

Cervical Trauma

The Belfast Millennium Experience

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Belfast Health and
Social Care Trust



Objective

- To record our experience in the management of cervical trauma
- In particular compare the patterns of management of
 - Atlanto-axial
 - Sub-axial
 - and isolated PEG injuries

Methods

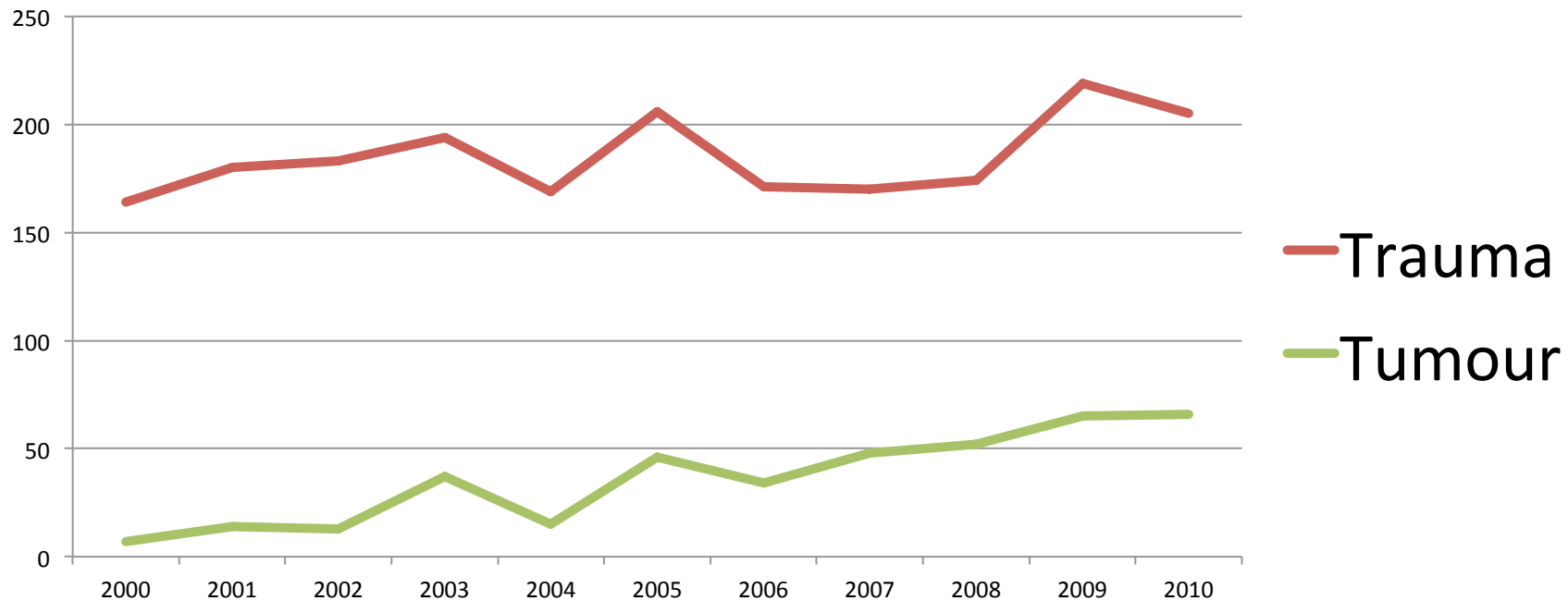
- A retrospective review of the Fracture Outcome Research Database (FORD) for Northern Ireland (NI).
- We reviewed 2395 patients admitted with cervical injuries to Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
- between January 2000 and December 2010.

Results 1

- Cervical trauma represented a mean 46% of all spinal trauma admissions per year.
- 1251 were male and 783 female.
- 33% patients were aged 65+.

Results 2

- NI population has increased 9%
 - (1.66million, 2001;1.81million,2011)
- There is no significant increase in cervical trauma admissions.



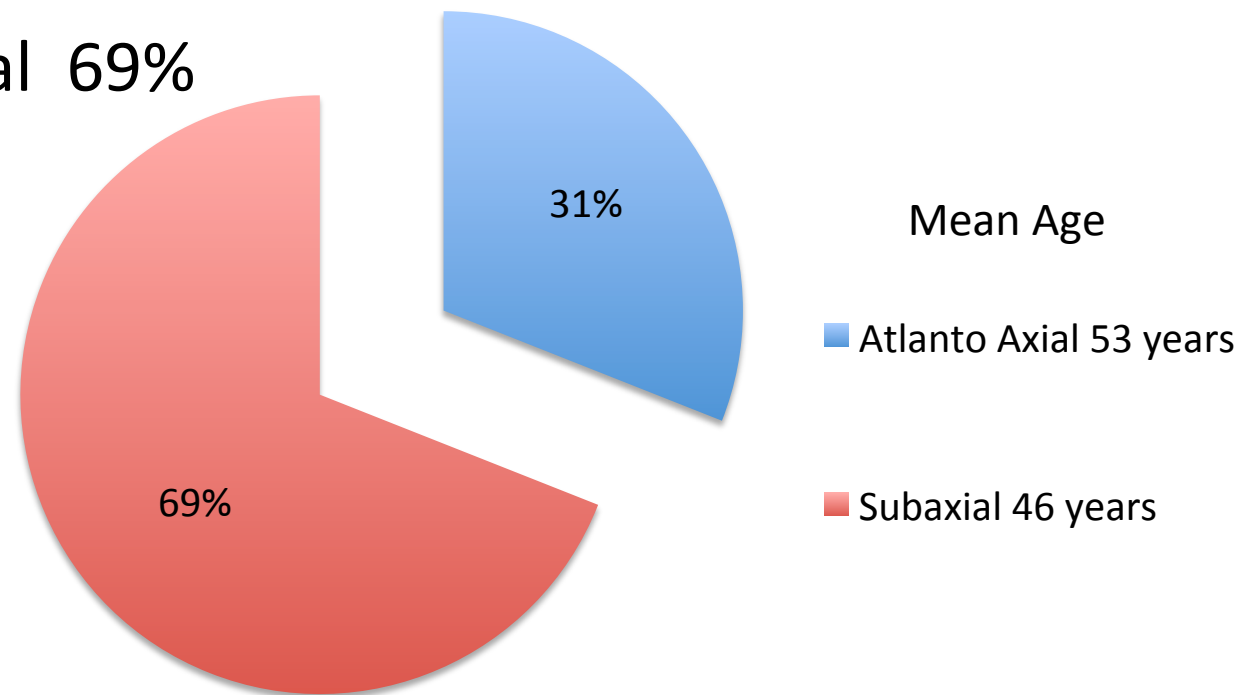
Results 3

- Mean conservative 71% and surgical 29%
 - Trend towards surgical management



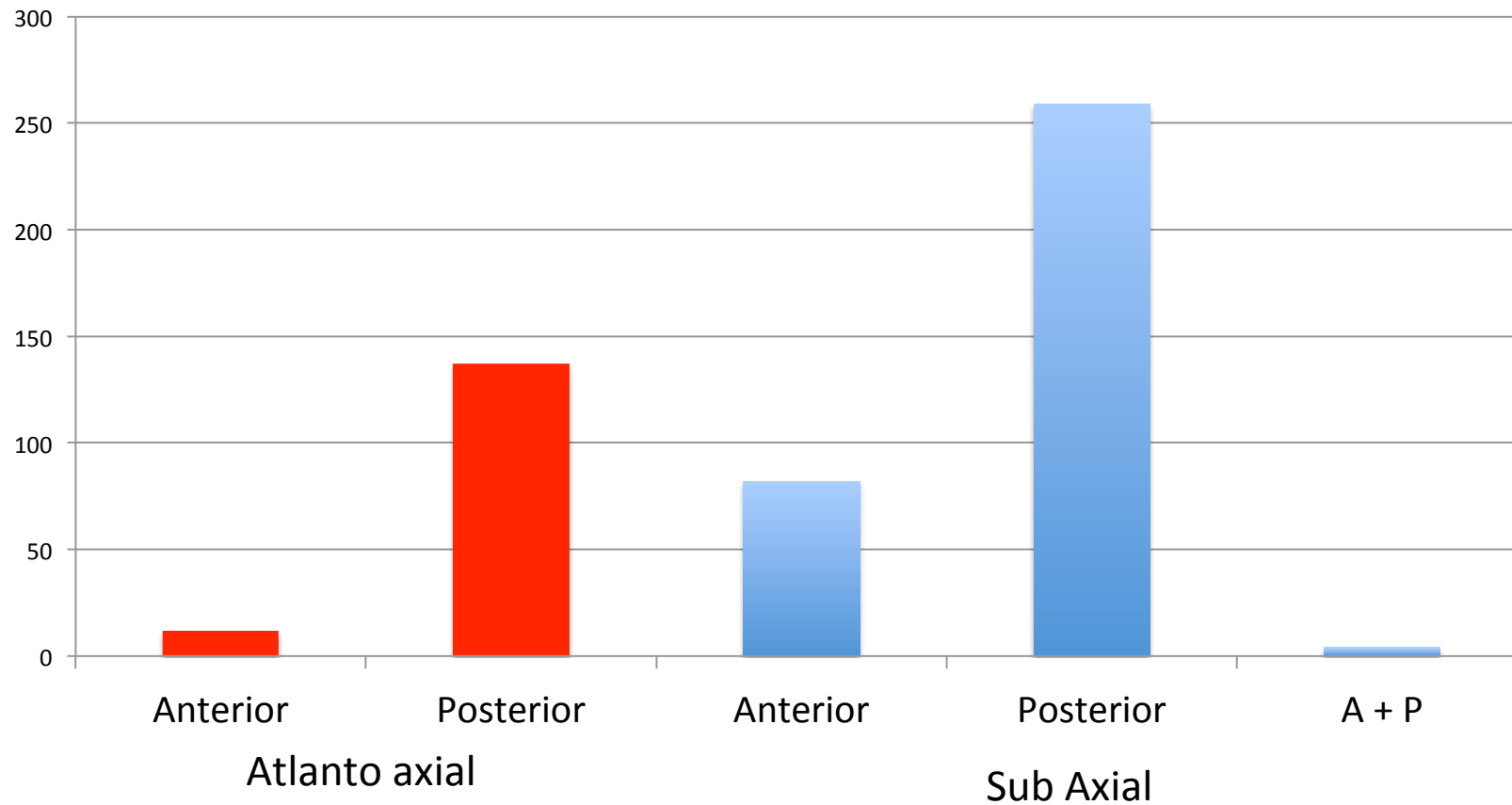
Results 4

- The average proportion per year
 - Atlanto-axial 31%
 - Subaxial 69%



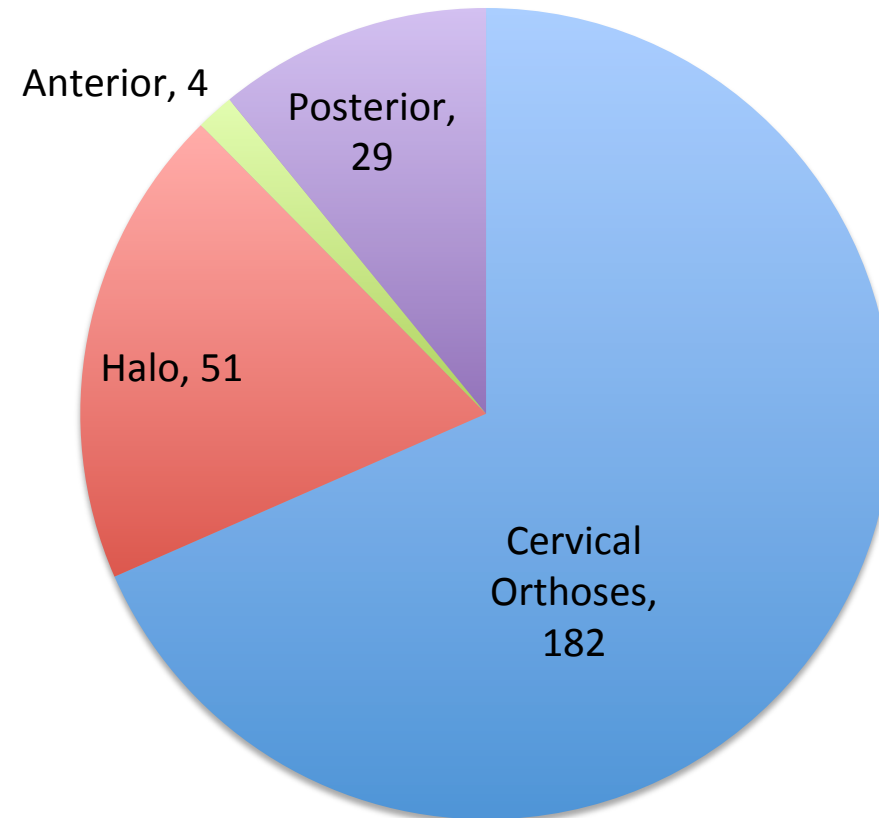
Results 5

- Method of fixation



Results 6

- Total of 365 PEG and associated segment injuries.
- Of these 266 were isolated PEG fractures
 - (Mean 24/year).



Results 6

- All isolated PEG fractures surgically fixed were aged under 65.
- For isolated PEG fractures the Mean age of surgical fixation was 42 and those treated conservatively 69.

Conclusions 1

- Cervical trauma admissions in NI represent a steady but significant proportion of spinal trauma.
- Cervical Trauma admissions remain in proportion with population increase

Conclusions 2

- Cervical tumours are increasing at a rate of 50% every 5 years
- Trend towards increasing surgical fixation

Conclusions 3

- All isolated PEG fractures aged greater than 65 have been treated conservatively
- Surgical fixation has been employed to patients aged 65 or under.
- This is in keeping with the literature where patients achieve fibrous union
(Hart et al. Spine 2000)

- Further area of discussion – should isolated PEG fractures be treated conservatively in the elderly population
- Prospective trial in Belfast awaiting approval
 - Soft collar for those low demand aged 65 Years +

Thank You

DISCLOSURES NONE

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NONE