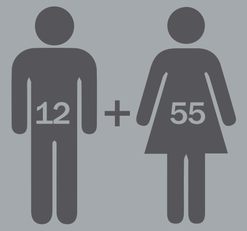
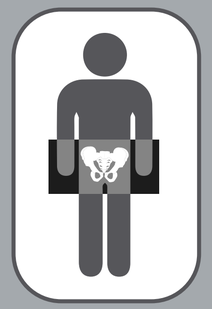
Characteristics of Lower-Limb Length Discrepancy in Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip

Unilateral developmental dislocation of the hip (DDH)

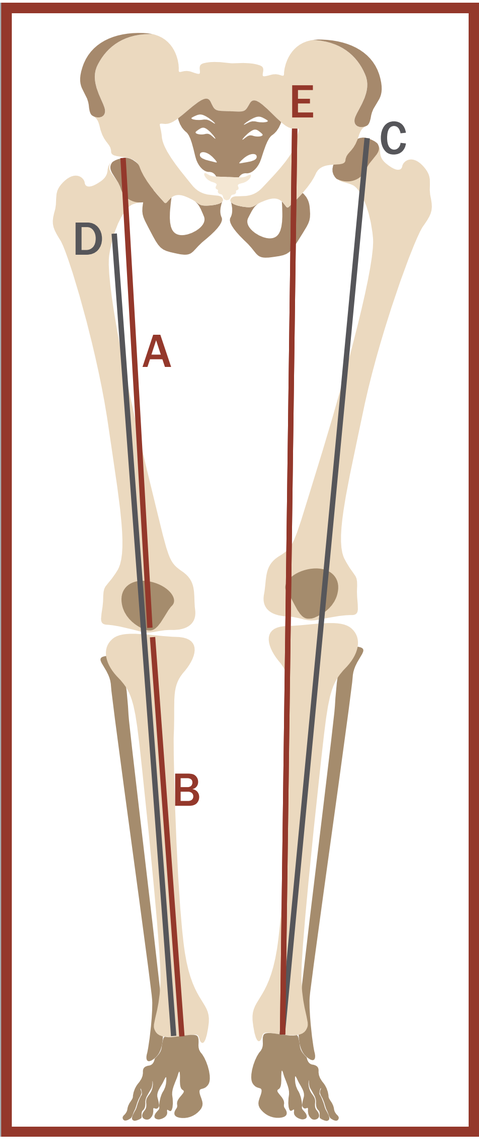


67 patients with **Hartofilakidis** type II (low) and type III (high) DDH

Median age: 25 yrs
Age range: 13 -75 yrs



Retrospective review of **full-length standing anteroposterior radiographs**
(5 measures, each taken twice by blinded raters)



On the affected side...

- **A** No significant difference in femoral length
- **B** Average tibial length was longer
- **C** Skeletal limb length was longer
- **D** Average lesser trochanter-tibial plafond distance was significantly greater
- **E** Relative limb length was shorter

No significant difference between type II and type III dislocations

Near perfect interobserver and intraobserver reliability (All ICCs* > 0.9)

*ICC: intraclass correlation coefficient

Regardless of the type of dislocation, the lesser trochanter is not a reliable reference marker for preoperative prediction of leg length discrepancy (LLD) in patients with unilateral DDH. This LLD may derive from both the femur and the tibia. It is advisable to use full-length standing anteroposterior radiographs.

Unexpected Long Lower Limb in Patients with Unilateral Hip Dislocation
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