Case study: The use of EasyFuse® in arthrodesis tarsometatarsal in 59 year-old female

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Patient overview

- The patient is 59 years old, 5'5, 280 lbs, and a BMI of 46.6.
- Medical History: Sleep apnea (disorder), History of multiple allergies (situation), Essential hypertension (disorder), Acute arthritis (disorder).

Case overview

- The patient had chief complaint of midfoot pain for several years.
- The pain was severe (8 out of 10 in visual analog scale) and orthotics, NSAIDS, steroid injections, and PRP injections failed to provide the patient with any relief.
- An MRI was performed and confirmed worsening Degenerative Joint Disease in the midfoot and was most pronounced at the 2nd tarsometatarsal (TMT).

Operative treatment plan

- The procedure performed was an arthrodesis of the 2nd and 3rd TMT joints to address the severe midfoot paint utilizing:
  - EasyFuse staples
    - 2nd TMT: 2 30mm × 18mm, 30mm × 6mm, 30 mm × 14mm
    - 3rd TMT: 20mm × 15mm
- The total operative time for the procedure was 60 minutes.

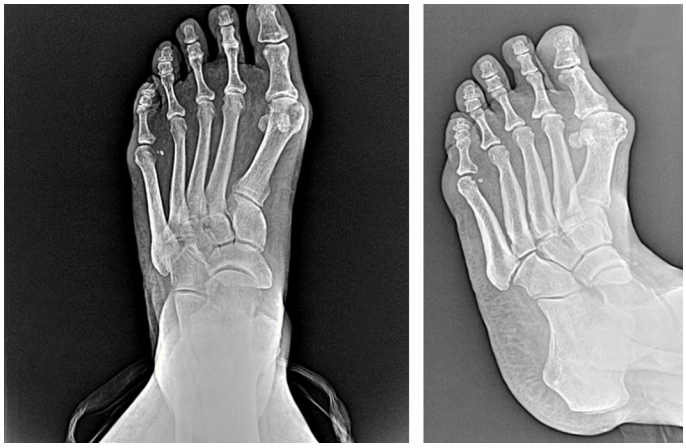

Figure 1: AP and Oblique image confirm pronounced midfoot arthritis, with sclerotic changes and joint degeneration with productive bone changes

Post-operative plan

- Patient was permitted to start weightbearing at 4 weeks in a cam boot as tolerated.
- At 8 weeks the patient was permitted to transition to a sneaker.

Results

- Despite patient's non-compliance with post-op plan, osseous fusion was noted at 2-month post-op.

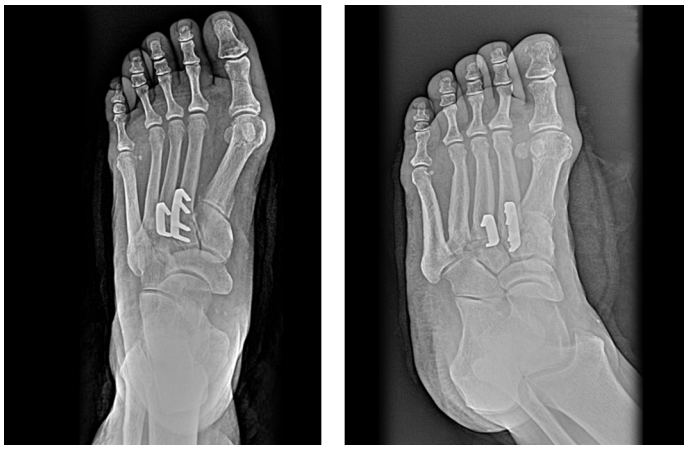

Figure 2: Good stability is visualized across the fusion site. There is no gapping at the site of fusion. Additionally noted there is preservation of the midfoot complex with stability at the Lisfranc articulation. Joint space is almost completely obliterated due to compression and anatomic reduction.

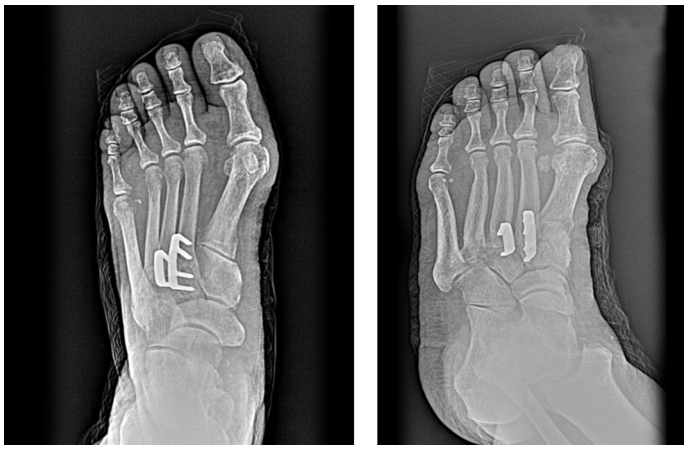

Figure 3: Stability and compression are maintained despite nonadherence to postoperative instructions and patients body habitus (BMI 46.6). Fixation remains robust despite patient weight bearing in normal sneakers at 4 weeks against medical advice. No signs of loosening of fixation.

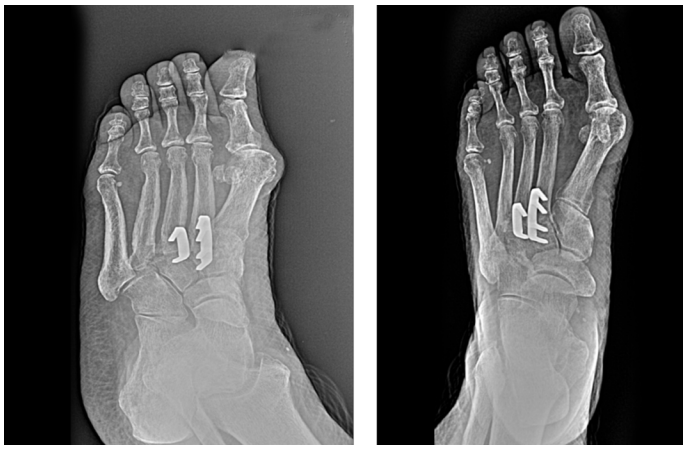

Figure 4: Solid osseous union at both 2nd and 3rd TMT joints at 9 weeks. Greater than 80 percent union at 3rd TMT, complete fusion at 2nd TMT. Fixation remains stable, no signs of lucency at the implant site.

Brief summary of important product information

Indications for use

The EasyFuse dynamic compression system is intended to be used for fracture fixation, osteotomy fixation, and joint arthrodesis of the foot and ankle.

Contraindications

General surgical contraindications

- Infection;
- Physiologically or psychologically inadequate patient;
- Irreparable tendon system;
- Possibility for conservative treatment;
- Growing patients with open epiphyses;
- Patients with high levels of activity.

Contraindications Specific to EasyFuse Dynamic Compression System: None

Warning

For safe and effective use of this implant system, the surgeon should be familiar with the recommended surgical procedure for this device. In every case, accepted surgical practices should be followed in post-operative care. The patient should be made aware of the limitations of the implant and that physical activity has been implicated in premature failure of similar devices. Patient sensitivity to implant materials should be considered and assessed prior to surgery. Do not modify implants.

Dr. Kormylo is a paid-consultant of Stryker. The opinions expressed by Dr. Kormylo are those of Dr. Kormylo and not necessarily those of Stryker. Individual experiences may vary.

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