



Unicompartmental knee prosthesis in an elderly patient.

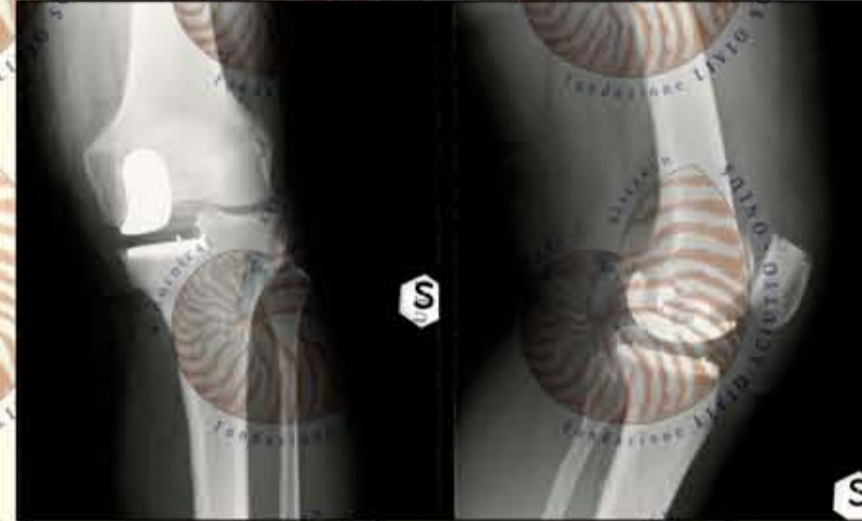
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Introduction

Classically the unicompartmental knee prosthesis lies between osteotomy and total knee prosthesis. We completely consider it to be a real prosthesis in that we utilize it when there is an unicompartmental compromise of the joint, in spite of age.



Evaluation of standard elements

- Weight
- Activity Level
- Clinical Conditions
- Sex
- **AGE**

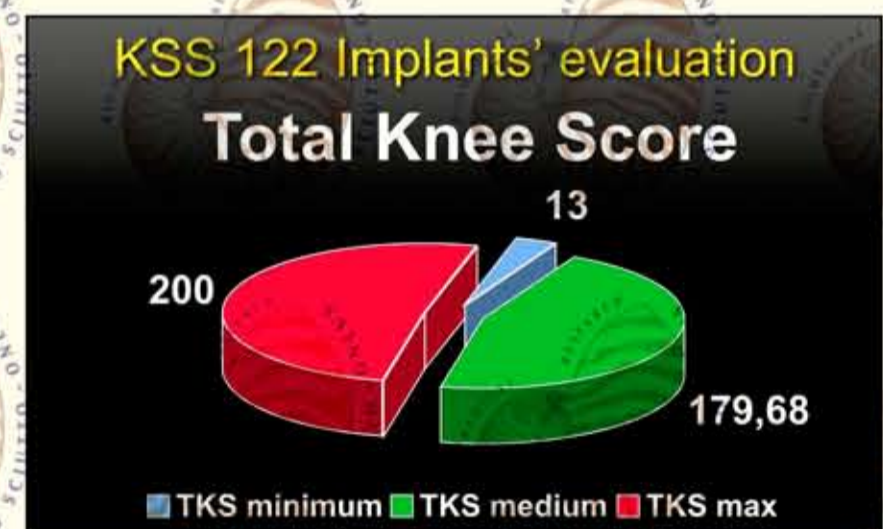
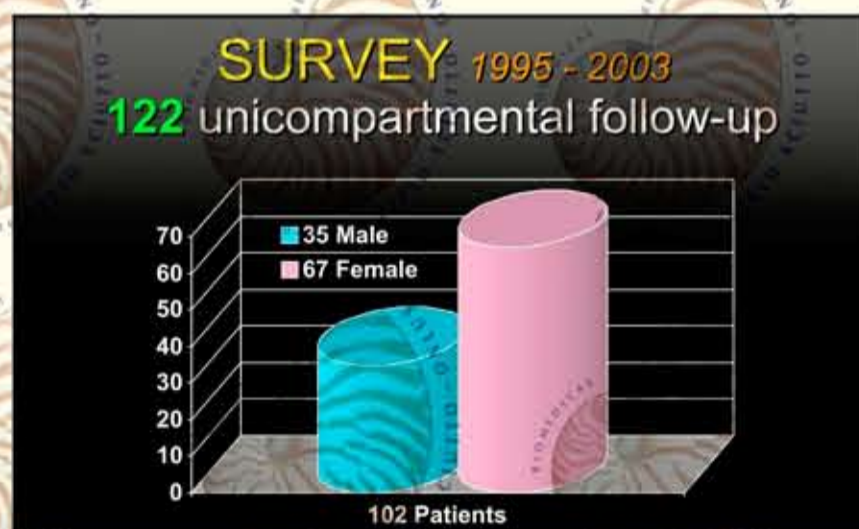
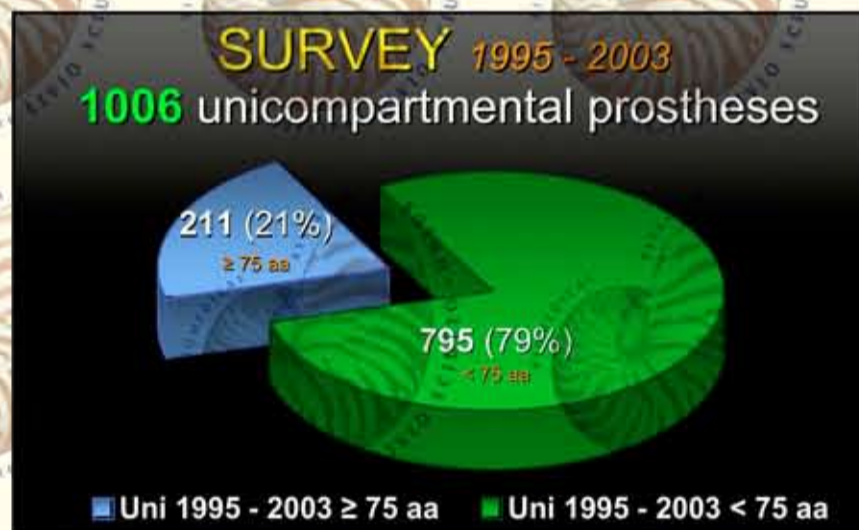


Material and Methods

In the period ranging from 1995 to 2003 there have been, in our division, 1006 implanted Zimmer Allegretto unicompartmental knee prostheses. Among these, 211 operations have been carried out in 191 patients and age higher than 75 years old, where a clear articular unicompartmental degeneration was found or when a total knee prosthesis was contraindicated because of the general conditions.

Results

At the moment, 102 patients (with 122 implants) have been contacted of whom 63 with clinical and radiographic follow-ups. The implant survival after 9 years is 95,8 clinic results are comforting with an excellent average TKS (Total Knee Score) scoring 175 out of 200.



Conclusions

With the utilized technique we have got plenty of advantages, especially with regard to bleeding, invasivity, early loosening and a shortened length of hospitalization. These are elements that make the patient feel more comfortable and less traumatic to the prosthetic surgery and its post-operative rehabilitation in an elderly patient, gathering a clinical and survival outcome of the implant comparable to the total knee prostheses implanted in patients with the same age.

