## Distal Biceps Tendon Injuries

## Epidemiology

- Dominant extremity of middle aged men
- Possible associated w/ steroids, smoking, obesity



## Anatomy

- Short + long head of biceps have two insertions on radial tuberosity
- Tendon rotate 90deg, short head inserts distal (elbow flex)
- Long head (elbow supination)
- Lacterus fibrosus originates from distal end of short head biceps> blends w/ fascia of ulnar aspect of arm



## Mechanism

- Eccentric load to biceps
- Distal biceps tendon is hypovascular


## Evaluation/ PE

- History: pop, pain, ecchymosis
- Physical:
- Swelling, + hook test (if lacterus is disrupted- retraction of tendon into arm), weakness of supination



## Imaging

- Xray, ultrasound, MRI


A
B

## Treatment

- Non-op:
- Low demand patients, non dominant arm, medical comorbidities
- Loss of supination strength > flexion
- Operative tx:
- Distal biceps tendon rupture


## Surgical Options: Approaches

- Anterior single incision
- Horizontal (at elbow crease, 3cm distal to elbow crease)
- Vertical
- Dual incision



## Fixation options

- Suture through dril holes
- Suture anchors
- Buttons
- Intra osseous
- Extra osseous
- Interference screw
- Similar clinical results with all



## Surgical technique

- Muscle interval between BR and PT
- Injury to LABCN is common
- Use of army navy instead of retractors around radial sidedec injury to PIN
- Position tendon as ulnar as possible to help w/ supination strength (i.e place screw more radial)



## JOMI Technique video



## Outcomes

- Most get back to sport
- 90\% supination strength achieved
- Loss of supination- anterior placement of tendon, fatty infiltration of supinator muscle, decrease in radial tuberosity height


## Chronic tears (>2 mo)

- Typically direct repair still possible, elbow may need to be flexed to 90 deg
- Allograft reconstruction may be needed if
- Poor quality tendon
- Inability to do primary repair w/ <70 deg flexion, tendon length $<4 \mathrm{~cm}$



## Post-op protocol?

## Thank you Dr. Ilyas!

- Resources:
- AAOS ROCK

