

PROXIMAL FEMORAL REPLACEMENT VERSUS INTERNAL FIXATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF METASTATIC BONE DISEASE OF THE PROXIMAL FEMUR



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INTRODUCTION

Proximal femoral metastases are often treated with proximal femoral replacement (PFR) or internal fixation (IF).

Previous studies have demonstrated possible benefits of PFR over IF, though the best method of reconstruction is uncertain. 1-5

This study compared surgical outcomes of PFR versus IF for treatment of metastatic disease of the proximal femur.

METHODS

Throughout a consecutive 15-year period 126 procedures (IF n=102; PFR n=24) were performed.

Primary Tumor	Frequency	Percent
Breast	34	27.0
Kidney	31	24.6
Lung	19	15.1
Myeloma	12	9.5
Metastatic Sarcoma	9	7. I
Prostate	4	3.2
Lymphoma	2	1.6
Other	15	11.9
Total	126	100.0

Table 1. Tumor types treated.

	*PFR (n=24)	*IF (n=102)
Femoral head or neck [†]	7 (29.2%)	15 (14.7%)
Peri/Intertrochanteric†	5 (20.8%)	25 (24.5%)
Subtrochanteric [†]	7 (29.2%)	15 (14.7%)
Diaphyseal [†]	4 (16.7%)	40 (39.2%)
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Impending Fracture [†]	10 (41.7%)	75 (73.5%)
Actual Fracture [†]	10 (41.7%) 14 (58.3%)	75 (73.5%) 26 (25.5%)
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Actual Fracture [†]	14 (58.3%)	26 (25.5%)

Table II. Lesion characteristics and therapies. *missing data omitted. PFR, proximal femoral replacement. IF, internal fixation. † p < 0.05 on Chi Square Test.

RESULTS

- Preoperative risk (ASA score), age, and follow-up were no different (p>0.05).
- PFR had higher blood loss and longer operative duration (p<0.001).
- Mean PFR survival was 77 months with a 5-year survival probability of 94%.
- Mean IF survival was 90 months with a 5-year survival probability of 59%.

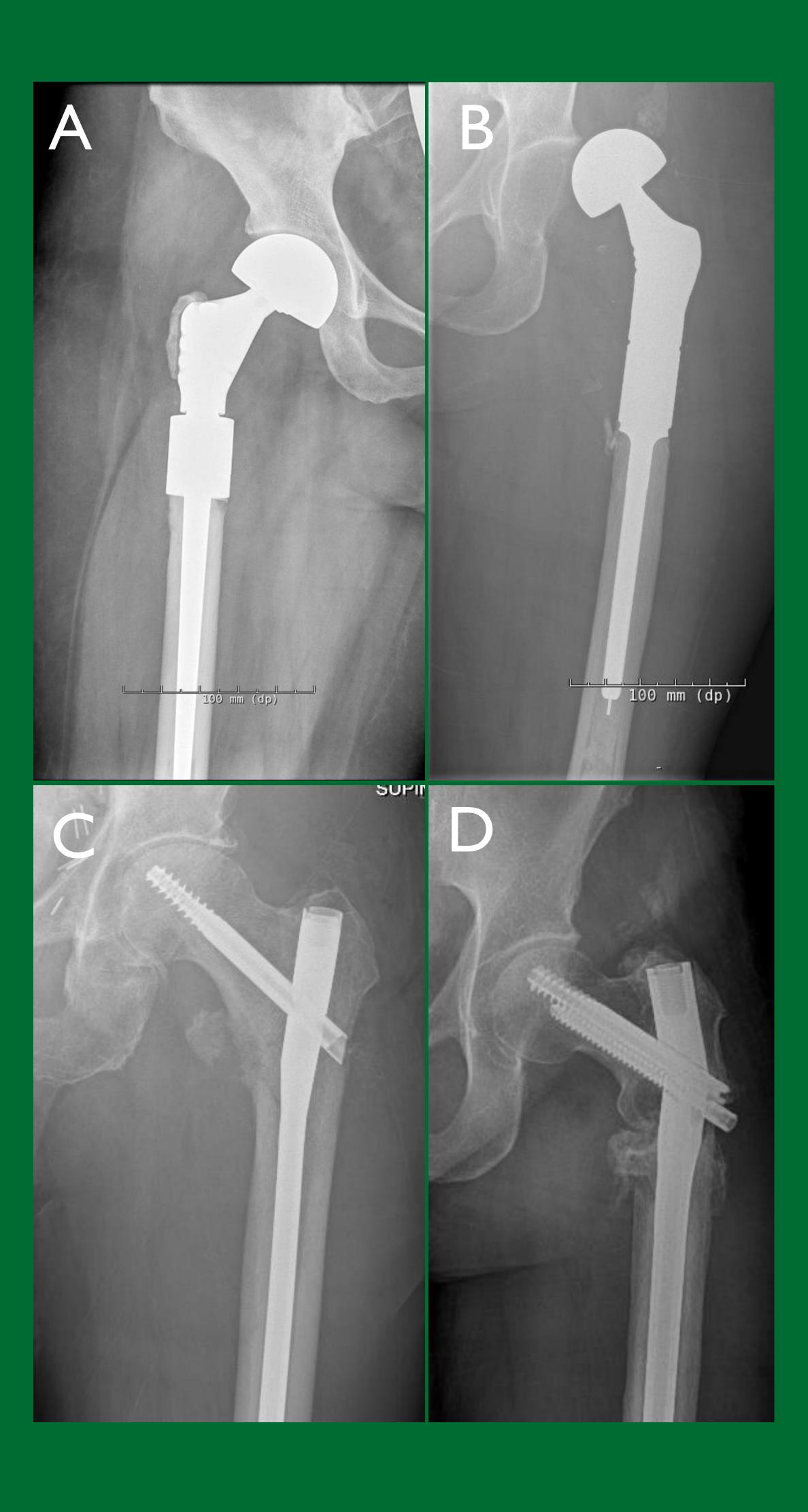


Figure I. Uncomplicated (A) and dislocated (B) proximal femoral endoprosthetic replacement, as well as an uncomplicated (C) and failed (D) intramedullary femoral nail.

RESULTS (continued)

Overall Implant Survival

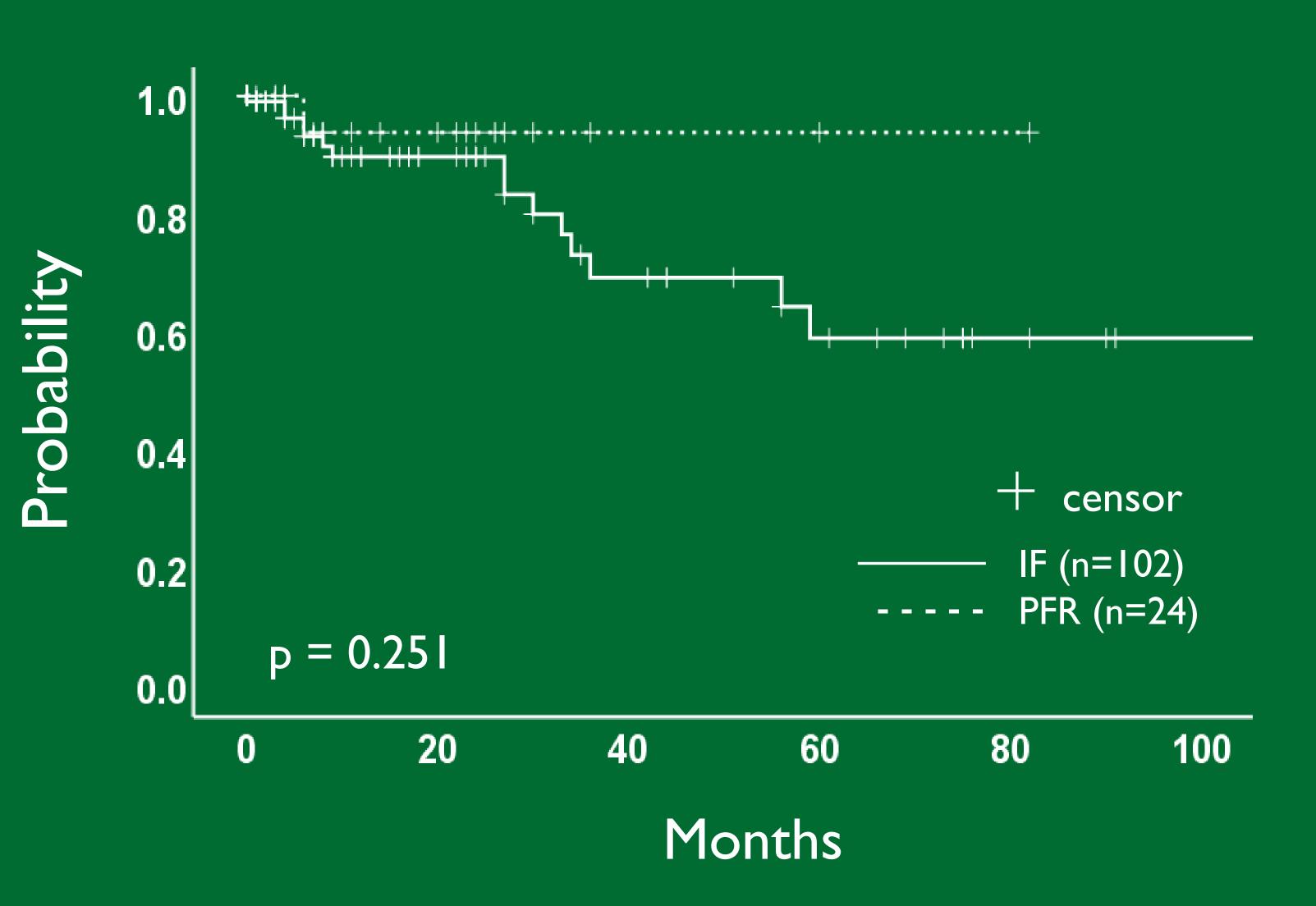


Figure 2. Implant survival. IF, internal fixation. PFR, proximal femoral replacement (n=126).

CONCLUSIONS

Metastases to the proximal femur are a challenging issue, and the advantages of IF or PFR are unclear.

For an age-matched group with similar preoperative risk there is no survival difference between IF and PFR, though PFR require longer operative times and increase blood loss.

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