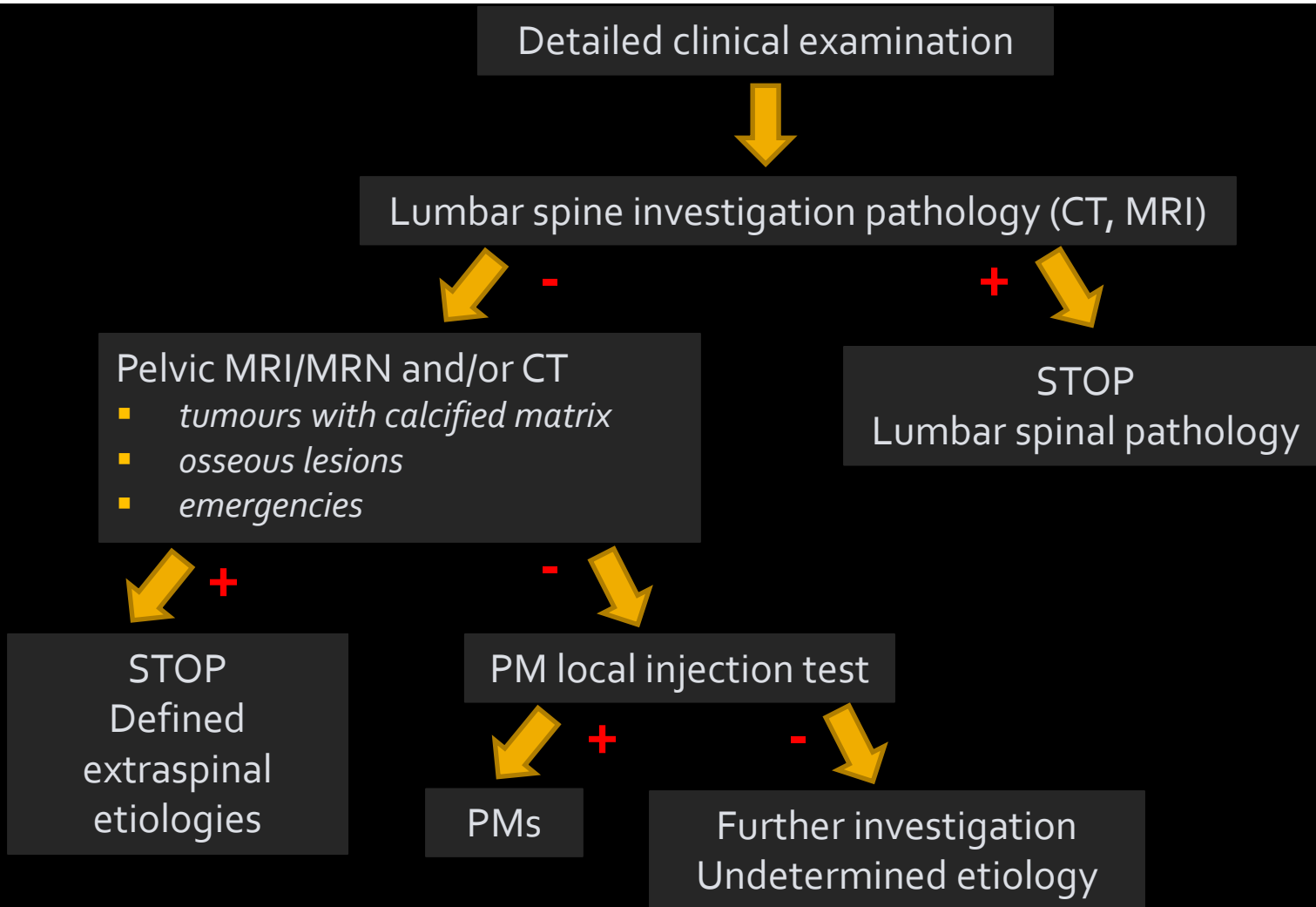
Sciatic nerve irritation at the lesser sciatic foramen by the piriformis muscle

- Underdiagnosed
- Low clinical suspicion
- Primary/secondary causes
 - **Primary:** all intrinsic PM pathology
 - SN-PM anatomical variations
 - PM myositis, trauma, enlargement
 - **Secondary:** conditions related to sciatic neuropathy at the greater sciatic foramen
 - space occupying lesions (neoplastic, traumatic, infectious...)
 - inflammatory changes



Piriformis muscle syndrome

Proposed diagnostic algorithm



Piriformis muscle syndrome

MRI

■ Role

- 64% of patients: identify underlying pathologies related to PMs
- 46% of patients: reveal unsuspected underlying medical condition, alter treatment planning

■ Findings

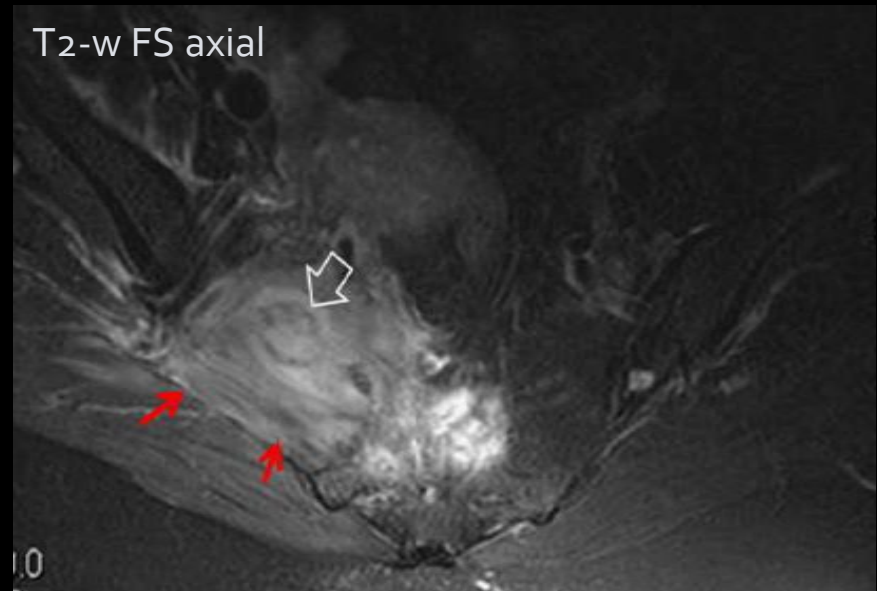
- PM enlargement
- PM signal alterations
- Sciatic neuropathy
- Underlying etiologies

Vassalou EE et al. Eur Radiol 2018;28:447-458

Filler AG et al. J Neurosurg Spine 2005;2:99-115

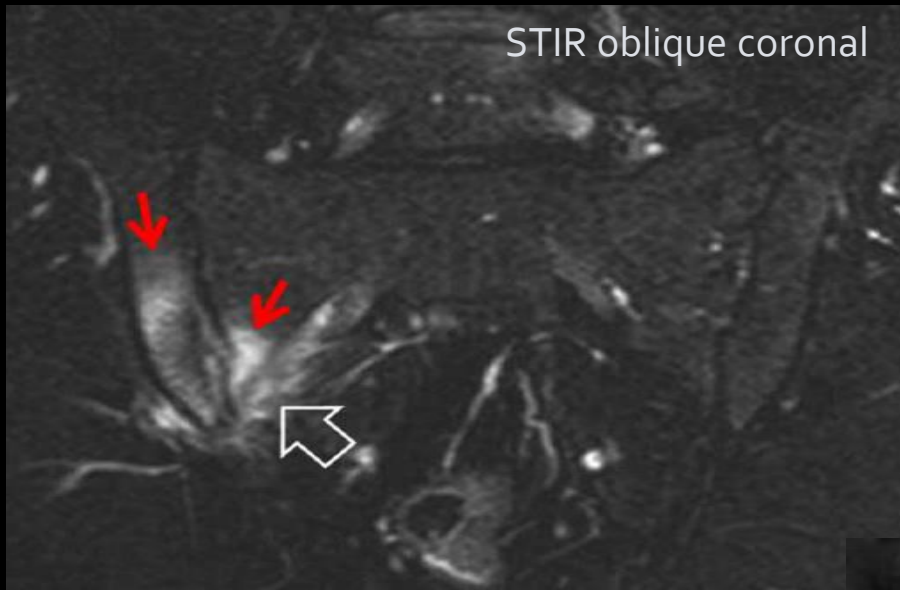
Lewis AM et al. Arch Neurol 2006;63:1469-72

Pecina HI et al. Skeletal Radiol 2008;37:1019-23

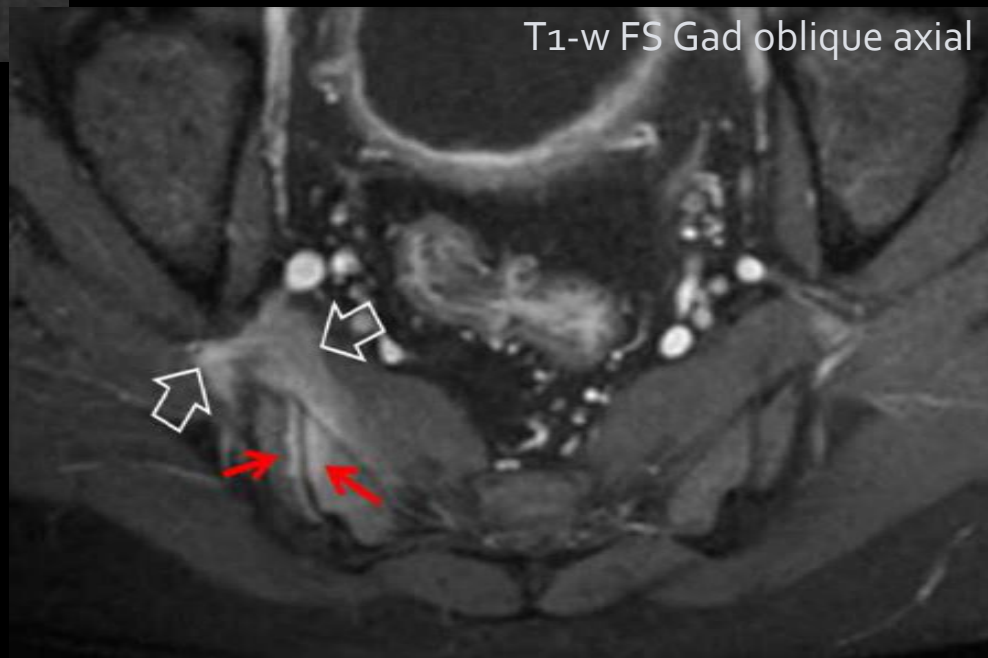


Male, 65y, Blood culture: Staph. aureus
 Diagnosis: PMs due to QF muscle
 pyomyositis/abscess

STIR oblique coronal

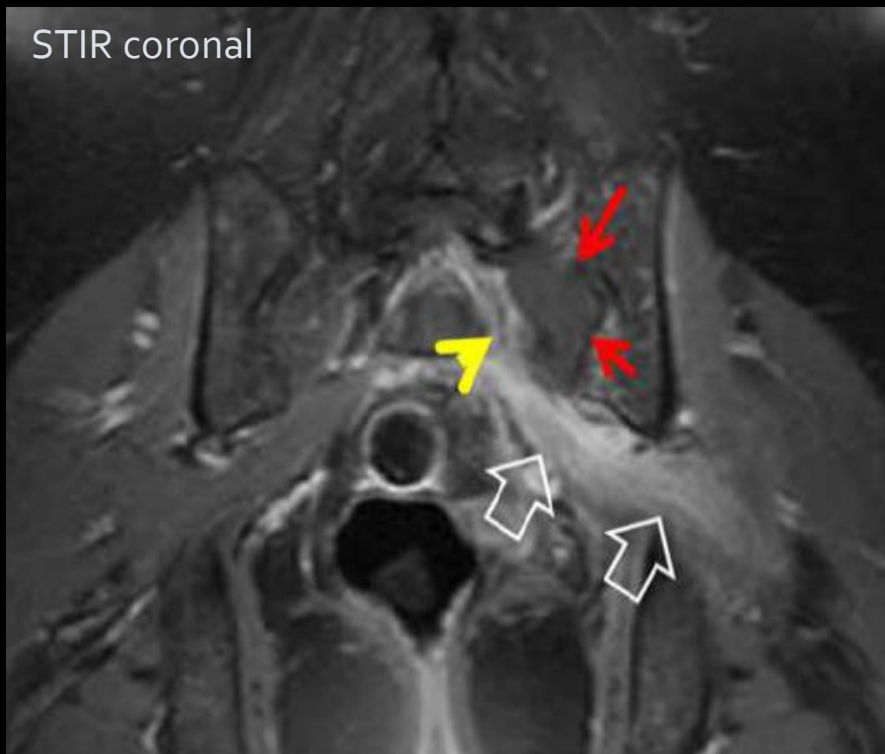


T1-w FS Gad oblique axial

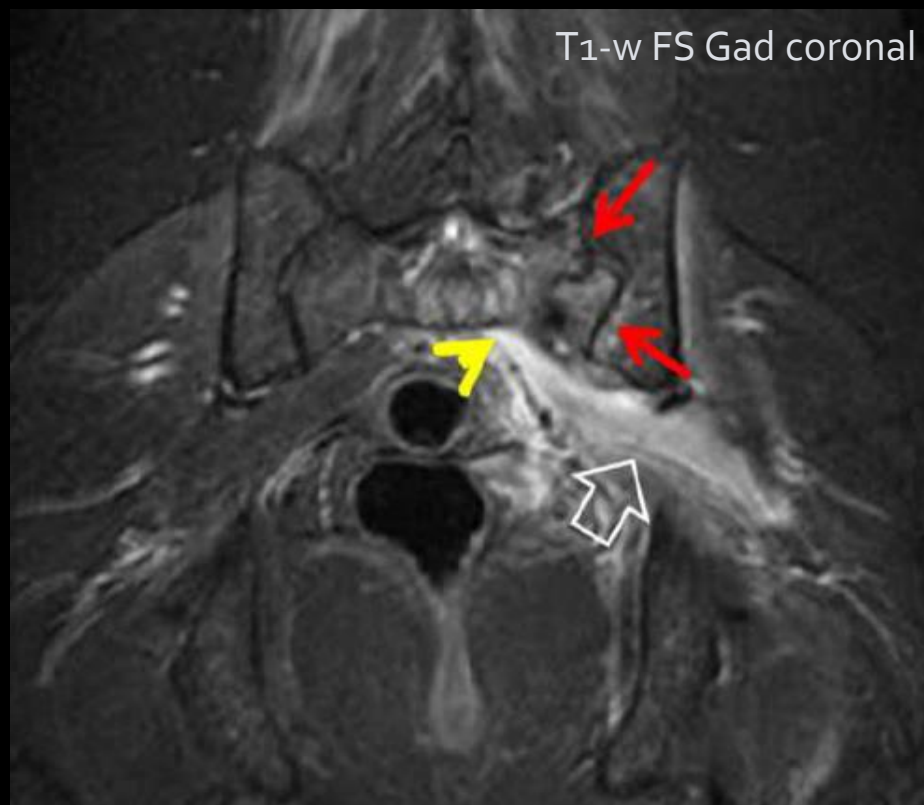


Male, 22y, 8-month RT deep gluteal pain
Diagnosis: axial SPA

STIR coronal



T1-w FS Gad coronal



Female, 47y, SSLC, breast carcinoma, LT sciatica
Diagnosis: sacral met + SN/PM neoplastic infiltration

DGS etiology

3. Ischiofemoral impingement syndrome

Hip, buttock or inguinal pain due to restriction of IFS

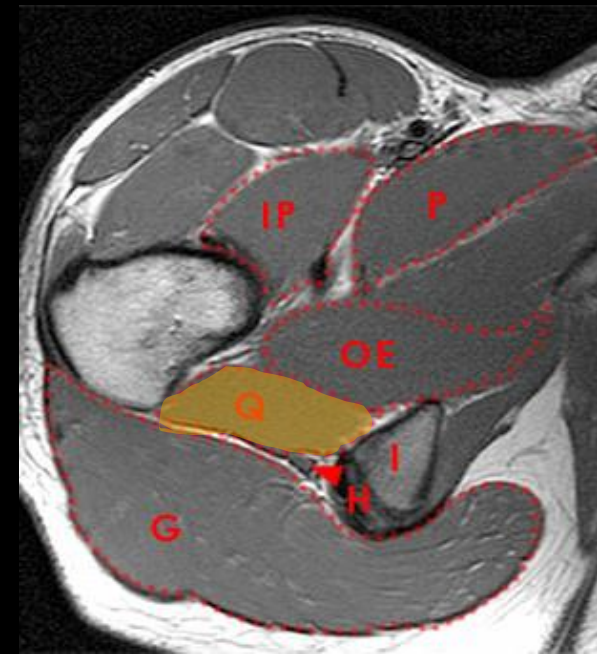
- Bilateral 25-40%
- Females

Causes

- congenital
- acquired
- positional
- Clinical tests: non-specific

MRI

- ! MRI standardized protocol
- ! IFS narrowing, QF muscle edema may be seen in asymptomatics

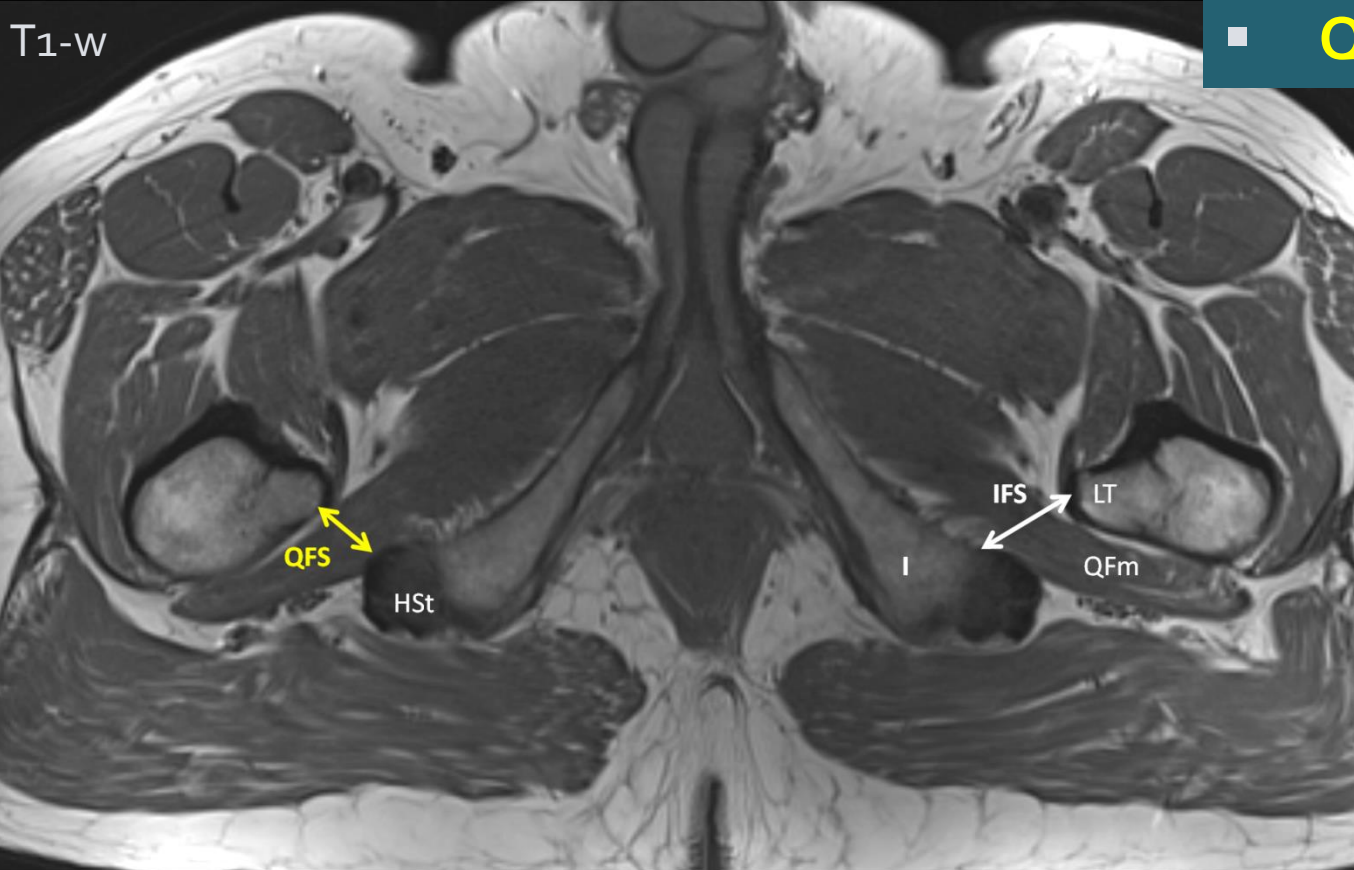


Ischiofemoral impingement syndrome

MRI

1. IFS/QFS restriction

- IFS > 17 mm
- QFS > 8 mm

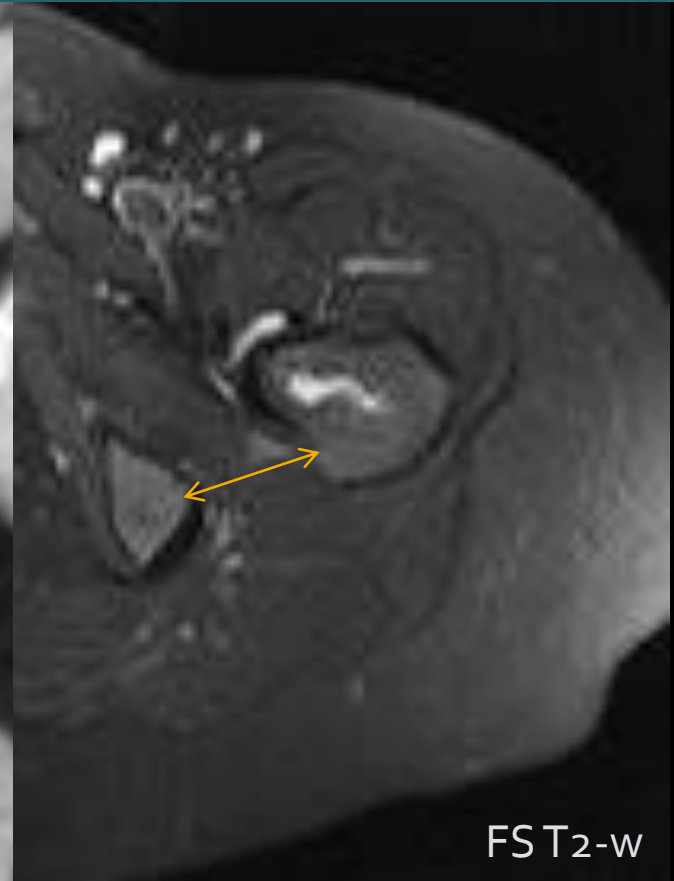


Ischiofemoral impingement syndrome

MRI

2. QFm edema (muscle belly)

- subtle, moderate

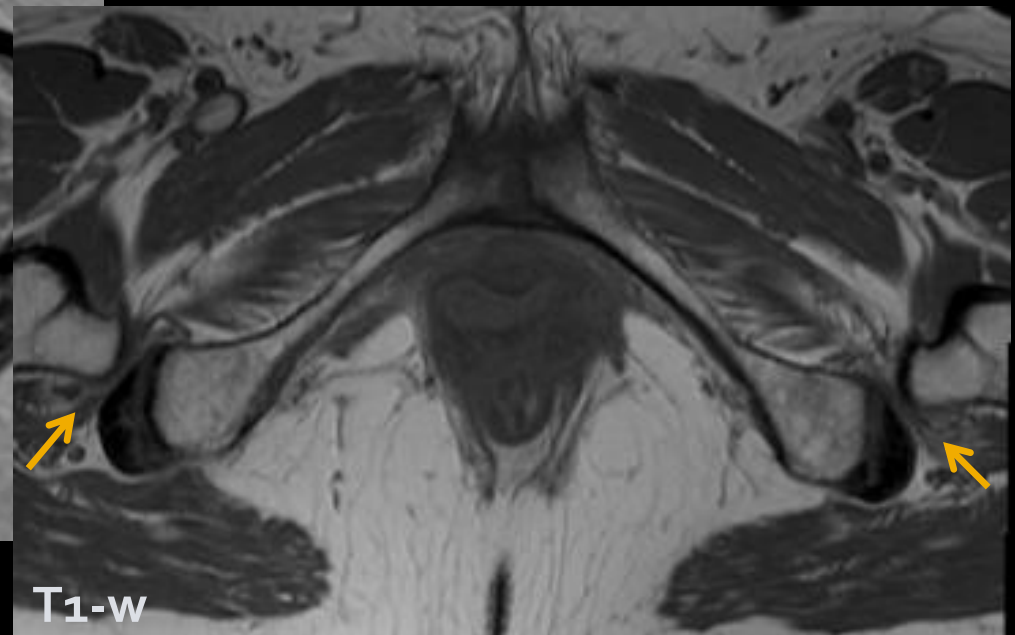
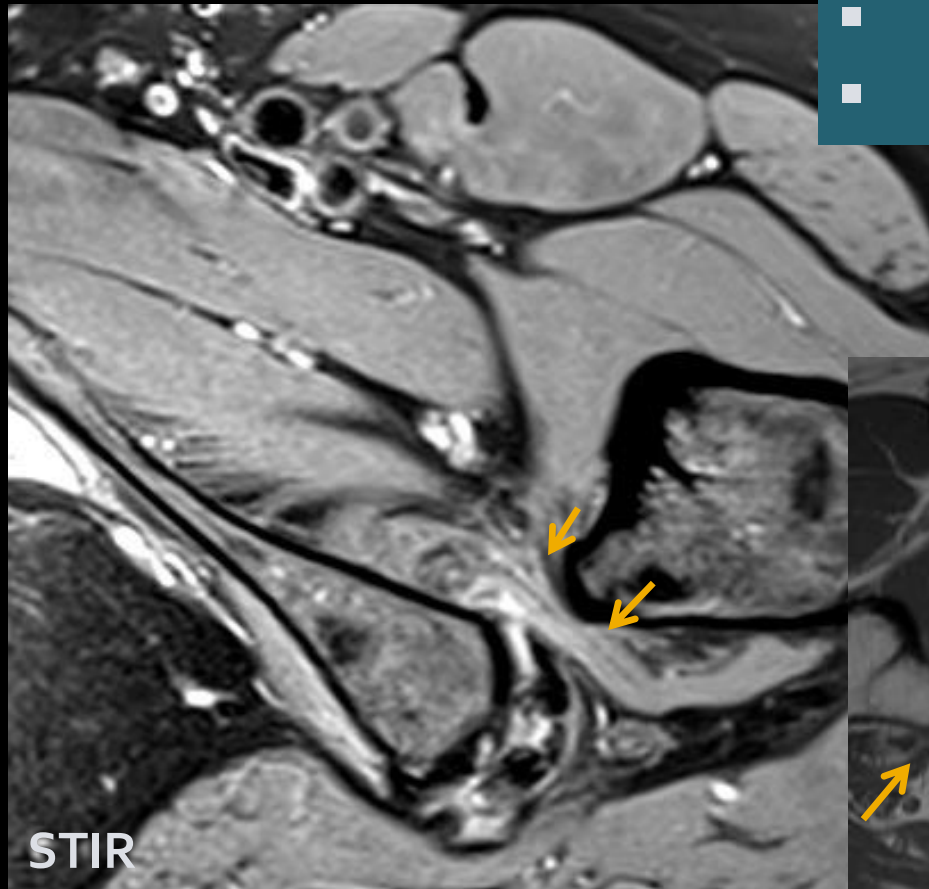


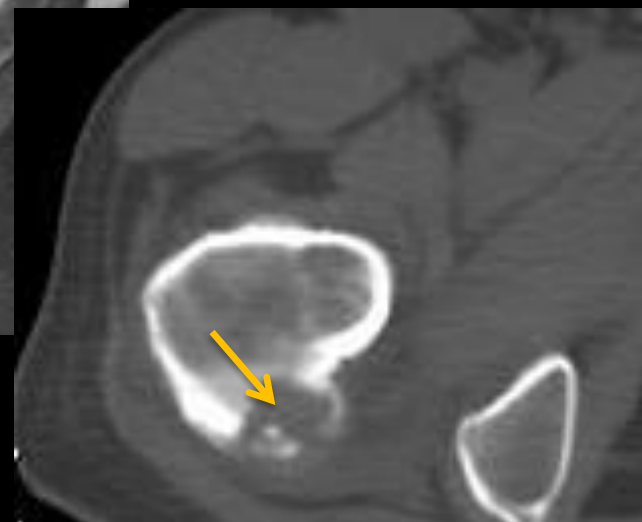
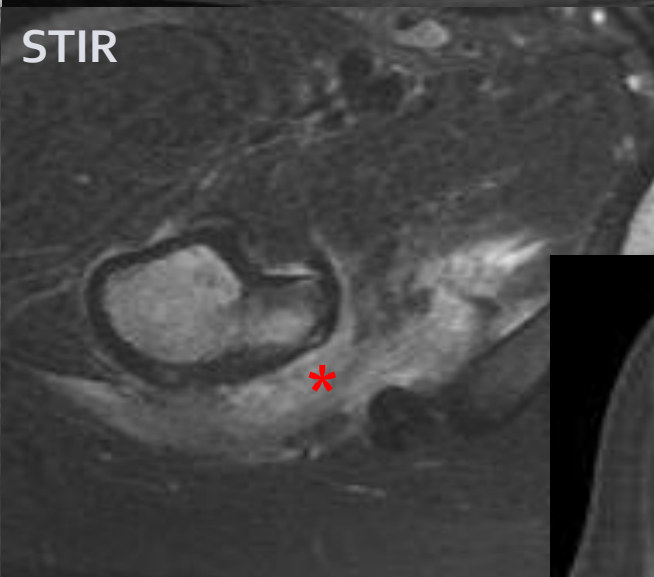
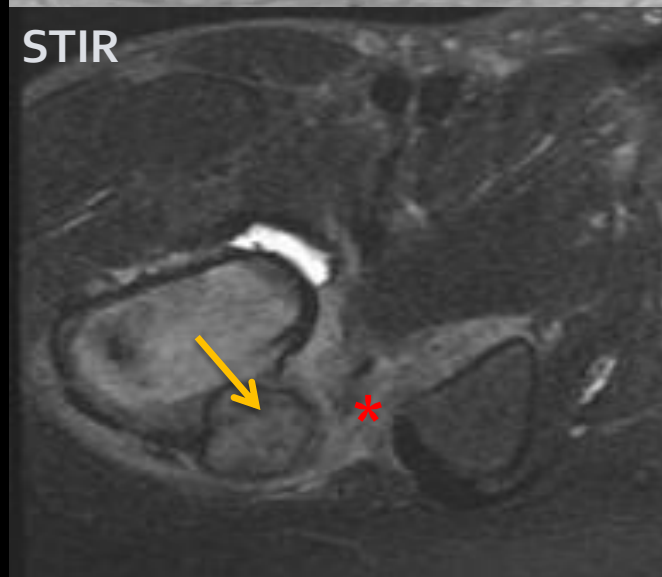
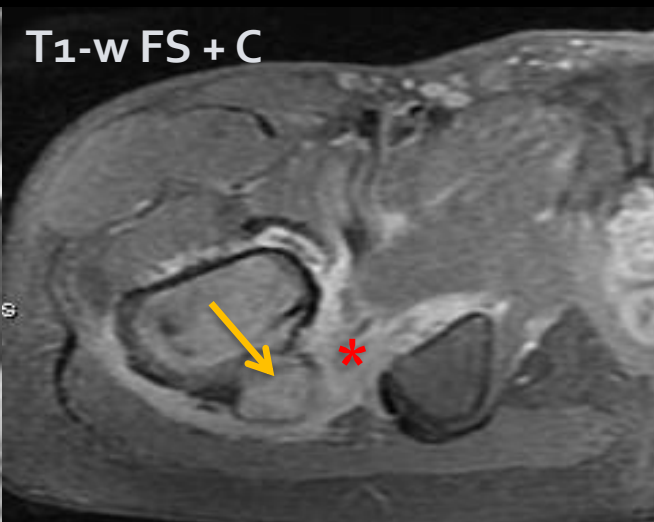
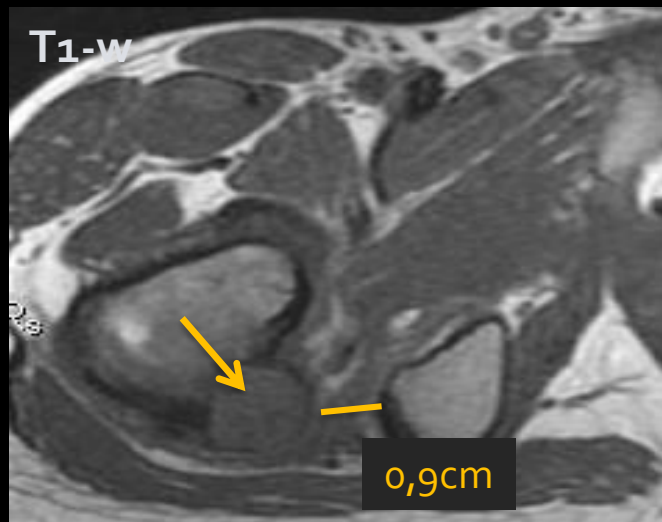
Ischiofemoral impingement syndrome

MRI

3. Crowded QFm fibers configuration

- T1-w
- FS PD-w/T2-w/STIR images





Male, 28y, RT hip pain
Diagnosis: parosteal chondroma

DGS etiology

4. QF muscle tear/other pathologies

- Infrequently reported in the literature
- Tear
 - strain, grade II, grade III
- Exercise-induced edema
- Others
 - neoplastic disorders
 - myositis ossificans
- **MRI findings:** do not differ significantly, usually subtle
 - careful analysis of muscular involvement pattern
 - detailed assessment of myotendinous junction

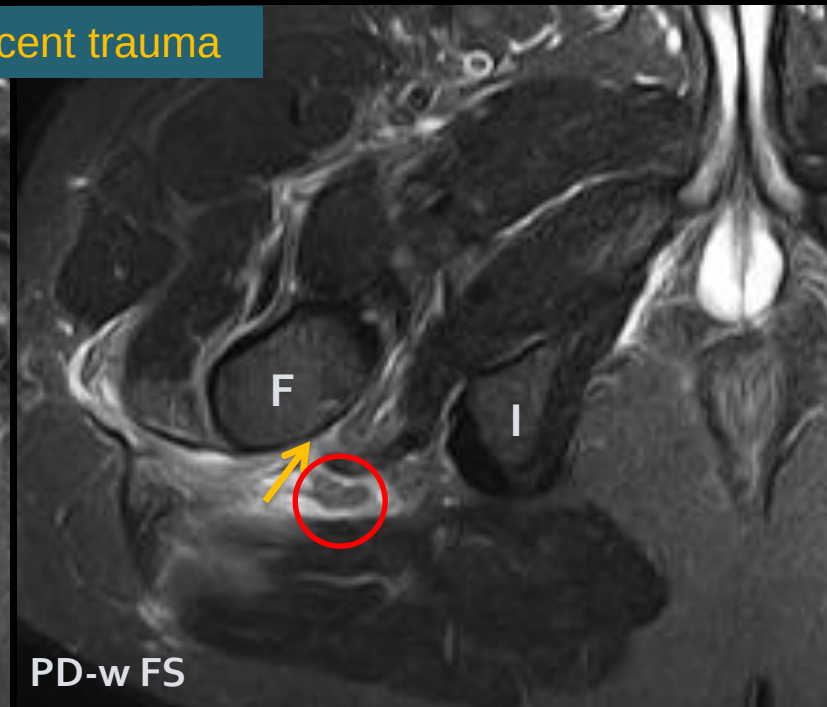
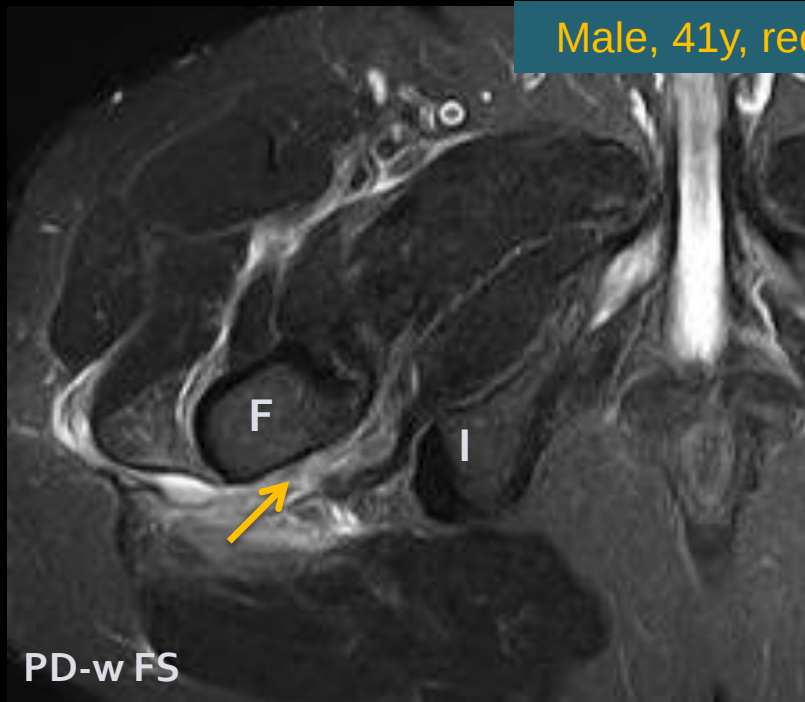
Male, 18y, recent football injury

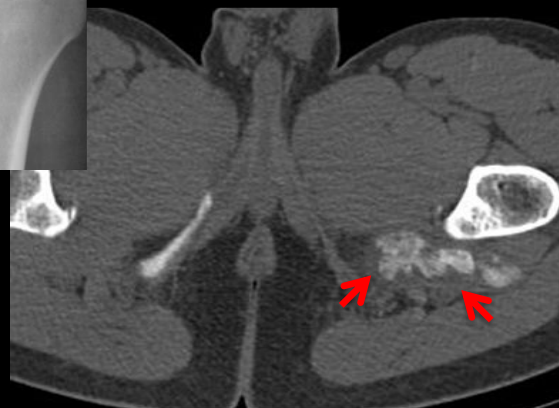
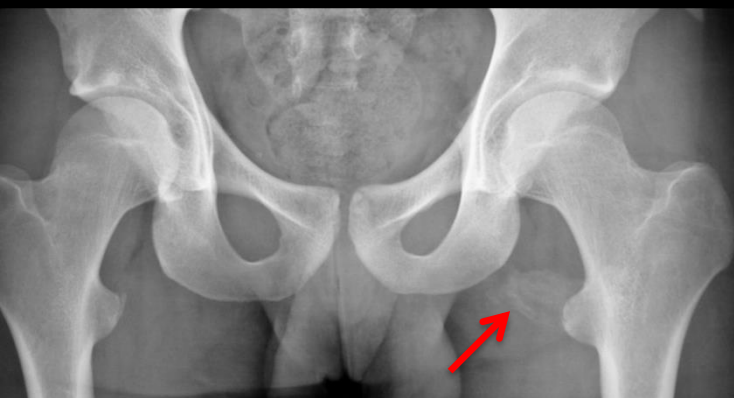
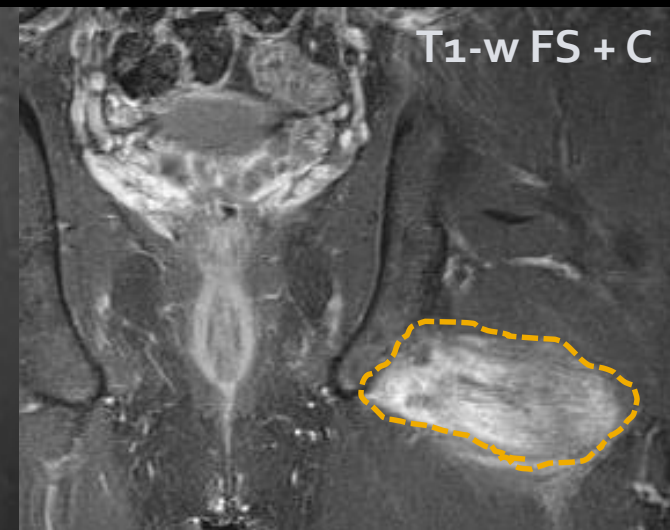
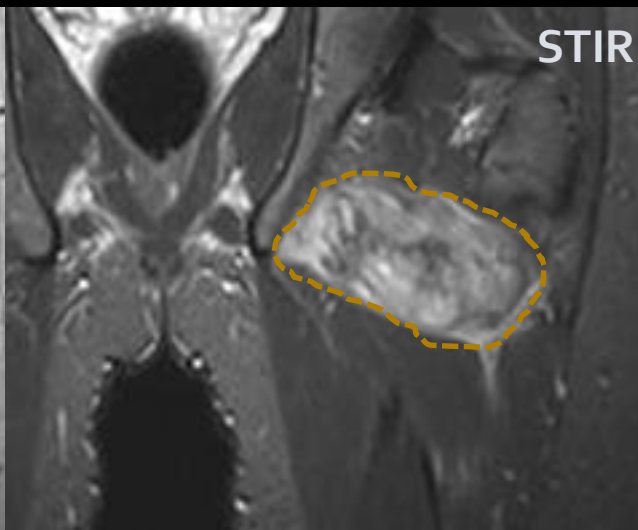


Chronic QF muscle tear



Male, 41y, recent trauma





Male, 20y football injury since 8w, LT gluteal pain
Diagnosis: QF muscle myositis ossificans

Courtesy: Prof. Apostolos Karantanas

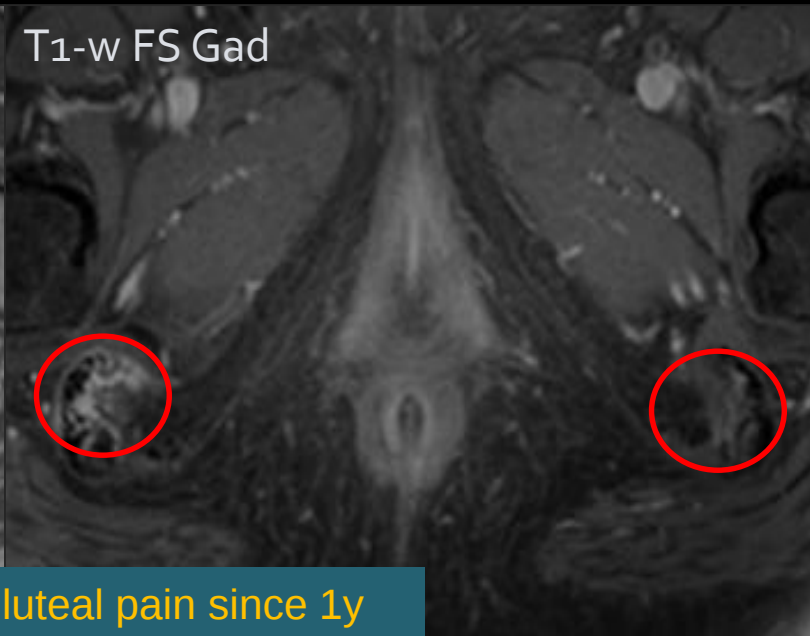
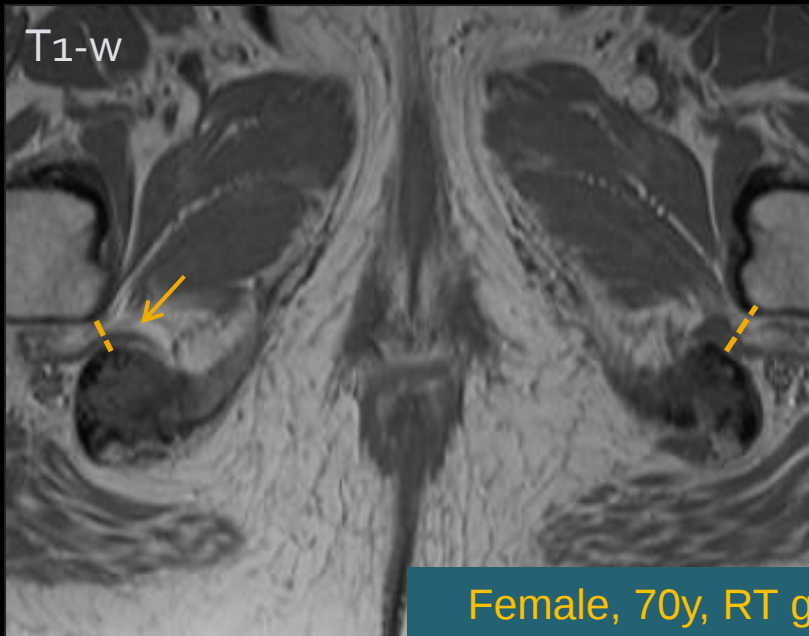
DGS etiology

5. *Hamstrings' pathology*

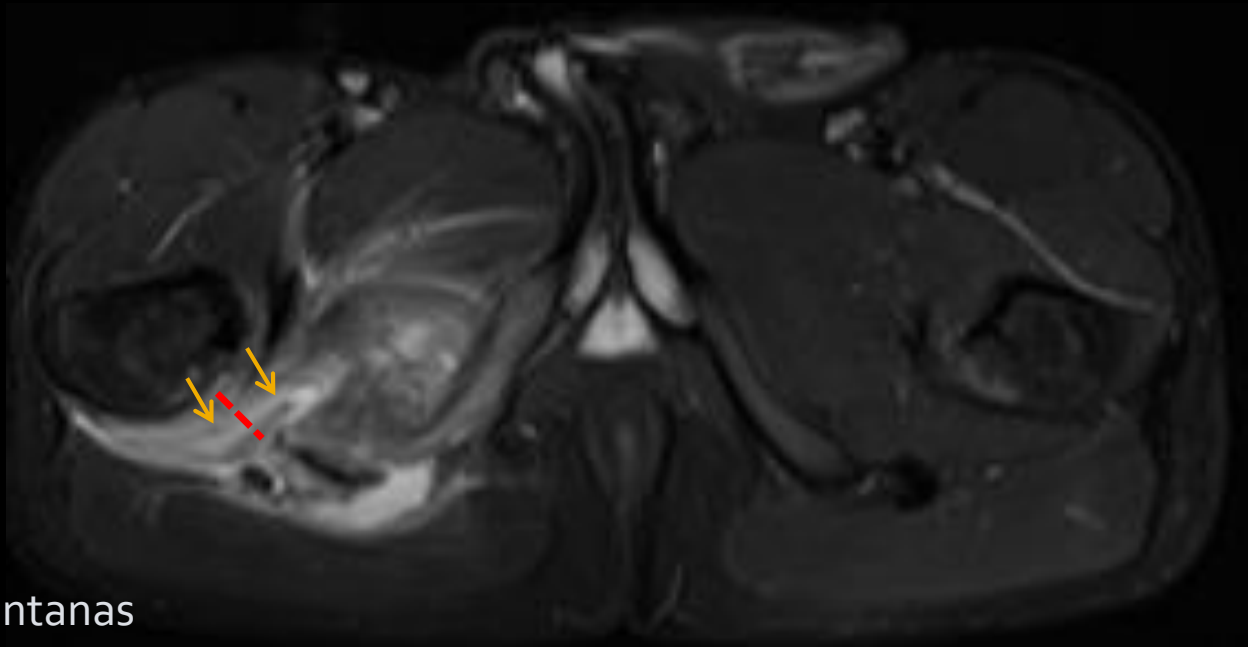
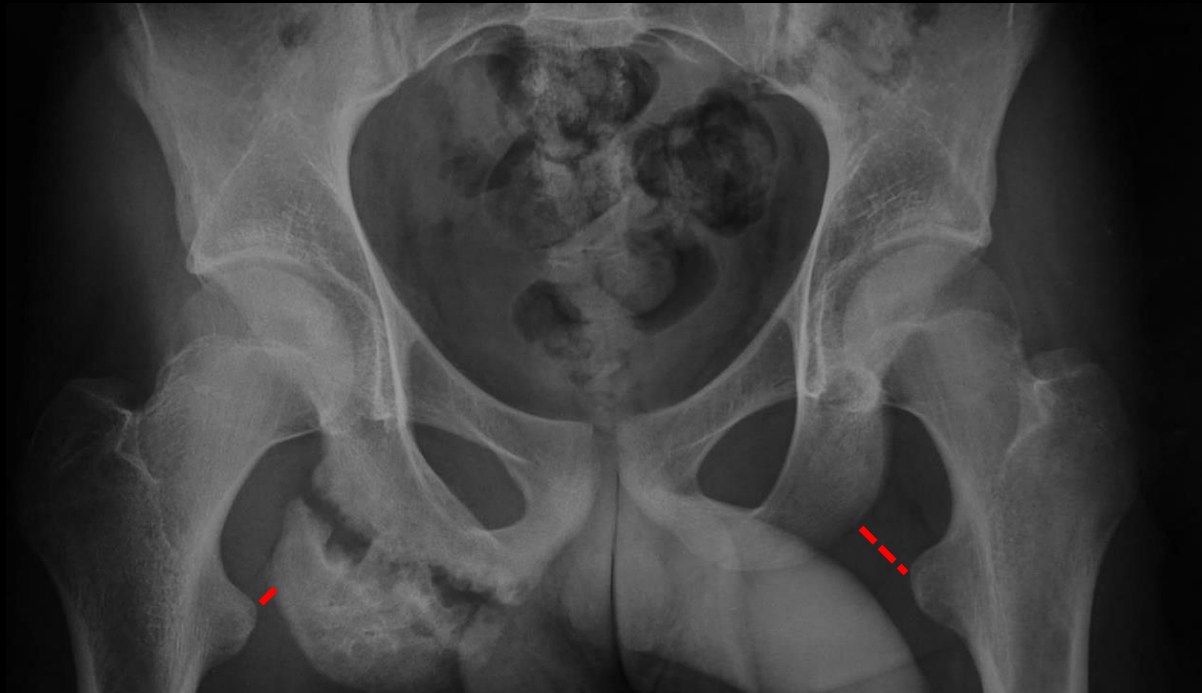
- Various pathologies
 - tendinosis
 - apophysitis
 - partial/complete tear
 - avulsion
 - calcifying tendinopathy
- May be related to sciatic neuropathy:
 - ✓ Acute injury: edema irritates nerve
 - ✓ Chronic injury: scarring, entrapment/impingement syndrome



Male, 70y, LT gluteal pain since 6 months



Female, 70y, RT gluteal pain since 1y



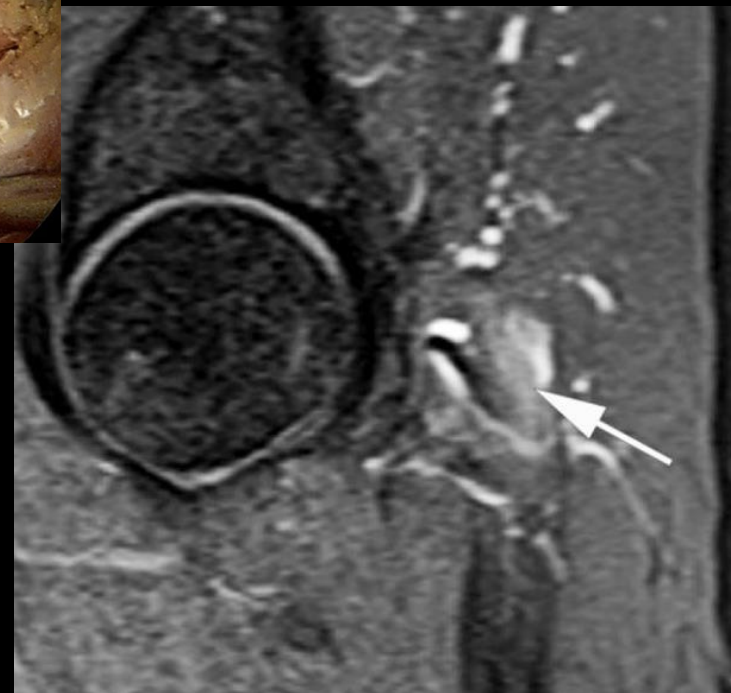
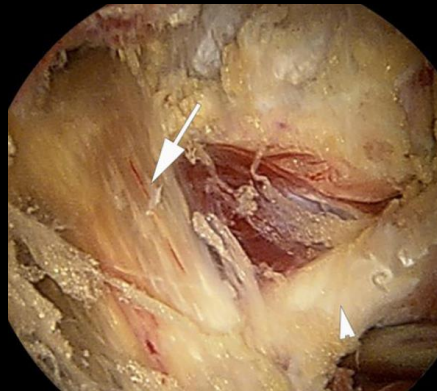
Courtesy: Prof. Apostolos Karantanas

DGS etiology

6. *Gemelli/obturator internus syndrome*

Sciatic nerve impingement due to obturator internus/gemelli pathology

- Rare condition
- Causes:
 - muscle hypertrophy
 - anatomical variations
 - dynamic impingement



DGS

Imaging-guided treatment options

Techniques for PM and perisciatic nerve injections

- *Blind*
- *Fluoroscopy-guided*
- *CT-guided* ←
- *US-guided*
- *Open MR-guided*

- ✓ *Aseptic conditions*
- ✓ *Avoid sciatic nerve*
- ✓ *Avoid inferior gluteal vessels*

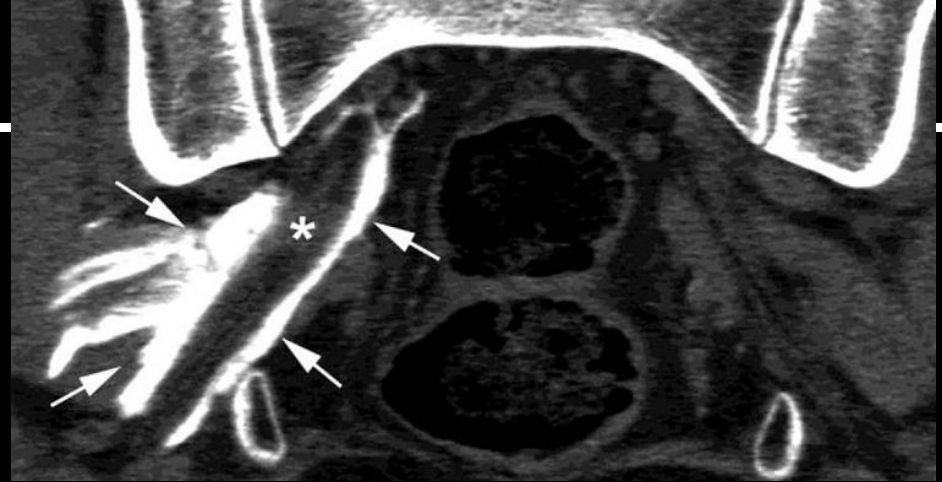
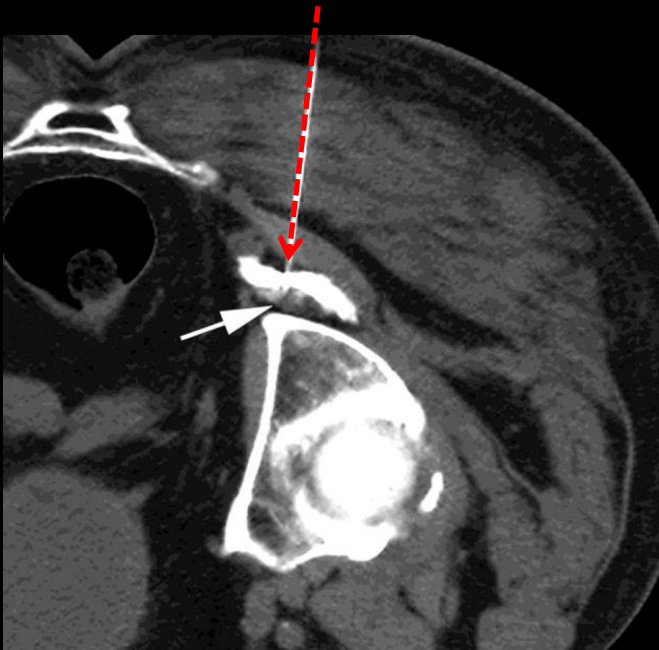
Solution

1. Anesthetic
2. Corticosteroids
3. Botulinum toxin
4. Contrast

DGS

CT-guided procedure

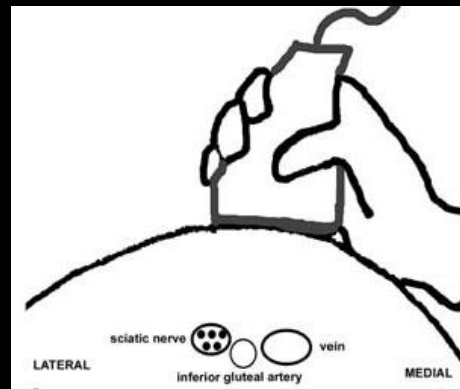
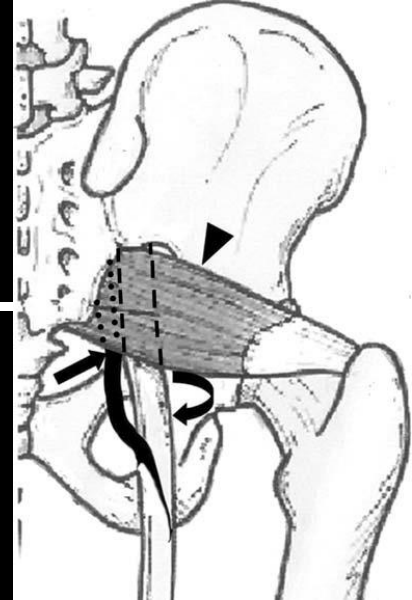
- Patient: prone
- 22-gauge spinal needle
- Injection through PM



DGS

US-guided procedure

- Patient: prone
- Probe: Superomedial quadrant
- Trace inferior gluteal artery
- SN: lateral to artery
- Inject in plane (22 gauge needle)



Imaging-guided treatment options

Outcome

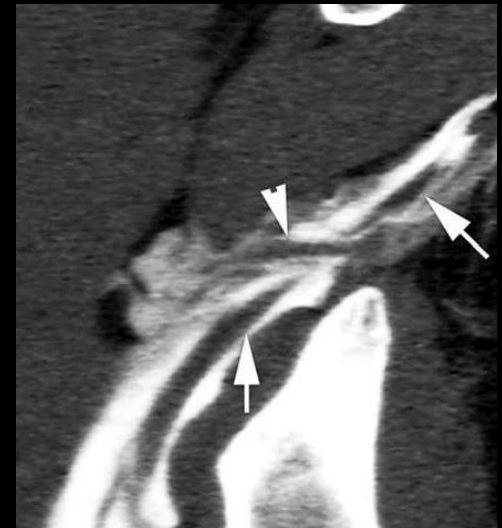
Advantages

1. Confirm diagnosis
2. Fibrous bands identification
3. Symptoms' relief

- 84-100% of patients: improved symptoms
- Clinical improvement: from 5-7 days to 1 y (mean 2-3 months)

Side effects:

- ✓ feet numbness (lasting 40–130 min)
- ✓ hemorrhage
- ✓ neural injury
- ✓ infection



Benzon HT et al. Anesthesiology 2003;98:1442-8

Reus M et al. Eur Radiol 2008;18: 616-620

Masala S et al. Cardiovasc Intervent Radiol 2012;35:375-82

Conclusion

■ Anatomy



DQS etiologies

1. fibrous/fibrovascular bands
2. piriformis muscle syndrome (PMs)
3. ischiofemoral impingement syndrome (IFIs)
4. quadratus femoris muscle pathologies
5. hamstrings' pathology
6. obturator internus/gemellus syndrome



Imaging-guided treatment options

- CT-guided
 1. Confirm diagnosis
 2. Fibrous bands identification
 3. Symptoms' relief



Thank you!