



# Development of overuse injuries in running

- Analysis, Therapy and Prevention -

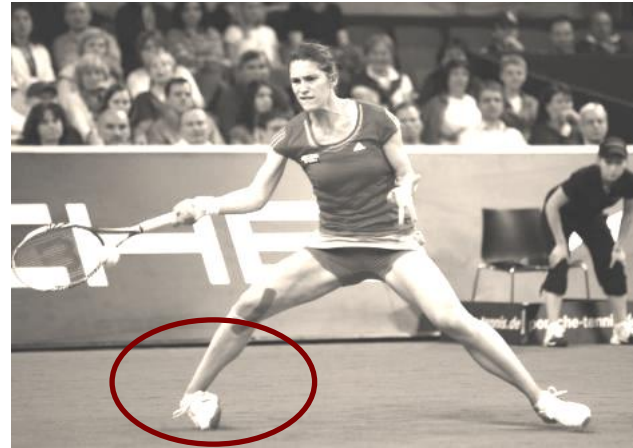
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University of Gothenburg, Sweden



## Definition **SPORT INJURY:**

Sudden trauma leads to damage of the skeleton  
(Fracture, Luxation, Ligament Rupture).

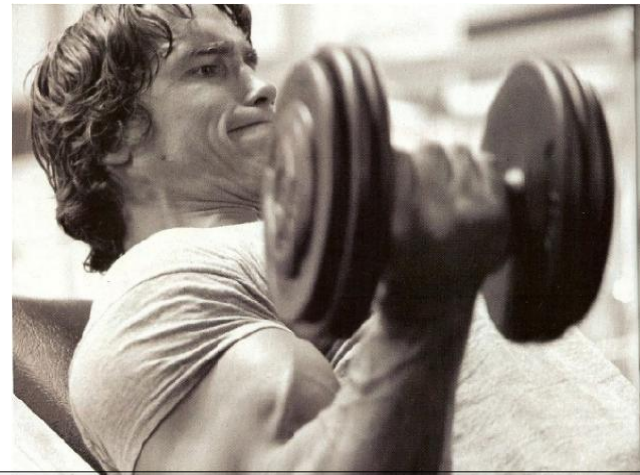


<http://sportbild.bild.de/SPORT/sportmix/tennis>

## Definition **OVERUSE:**

Continuous micro traumata leads to limited damage of the skeleton. Dysbalance between repetitive stress and ability of tissues such as ligaments, bands, muscles, bones and apophysis to regenerate.

(Weinberg, 2005)



<http://www.ironmagazine.com>

## **Types of overuse injuries -> Overuse Pain**

- Insertional irritations of ligaments
- Inflammation of Bursa
- Joint Damage
- Stress Fractures

## **Common Overuse injuries Knee**

- ITBS (Runner's Knee)
- Tendinopathy of Patella (Jumper's knee)
- Damage of Cartilage

## **Common Overuse injuries Ankle**

- Tendinopathy of Achilles Tendon
  - Plantar fasciitis
-



The American Orthopaedic  
Society for Sports Medicine

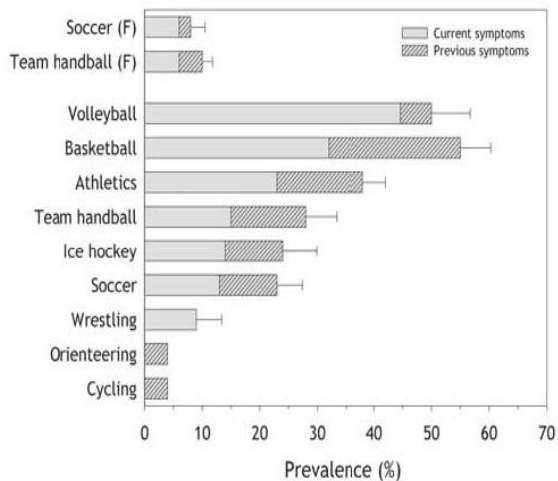
# The American Journal of Sports Medicine

## Prevalence of Jumper's Knee Among Elite Athletes From Different Sports

### A Cross-sectional Study

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## Prevalence of Jumper's Knee Among Nonelite Athletes From Different Sports

### A Cross-Sectional Survey

Johannes Zwerver,<sup>\*†</sup> MD, PhD, Steven W. Bredeweg,<sup>†</sup> MD,  
and Inge van den Akker-Scheek,<sup>†</sup> PhD  
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TABLE 1  
Prevalence of Jumper's Knee in 7 Different Sports and Athletes' Characteristics<sup>a</sup>

	Basketball	Volleyball	Handball	Korfball	Soccer	Field Hockey	Track and Field
No. of athletes	127	152	105	145	118	98	145
JK prevalence	11.8%	14.4%	13.3%	4.8%	2.5%	5.1%	6.9%
95% CI	7.5-18.6	9.7-20.8	8.1-21.1	2.4-9.6	0.9-7.2	2.2-11.4	3.8-12.2
Men	89 (70.1%)	76 (49.7%)	45 (42.9%)	76 (52.4%)	92 (78%)	49 (50.0%)	75 (51.7%)
Age, y	23.6 (4.3)	22.9 (2.7)	23.8 (5.2)	23.2 (4.2)	24.7 (5.1)	26.6 (6.2)	24.0 (4.5)
BMI, kg/m <sup>2</sup>	22.5 (2.2)	22.2 (2.0)	23.5 (2.3)	22.5 (2.2)	23.0 (2.5)	22.7 (2.7)	21.1 (2.0)
Height, cm	186 (9.6)	182 (10.1)	179 (9.0)	180 (10.0)	181 (8.1)	179 (9.9)	178 (9.8)
Weight, kg	78.4 (11.1)	74.2 (10.9)	76.1 (11.9)	73.4 (11.2)	75.9 (11.0)	73.3 (12.4)	67.3 (10.1)
Sport history, y	9.3 (5.1)	9.9 (4.8)	13.8 (7.2)	15.1 (4.9)	16.5 (5.6)	15.5 (6.9)	8.7 (6.0)
Sporting per week, h	4.6 (1.8)	5.0 (2.2)	5.7 (4.1)	4.0 (1.3)	4.7 (1.7)	4.2 (2.1)	5.7 (3.2)

<sup>a</sup>Except for prevalence and gender, data are shown as the mean, with standard deviation in parentheses. JK, jumper's knee; CI, confidence interval; BMI, body mass index.

Next to acute traumata, (chronical) overuse injuries/pain at the musculoskeletal system responsible for reduction or drop-out from training/competition and loading capacity in elite and recreational sports (all sports)

Running shows particularly high incidence rates

- 30-65% of all runners generate an overuse injuries per year
- 70-80% of overuse injuries are at the lower extremities

Hein et al. 2014

Soccer also shows particular high incidence rates

-26-76% Overuse injuries per year

Junge et al. 2004, Hawkins et al. 2001, Dupont et al. 2010



## Development of overuse injuries multi factorial:

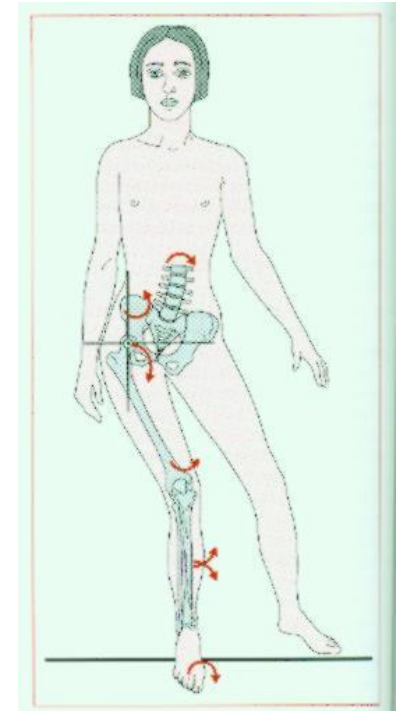
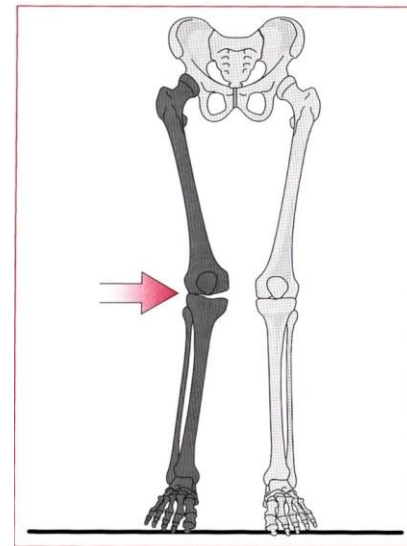
- Biomechanics
- Clinics
- Training



## Biomechanical riskfactor 1: Leg alignment (stability vs. Instability)

### a) Valgus leg axis in dynamics and „Medial Collapse“

- Increased Adduction und Internal rotation of Femur
- increased drop of pelvis on opposite side
- Increased internal rotation of tibia
- Increased subtalar pronation



**-> Lead to increased tension of muscles (Triggerpoints), typically tractus iliotibialis, gluteal/piriformis, lumbal, calf**

Krauss, I. et al. 2007

Noehren et. al et al. 2007

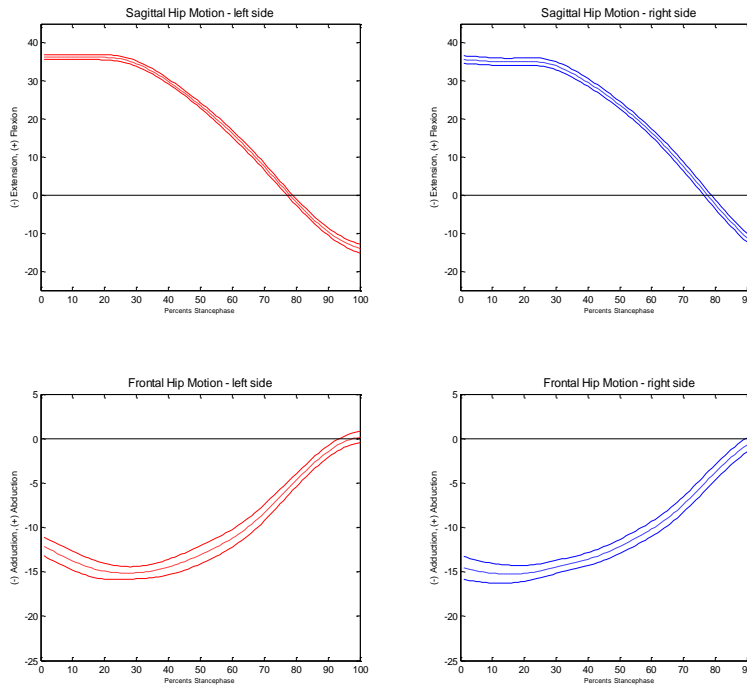


## Video Medial collapse

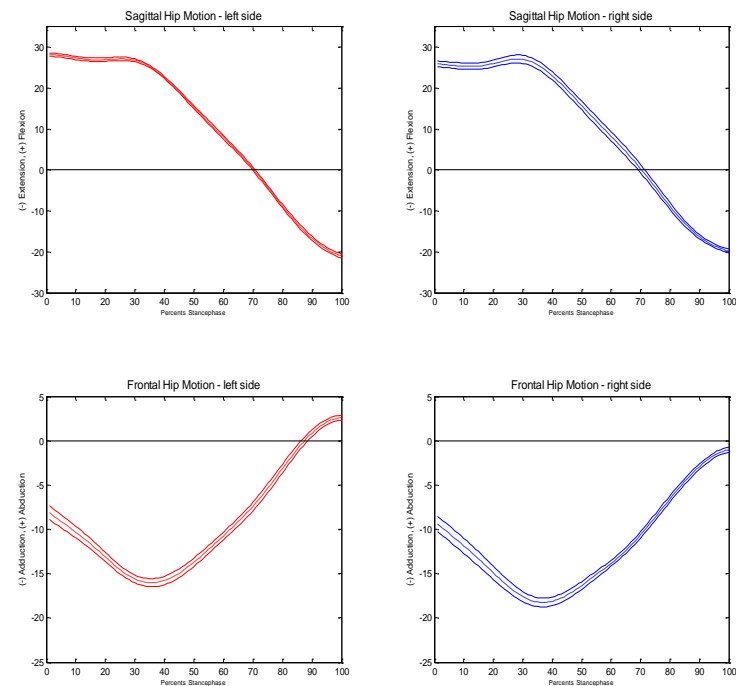




## Typical hip motion



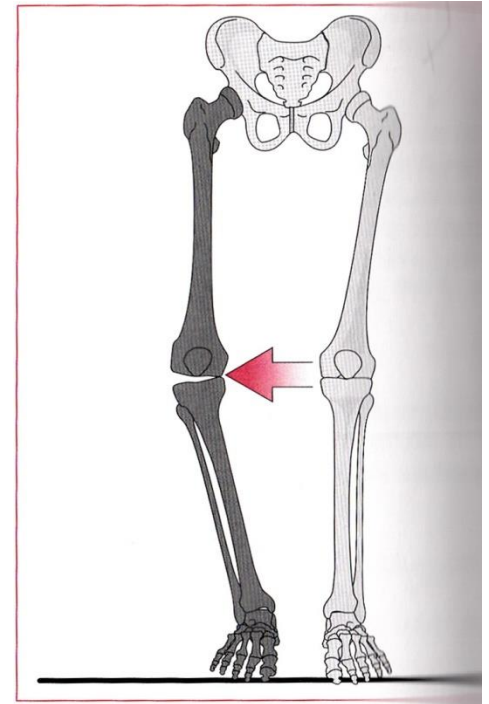
## Instable hip motion frontal



## b) Varus leg axis in dynamics

- „Relatively“ increased abduction und external rotation of Femur
- Invreased external rotation of Tibia
- „Relative“ subtalar supination

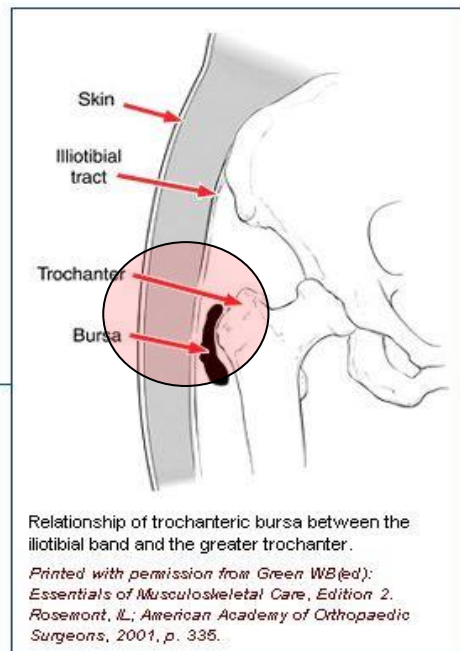
**-> Lead to increased tension of muscles  
(Triggerpoints), typically tractus iliotibialis, calf**



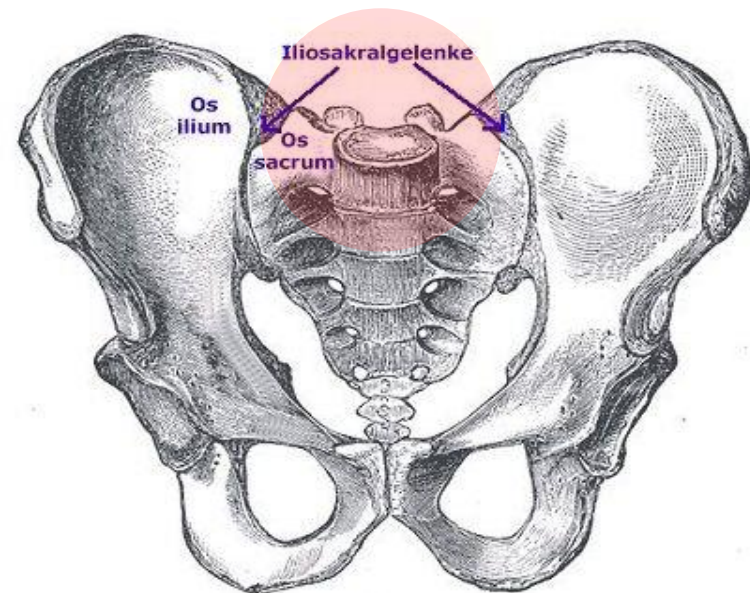
Grau, S. et al. 2008c

## Possible & common location of pain (valgus)

### Trochanter

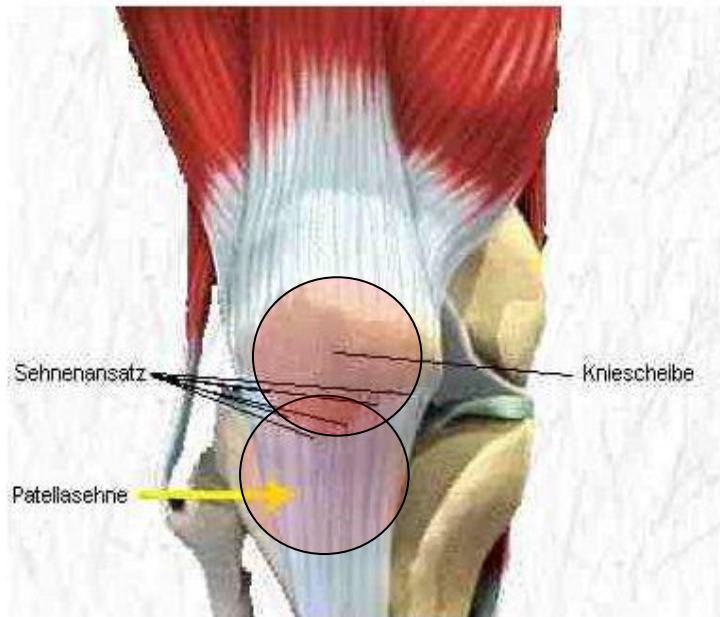


### Lumbar Region/ISJ

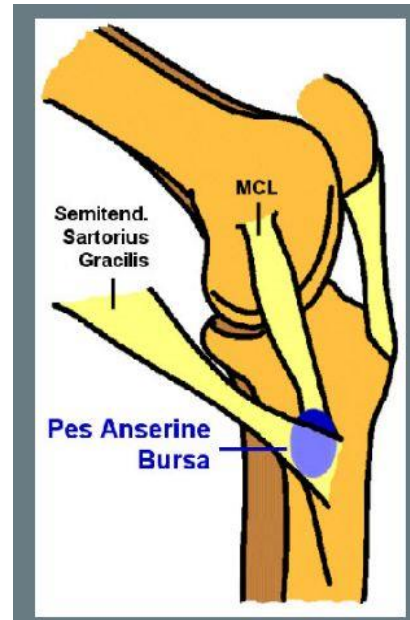


## Possible & common location of pain (valgus)

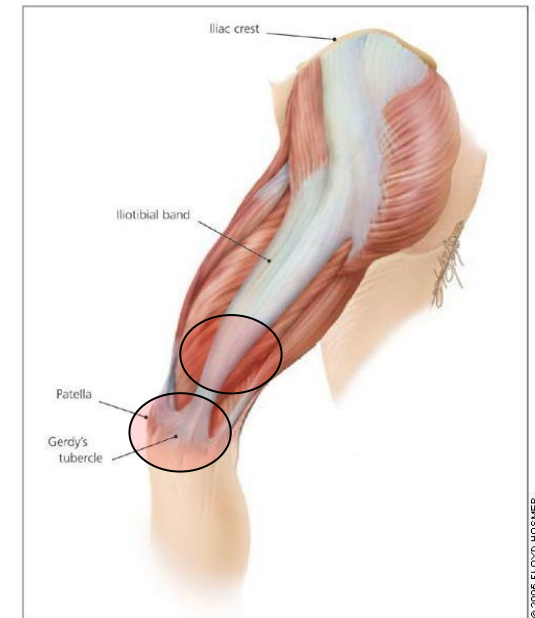
Tip of Patella, retropatellar



Pes anserinus

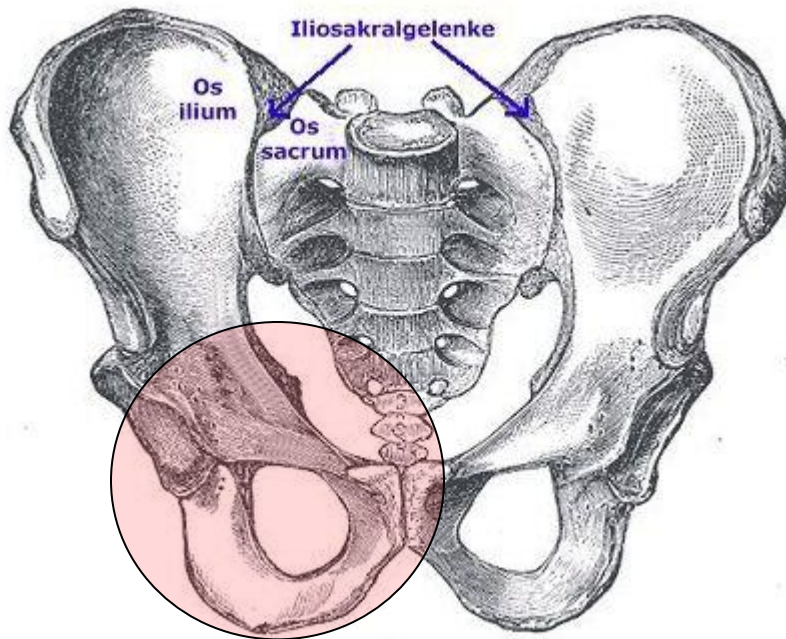


Iliotibial Band

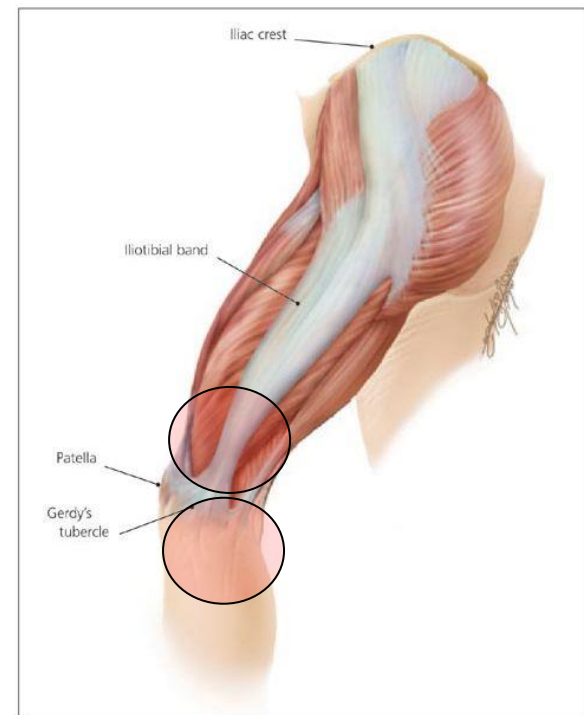


## Possible & common location of pain (varus)

### Iliac Region



### Iliotibial Band





## Causes of Instability of Leg Axis

- Deficits of hip stabilizing muscles and leg muscles
- Dysbalance of hip stabilizing muscles and leg muscles (Agonist-Antagonist; right-left)

**Biomechanische Funktionszustandsanalyse der Gelenkfunktionen**

Profil - Funktionszustand

Name: [REDACTED]

Datum: 9.4.2008 Testart: vor Trainingsbeginn Gewicht: [REDACTED]

**Bewertungskriterien**

Analyseparameter	erheblich defizitär	defizitär	Referenzbereich	überdurchschnittlich	außergewöhnlich
Kraft Knie Streckung rechts					
Kraft Knie Streckung links					
Kraft Knie Beugung rechts					
Kraft Knie Beugung links					
Kraftverhältnis Knie Beuger/Strecker rechts					
Kraftverhältnis Knie Beuger/Strecker links					
Kraft Hüfte Abduktion					
Kraft Hüfte Adduktion					
Kraftverhältnis Hüfte Abduktion/Adduktion					

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**Biomechanische Funktionszustandsanalyse der Wirbelsäule**

fil - Funktionszustand

Name: [REDACTED]

Datum: 9.4.2008 Testart: vor Trainingsbeginn Gewicht: 105 kg

**Bewertungskriterien**

Analyseparameter	erheblich defizitär	defizitär	Referenzbereich	überdurchschnittlich	außergewöhnlich
LWS/BWS Rückenmuskulatur					
Vordere Bauchmuskulatur					
Rotationsmuskulatur rechts					
Rotationsmuskulatur links					
erhält. LWS/BWS Bauch-/Rückenmuskulatur					
Rotationsmuskulatur r./l.					

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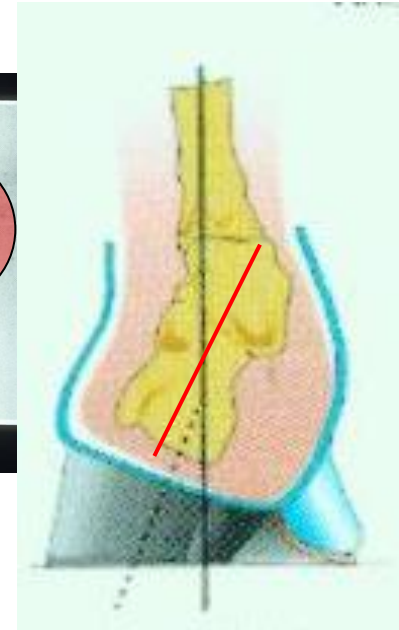
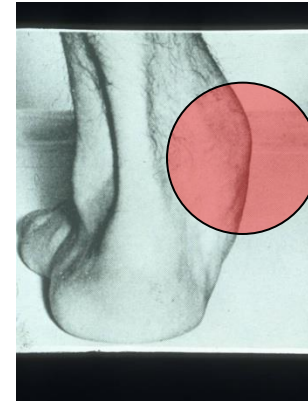
## Biomechanical riskfactor 2: Ankle alignment (stability vs. Instability)

„Overpronation“ at stance phase

Lowering of longitudinal arch and

- Increased inversion of calcaneus, ankle bone, metatarsals (+ velocity)

-> Increased internal rotation of lower leg (coupled movement)



**Lead to increased tension of muscles (Triggerpoints), typically at the calf (also hardening of calf)**

Davis et al. 2010

Krauss, I. et al. 2007

Grau, S. et al. 2008a,b,c

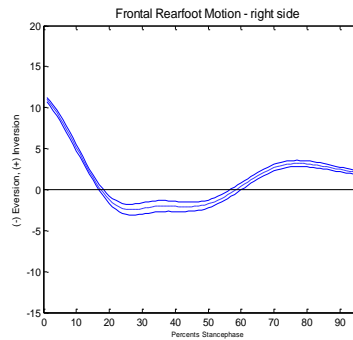
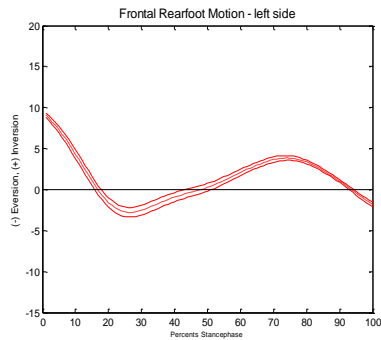
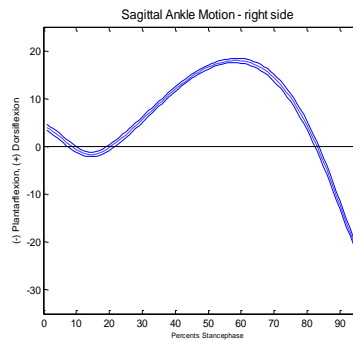
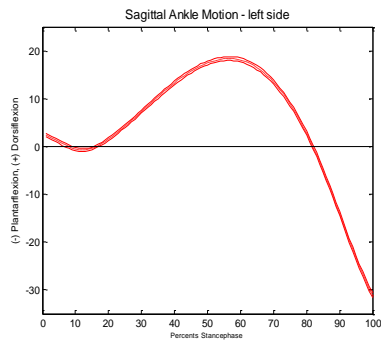


## Videos overpronation

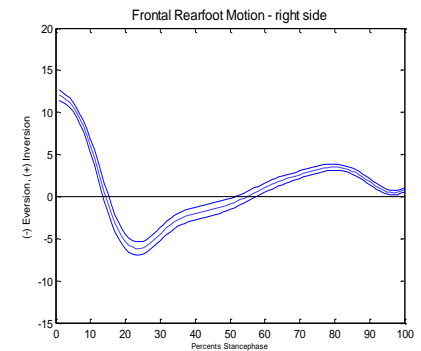
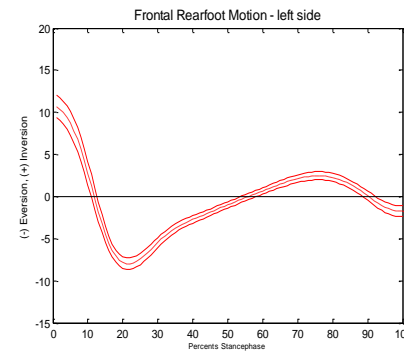
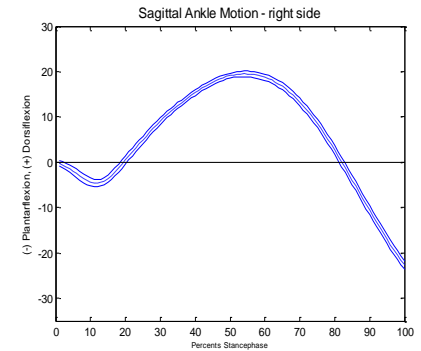
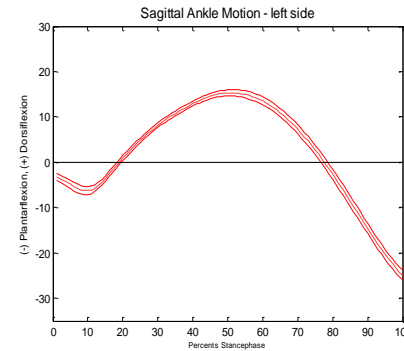




## Typical ankle motion

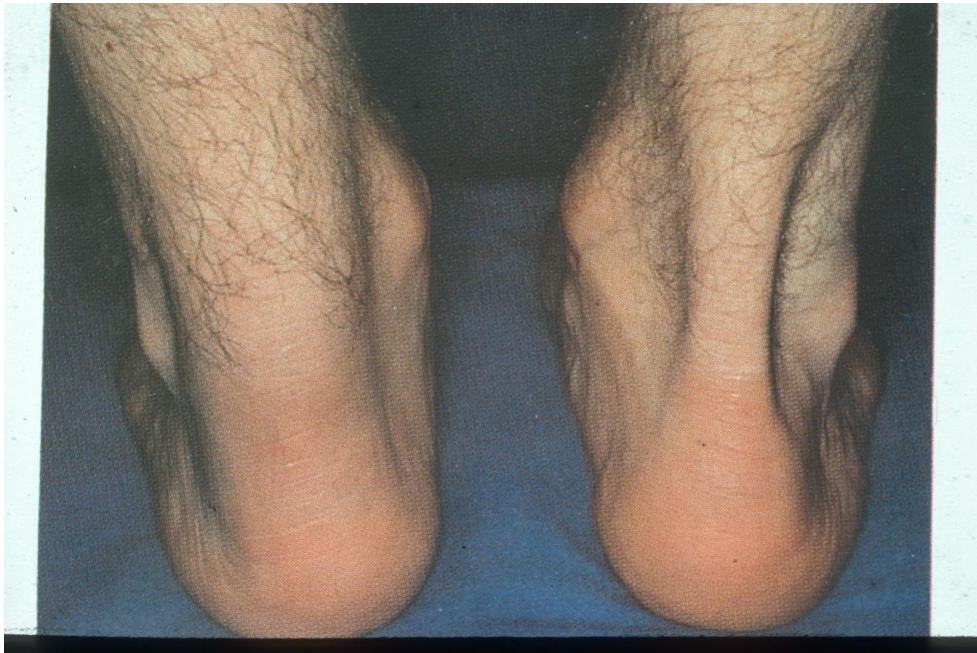


## Instable ankle motion frontal

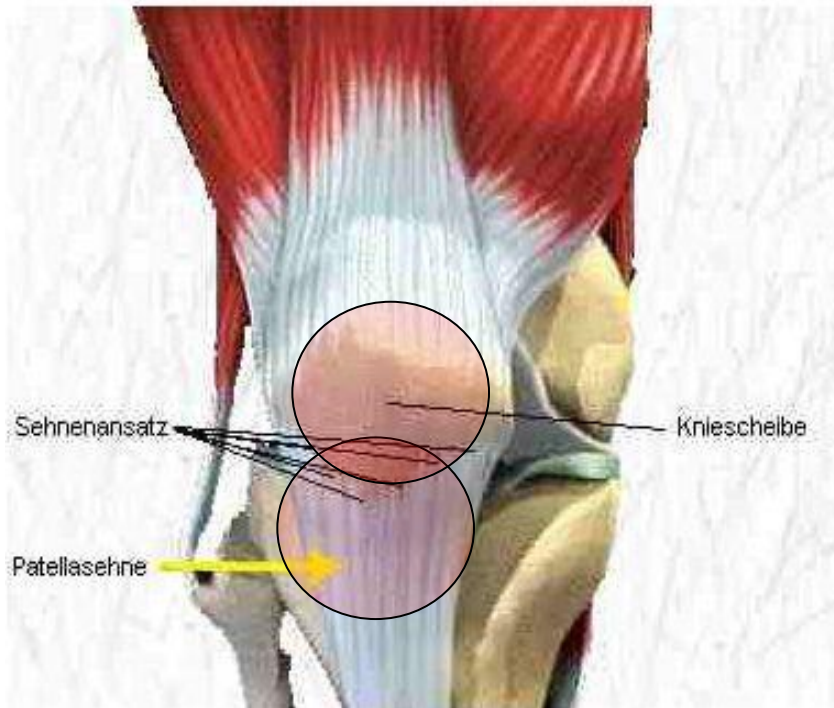


## Possible & common localization of pain

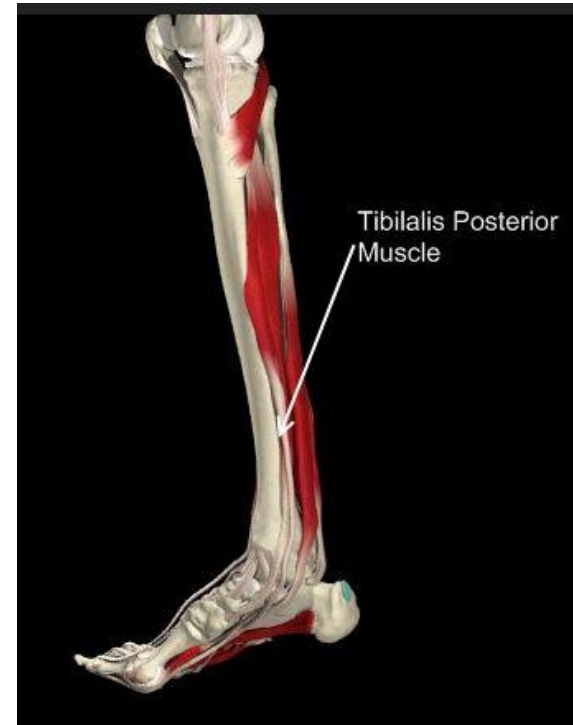
Achilles Tendon (Paratendon and Tendon itself)



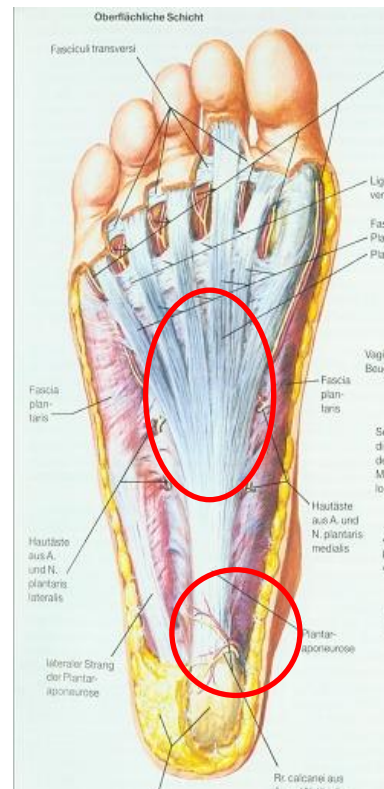
## Tip of Patella, retropatellar



## Shin medial



## Plantarfascia



## Causes of Instability

- Deficits or Dysbalances of ankle stabilizing muscles
- Coordination Deficits foot and leg axis
- Hyper- oder Hypomobility at the ankle joint

Krauss, I. et al. 2007

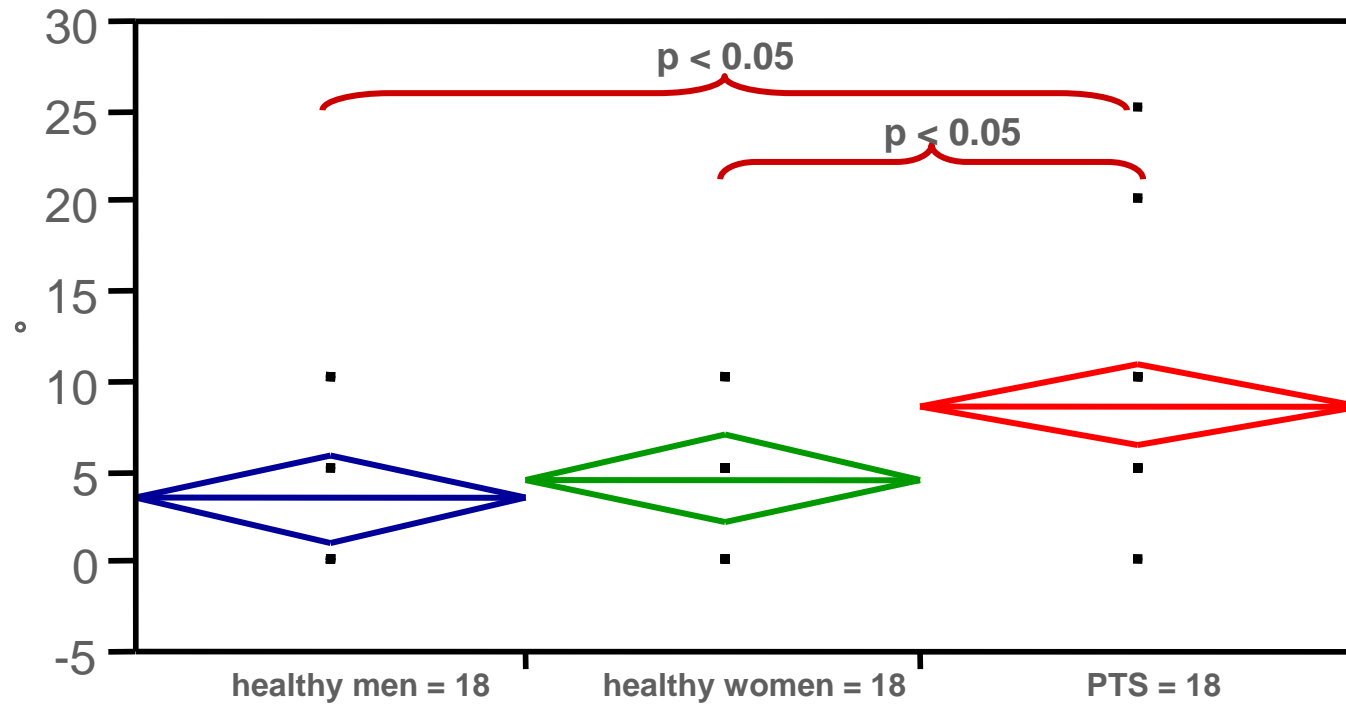
Grau, S. et al. 2008a,b,c

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## Clinical riskfactors (examples)

### a) ROM Knee Extension (e.g. PTS)



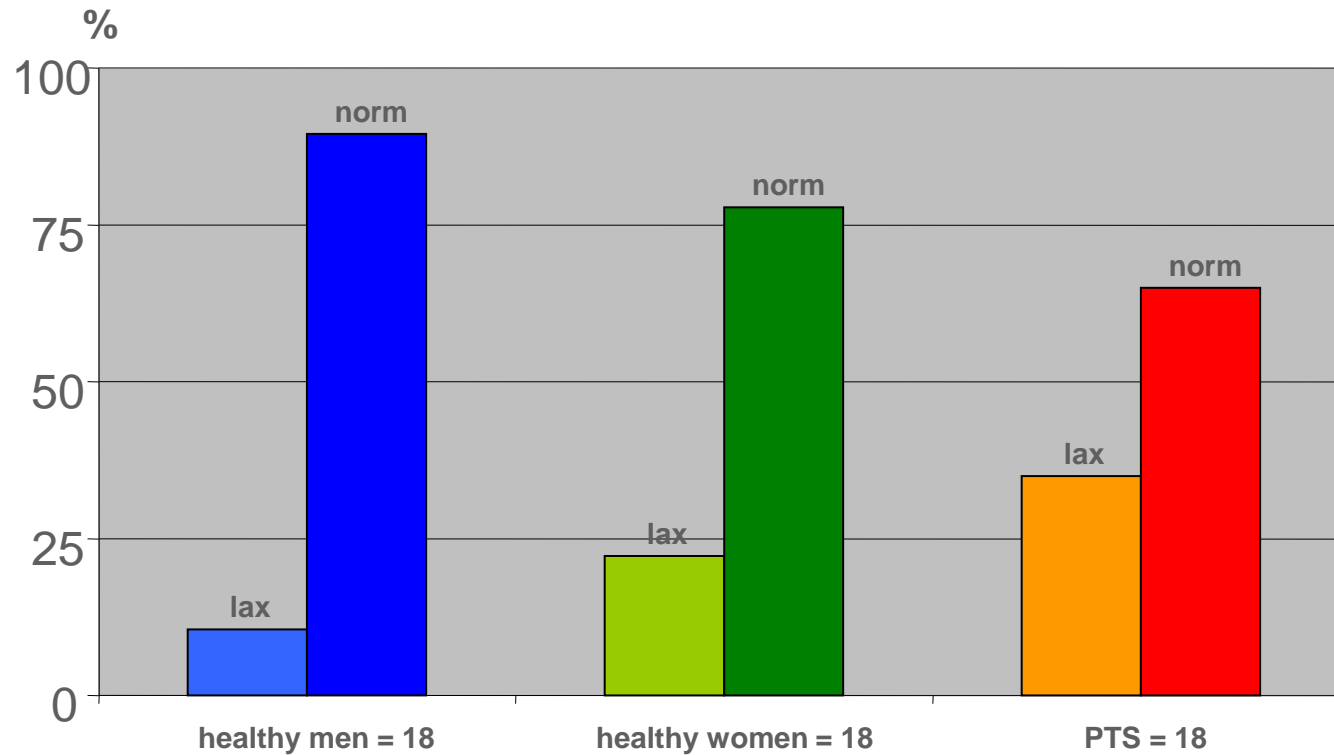
Krauss, I. et al. 2007

## Mobility of Patella (e.g. PTS)



Krauss, I. et al. 2007

## Laxity of Ligamentum Collaterale (e.g. PTS)

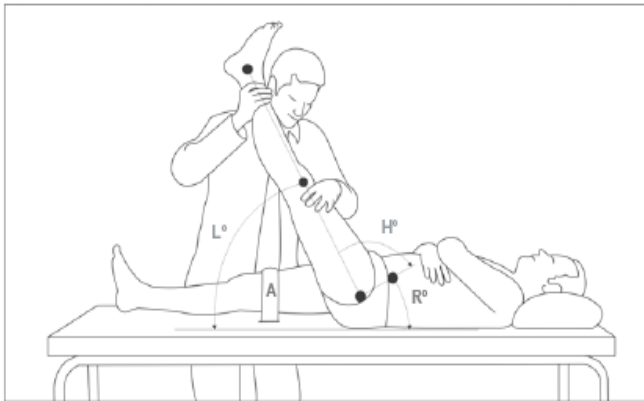


Krauss, I. et al. 2007



- Shortened muscles, mostly hamstrings & hip flexors (rectus & iliopsoas)

## Hamstrings



Normal: 90 degree to bench

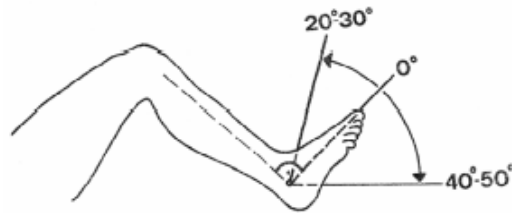
## Hip flexors (Thomas Test)



Normal: no lift thigh, no extension shank

- Decreased DExt ankle joint

## Ankle Dors./Plan.



Normal: Dext: 20-30

Plan: 40-50

## Training risk factors (examples)

Training variables (all overuse injuries, here PTS)

	T-amount (Km/w)	T-Velocity (km/h)	T-Units (week)	T-Time (h/week)
KO (n=18)	26	11.1	3.1	3.0
PTS (n=18)	37	11.3	3.4	3.4

Grau, S. et al. 2008c

Sport surface hard (PTS, ITBS), soft/uneven (AS, SS, PF)

	Soft (uneven)	Medium (slightly uneven)	Hard (even)
KO (n=18)	27%	37%	36%
PTS (n=18)	15%	40%	45%

Grau, S. et al. 2008c

## Prevention and/or Therapy

### a) Stabilization Leg axis

Active:

- Stabilization Training Ankle (e.g. theraband balance pad) and leg axis



## Prevention and/or Therapy

### a) Stabilization Leg axis

#### Active:

- Stabilization Training Ankle (e.g. theraband balance pad) and leg axis
- Strengthening of muscle deficits (hip abductors, quadriceps), concentric and eccentric
- Reduction of muscular dysbalances

#### Active und passive (Physiotherapist):

- Improvement of Mobility/Flexibility (if decreased ROM) and Stretchung (if shortened muscles), typically hip flexors and hamstrings

## Active:

- Muscle Detoning („Myofascial Release“, blackroll), typically  
Tractus iliotibialis, Gluteal/piriformis, Quadrizeps, Lumbal area, Calf

## Passive (Physiotherapist):

- Muscle Detoning (Triggerpoints), typically  
Tractus iliotibialis, Gluteal/piriformis, Quadrizeps, Lumbal area, Calf





## b) Stabilization Ankle Joint

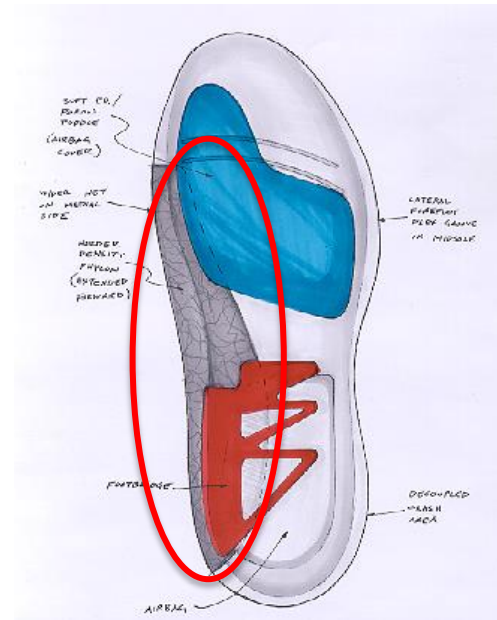
### Active:

- Stabilization Training Ankle (e.g. auf Theraband Mat) and leg axis
- Strengthening of supinators (Tibialis Posterior, Soleus, Flexor hallucis longus, if possible also eccentrically) reduction of muscular dysbalances (left vs. right, Agonist vs. Antagonist)
- Barfoot Walking, walking in „Barfoot Shoes“ (e.g. Nike Free)

Passive:

Sport shoes, Running shoes

- Little torsion midfoot area
- Dual Density (running) not helpful



## Heel cups

Firm and large heel cups (attached to binding)





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Passive:

Sport shoes, Running shoes

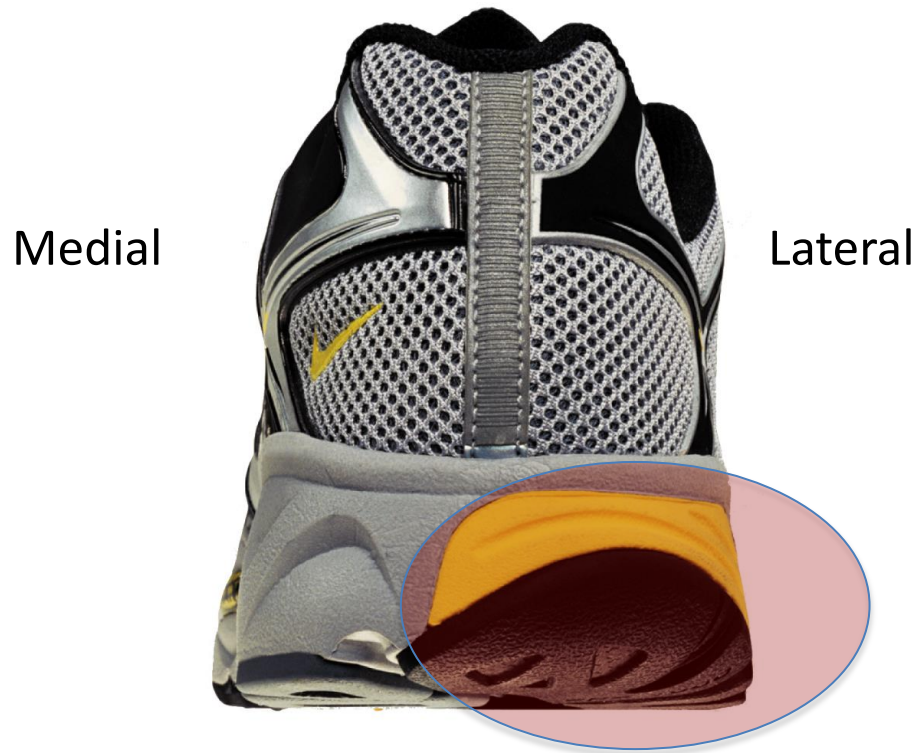


Department of Food and Nutrition, and Sport Science

Low rearfoot height (Spring Offset e.g. 10mm)



## Rounded heel (only running)





## Crash-pad (only running)



## Passive:

- Orthotics
  - Heelcupped orthotics (plus firm material)
  - Longitudinal arch support
  - Detorsion Wedge





## Passive:

- Orthosis
    - medio-lateral stability
- (fixation as in taping)



## Muscle Detoning:



### c) Optimization of Training

- Running-/Sport Surface (choose carefully)
- Amount of running/Training/loading within individual threshold
- Increase of Amount of running/Training/loading slowly
- Reduced downhill running (at least slowly)

## Conclusion Overuse Injuries (take home message)

Decisive for prevention of overuse injuries (but also for performance enhancement), additionally to running

1. Strengthening of muscles (also eccentrically)
2. Stretching of muscles (before AND after training) and „Myofascial Release“ (after Training; blackroll)
3. Improvement of mobility/flexibility and coordination
4. Appropriate sport shoes (orthotics , if necessary)
5. Development of overuse injuries typically complex combination of biomechanical, clinical and trainings specific causes



	Training-Variables				Biomechanical Variables				
	T- Age	Km/week	Downhill/week	Surface (hard)	HAD <sub>max</sub>	AEV <sub>max</sub>	AVEL <sub>EV</sub>	KVEL <sub>FL</sub>	Total
CO 1	M	M	L	L	L	M	M	L	0,4,4
CO 2	L	L	L	M	M	H	M	L	1,3,4
CO 3	H	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	1,6,1
CO 4	H	L	L	M	M	L	L	M	1,3,4
CO 5	L	L	L	L	M	M	M	M	0,4,4
CO 6	L	L	L	M	M	M	M	L	0,4,4
CO 7	M	L	L	M	H	L	L	M	1,3,4
CO 8	M	M	M	L	L	L	L	L	0,3,5
CO 9	L	M	L	M	L	L	L	M	0,3,5
CO 10	L	M	L	M	L	L	L	L	0,2,6
CO 11	M	H	M	L	M	M	M	M	1,6,1
PTS 1	H	H	L	L	M	L	M	M	2,3,3
PTS 2	M	H	H	M	M	M	H	M	3,5,0
<b>PTS 3</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>4,4,0</b>
PTS 4	M	L	L	M	H	M	H	M	2,4,2
PTS 5	M	M	M	M	M	M	H	H	2,6,0
<b>PTS 6</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>4,4,0</b>
PTS 7	M	L	L	L	H	H	M	H	3,2,3
PTS 8	L	M	M	H	M	M	H	M	2,5,1
<b>PTS 9</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>4,4,0</b>
<b>PTS 10</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>4,4,0</b>
PTS 11	M	M	H	H	M	M	M	M	2,6,0



## What can we offer to Athletes/Association/Clubs?

1. “Comprehensive” analysis and evaluation of clinical, biomechanical and training specific variables, with overuse injury or healthy (preventive aspect)
  - a) In the Lab (preferred)
  - b) In the field (Elite athletes)
2. Recommendations for additional training (e.g. strength, flexibility) and equipment (shoes), either preventive or rehab;
3. Research project “Prevention of overuse injuries and performance enhancement”
4. Performance related biomechanical measures (Jump-Tests, Acceleration,...)



Any questions??

