



Choosing the best animal model – preclinical cartilage and meniscal studies.

Lisa A. Fortier, DVM, PhD
American College of Veterinary Surgeons
laf4@cornell.edu

Disclosures: Kensey Nash Board of Scientific Advisors, Arthrex consultant

Choosing an Animal Model - Cartilage

- Drug, nutraceutical
 - Rat, mouse, rabbit, dog



- Device or product to repair/replace cartilage



Foundation

- FDA Guidance for Industry - 07/2007
- Products intended to repair or replace knee cartilage
- Pre-clinical animal models
 - excluding non-human primates
 - excluding models for OA



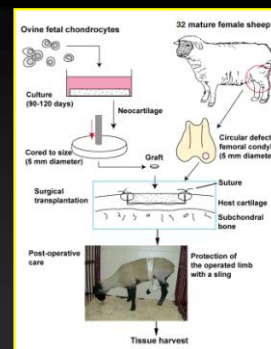
FDA Guidelines

- Goats, sheep, horses are most frequently used
- Choose after consideration of clinical use
 - Dimensions of product
 - Delivery of product
 - Number of outcome measures desired
 - balance of *n* and \$



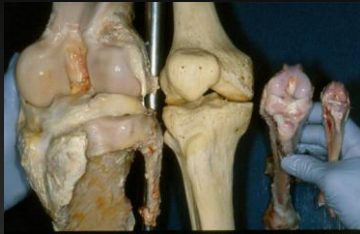
Challenges and goals

- All animal models are challenging and expensive
- Ideal animal model should include:
 - Represent intended human clinical use
 - Low cost
 - Assessable outcome measures
 - Known clinical entity, antibodies, probes



Courtesy, MD Markel. From Lu et al, 2005

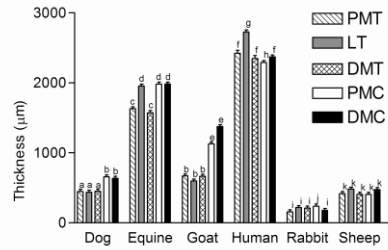
Anatomic comparisons



horse human sheep rabbit

7

Non-Calcified Cartilage



Frisbie, et al. Vet Comp Orthop Traumatol, 2006. 19:142-6

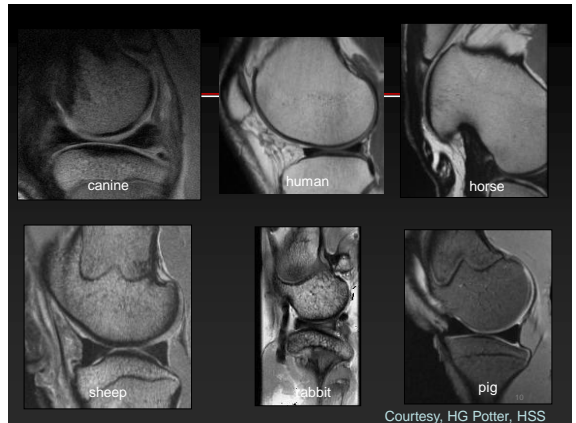
8

Cartilage and subchondral bone – between species comparison



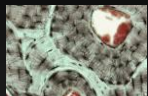
Frisbie, et al. Vet Comp Orthop Traumatol, 2006. 19:142-6

9



Courtesy, HG Potter, HSS

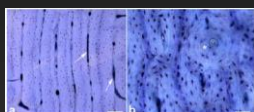
Bone attributes – similarities between animals and humans



secondary osteonal bone

	Canine	Sheep Goat	Pig	Rabbit
Macrostructure	++	+++	++	+
Microstructure	++	+	++	+

+ least similar, ++ moderately similar, +++ most similar

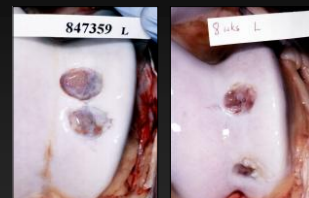


plexiform bone Haversian remodeling of plexiform bone

Pearce AI, et al. Euro Cells and Materials. 2007; 13:1-10.

11

Location within location



8 weeks

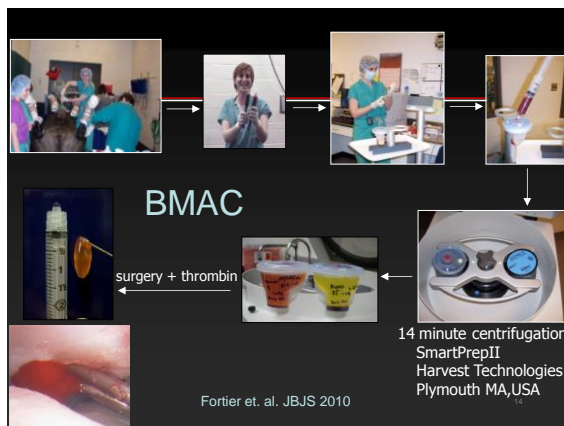
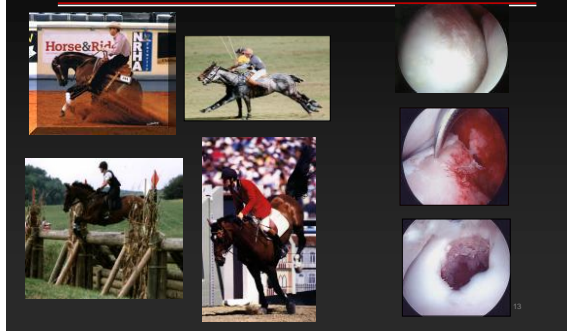
16 weeks

LTR
Large lesions
Thickness
Collar of cartilage
Injectable

Fortier et al. J Orthop Res. 2001 Jul;19(4):720-8.

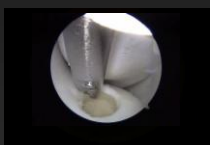
12

Horses as patient-models.



Biphasic scaffold

- Kensey Nash -Bioresorbable biphasic scaffold
 - β -TCP/PLA - collagen
 - Soak in bone marrow aspirate
 - Advantages: off the shelf, bone + cartilage
 - Disadvantages: increase defect size, few cells



Conclusions

- Small animal species typically perform better than large animal species
- Full thickness defects perform better than partial thickness defects
- Partial thickness defects may be a better model for OA than full thickness defects

Meniscus - sheep as a model

- Anatomic size, cellularity, vascularity, collagen structure
 - sheep, rabbit, human
 - Chevrier JOR 2009
- Compressive biomechanical properties
 - human, bovine, monkey, canine, sheep, and porcine
 - Joshi J Biomed Mater Res 1995
- Goat?



Considerations for approach

- Medial vs. lateral
- What are you trying to model?

Lateral meniscal approach

– takedown and repair of the LCL

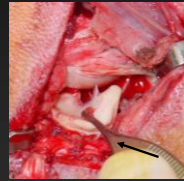


Kelly et al, AJSM, 2006
Kelly et al, AJSM 2007



Rodeo, HSS

Excise and Replace the lateral meniscus



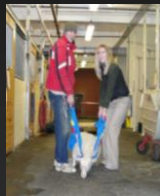
Rodeo, HSS

Going medial - what NOT to do

- Bone block approach if you need to suture meniscus
- Transect MFPL
- Bilateral
- ? Epidural



consultantlive.com



Ovine Hemicondylotomy Approach to the Medial Meniscus

Roshan Shah MD¹, Rolf Modesto DVM³,
Robert Mauck PhD²
Thomas Schaer VMD³

The University of Pennsylvania

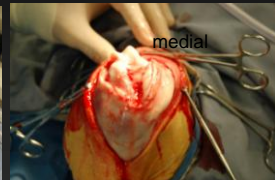
¹ Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

² McKay Orthopaedic Research Laboratory

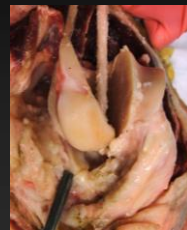
³ School of Veterinary Medicine New Bolton Center

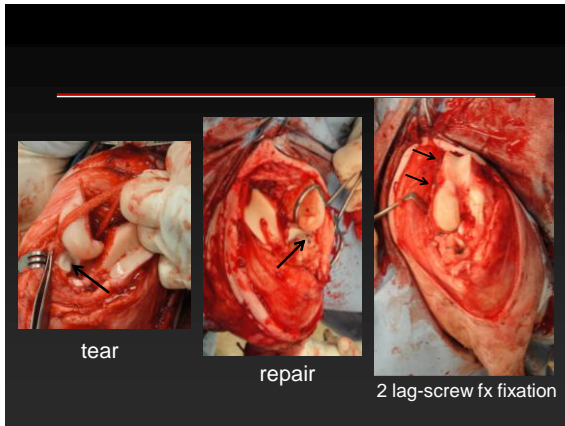
Many Species, One Medicine.™

1. Medial skin incision
2. Lateral parapatellar arthrotomy, patella luxated medially



Practice, practice, practice





Thoughts for all animal models

- Age of skeletal maturity is critical
 - >2 years of age is general guideline
- Dimensions of critical size defect must be known
- Choice of full or partial thickness defects
- Importance of validating that subchondral has not been penetrated
 - very difficult for smaller animals
- Difficult to ensure removal of calcified cartilage

	Rabbit (Leporine)	Dog (Canine)	Pig (Porcine)	Sheep (Ovine)	Goat (Caprine)	Horse (Equine)	Human
Breed	New Zealand White	Mixed, Beagle	Minipig	Suffolk, Texel	Dairy, Boer, Cross, Spanish	Mixed, Thoroughbred, Quarter Horse	N/A
Age at Skeletal Maturity (years)	0.75	1-2	0.8-1	2-3	2-3	2-4	16-21
Weight at Skeletal Maturity (kg)	3-4	15-30	20-40	35-80	40-70	400-500	70
Defect Commonly Used	FC, TG, TP, P	FC, TG, P	FC, TG	FC, TG	FC, TG, TP, P	FC, TG, RC	FC
Cartilage Thickness at Femoral Condyle (mm)	0.25-0.75	1.3		1.7	1.5-2	2-3	2-3
Critical Size Defect (mm)	3			7		9	

FC- femoral condyle; TG- trochlear groove; TP- tibial plateau; P- patella; RC- radial carpal
Cellular, Tissue, and Gene Therapies Advisory Committee, 2005

Equine cartilage structure with age

Fortier, et al. Equine Vet J 2005; 37:37-42.

Relative disadvantages

- Goats
 - Caseous Lymphadenitis - *Coryne pseudoTB*
 - Behavior
 - Low cartilage thickness
- Sheep
 - Scrapie (TSE)
 - Shoulder ramming
 - Lowest cartilage thickness
- Horses
 - Cost
 - Immediate loading (MFC)
 - Emotive

