

# Our experience with Metal-on-Metal articulation

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# Metal-on-Metal articulation?

- What are we speaking about?

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Siwash's THR, 1959

# Metal-Metal bearing

Re-introduce in 1988 by  
Weber with a metal-on-metal  
bearing of second generation

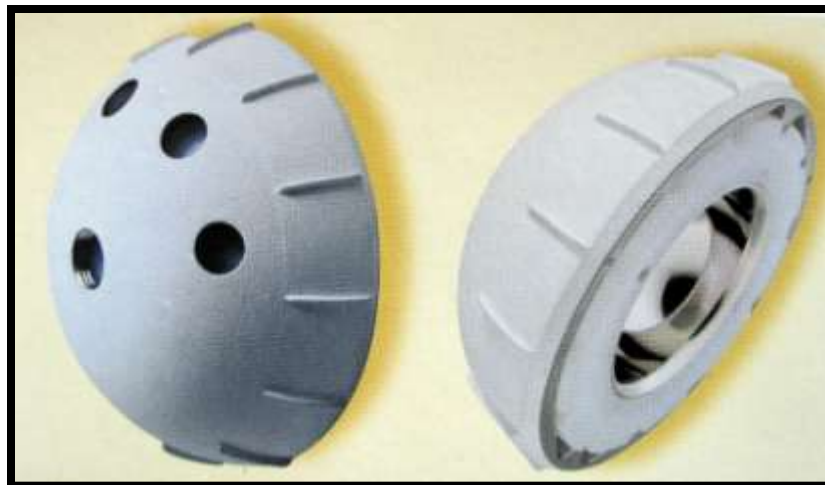
*Metasul<sup>®</sup> by Sulzer, high level of  
carbon*

CoCr alloy ; [C] = 0.20 to 0.25%



# Metal-Metal bearing

- Our choice
- Cedior cup, press-fit HA, unscrewed (Zimmer<sup>®</sup>)



# Metal-Metal bearing

- **Our choice :**
- Head Metasul diam. 28
- Stem Acora (Sulzer Medica<sup>®</sup>)  
cemented, cône 8/10.
- Tige Etoile (Zimmer<sup>®</sup>), cemented  
since november 2000

QuickTime™ et un  
décompresseur TIF (non compressé)  
sont requis pour visionner cette image.



# Metal-Metal bearing

- Metal-on-Metal is used in the department since 1999.
- Why this choice ?
  - Poor results with metal-on-PE arthroplasty in young patients under 50 years
  - Per operative difficulties when ceramic head breakage
  - New technology, challenge for University Hospital and clinical research.

# Metal-Metal bearing

- **At this time**
- 1300 metal-on-metal articulations implanted.
- No implant revision for osteolysis or aseptic loosening caused by implant wear
- 18 implant revisions for sepsis, 7 for early mobilisation of the cup, and few for dislocations

# Metal-Metal bearing

- **BUT**
- What's happen with high serum levels of metal ions
- Poor results with cemented cup Metasul under 48 mm diameter at 5 years follow up (Levai, Augererau)
- And finally with JY Lazennec's research

# Metal-Metal bearing

- **Materials and methods:**
- Retrospective serie,
- Clinical results (Harris score)
- X rays standart
- TDM reconstruction
- Value of serum metal ions

# Clinical results

- 126 patients (140 hips) at mean 7 years follow up.
- 86 males, 40 females
- Mean age of 42 years (29 to 49 years old)
- Clinical results
  - PMA : 17.2
  - Harris : 96
  - Normal life, until re-operation

# Radiographic results

- M. Ak.
- 38 years old, ONA
- FU: 7 years 6 months
- PMA: 18
- Harris: 100
- Cr: 2,78 Co: 1,86  $\mu\text{g/L}$

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décompresseur TIFF (non compressé)  
sont requis pour visionner cette image.

# Radiographic results

- M. Ca.
- 44 years old, Osteoarthr
- FU : 7 years, 10 months
- PMA : 17
- Cr: 2.44 Co: 1.40  $\mu\text{g/L}$

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décompresseur TIFF (non compressé)  
sont requis pour visionner cette image.

# TDM results

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QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.



# Serum Co and Cr levels

- Serum levels of Co, Cr and Ti
- Laboratory hôpital Lariboisière, Paris, Dr Poupon.
- Measurements were made by atomic absorption spectrometry
- Brodner, JBJS, B-79, 1997 : Co < 5  $\mu\text{g/L}$

# Dosages sanguins

	Ch.	Lh.	Le.	Pa.	Ak.	Ca.	Du.	Da.	Zu.	Fl.
Co	1.78	1.55	0.62	2.32	2.78	2.44	2.45	1.67	2.75	1.89
Cr	2.03	1.76	1.03	2.30	1.86	1.40	2.38	1.56	2.07	2.14
Ti	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4	<1.4

*Brodner et al., JBJS-B79, 1997. NI < 5 µg/L*

# Failure of metal-on-metal articulations

- Low level of Carbon (% carbon)
- Cemented cup Metasul with diameter under 50 mm
- “Impingement” between the cup and sleeved head



# Failure metal-on-metal articulation



Dr Christian Delaunay

# Conclusions

- Retrospective serie
  - Patients under 50 years
  - Follow up : at least 7 years
  - At this time with 7 years follow up, metal-on-metal articulations with Metasul is steel the best bearing.
- We think Metasul articulation with Durom cup, large diameter, and a cementless stem like the Avenir is probably the best we can do for our patients

# Conclusions

- "Au point de perfection qu'atteint aujourd'hui la science, il est peu probable que de grandes découvertes restent encore à faire."

François Arago, 1848

Polytechnicien, astrophysicien et ministre de la guerre ....

Thank you for your attention