

8<sup>th</sup>

International  
Symposium  
Intra  
Articular  
Treatment

**Bucharest**

2-4 October  
**2025**

# **Intra-Articular Polyacrylamide Hydrogel Injections Decreases Pain and Increases Function in Knee Osteoarthritis**

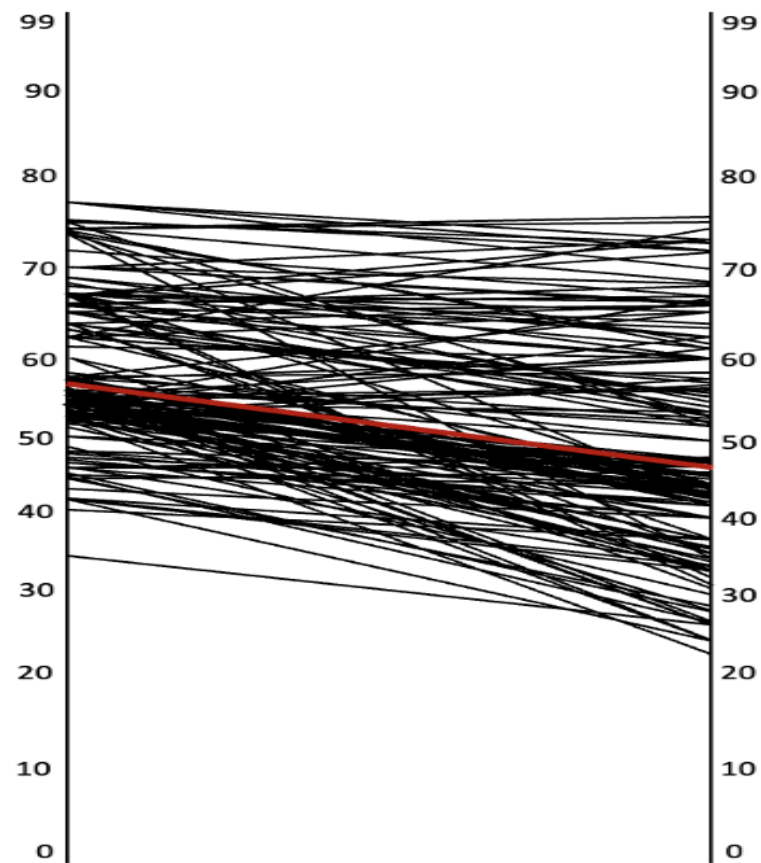
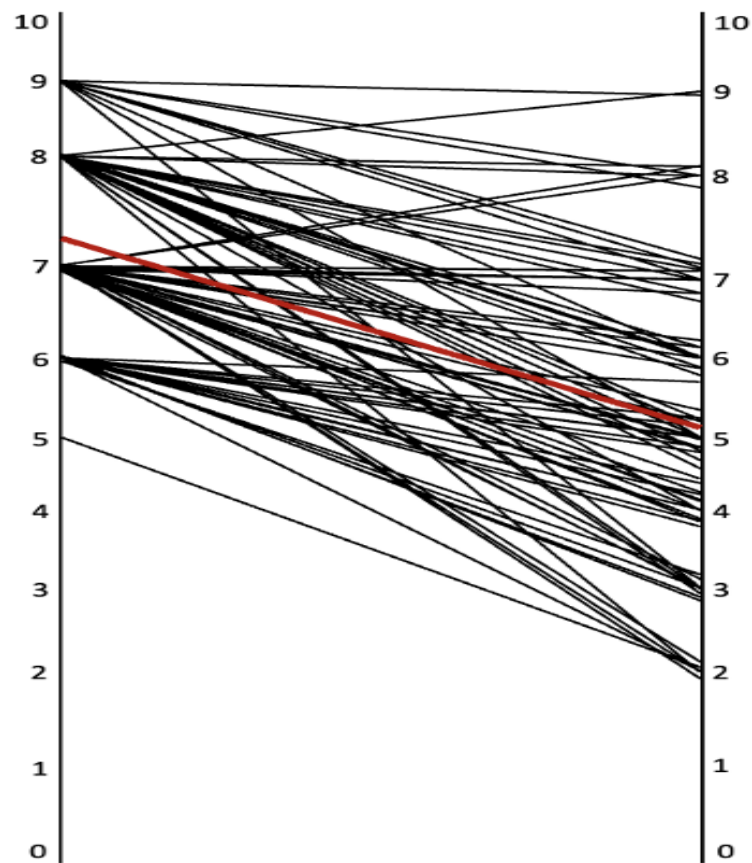
Özgür Oktay Nar, MD (1), Bilal Aykaç, MD (2), Gülce Naz Ünsal, MD (3), Selin Demirel, MD (3),  
Feza Korkusuz, MD (3).

1. Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology, Acıbadem University Bursa Hospital, Bursa, Türkiye
2. Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology, Bursa City Hospital, Bursa, Türkiye
3. Department of Sports Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Türkiye

- Knee osteoarthritis (**KOA**) is a disabling disease, and intra-articular (**IA**) polyacrylamide hydrogel (**PAAG**) injections may **decrease pain** and **increase function**.
- We hypothesise that pain will **decrease**, and function will **increase** after IA PAAG hydrogel injection in **228** knees of **149** KOA patients.
- The visual analog score (**VAS**) for pain and the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Arthritis (**WOMAC**) Index score at **52 weeks** after application was evaluated at **twelve months** and presented as **Real-World Data (RWD)**.
- Average age and standard deviation of the patients was **67.8±9.1** [Range: 42-87 years].
- Average **Kelgren-Lawrence (KL)** score and standard deviation of the patients was **3.3±0.7** [Range: 2-4] There were 15 (10%), 70 (47%) and 64 (43%) KL2, KL3 and KL4 patients, respectively.

- The **BMI** average and standard deviation was **32.3±5.4** Kg/m<sup>2</sup> [Range: 2-4 Kg/m<sup>2</sup>].
- VAS decreased, remained unchanged and increased in 131 (88%), 15 (10%) and three (2%) of our KOA patients.
- The largest decrease was from **eight to two** and **nine to three** points in two patients.
- The average VAS decrease was from **7.3±0.9** to **5.1±1.7** in twelve months

- **WOMAC** decreased, remained unchanged and increased in 121 (81%), 3 (2%) and 25 (7%) of our patients.
- The largest increase was 12 points in a patient who experienced arthroscopic debridement twice previously. This patient needed additional interventions after IA PAAG injections.
- The average WOMAC decrease was from **58.2±9.1** to **48.2±13.0** in 12 months (Figure).
- Having no control group was the limitation of this study. In conclusion, we recommend IA PAAG application in KOA patients when other symptomatic alternatives do not function.



**Overall VAS and WOMAC score changes in 228 knees  
of 149 KOA patients that received IA PAAG.**

# Osteoarthritis and Cartilage

## Intra-Articular Polyacrylamide Hydrogel Injections Improve Pain and Function in Knee Osteoarthritis: A Multicenter Retrospective Study.

--Manuscript Draft--

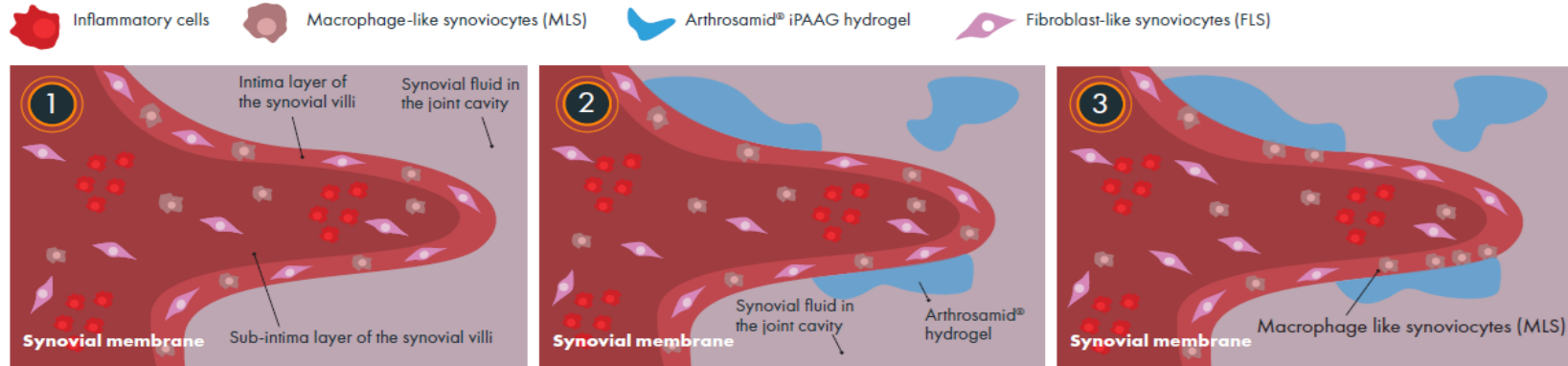
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| Corresponding Author: | Feza Korkusuz<br>Hacettepe Üniversitesi Spor Hekimliği Anabilim Dalı<br>TÜRKİYE                               |
| First Author:         | Bilal Aykaç                                                                                                   |
| Order of Authors:     | Bilal Aykaç                                                                                                   |
|                       | Özgür Oktay Nar                                                                                               |
|                       | Gülce Naz Ünsal                                                                                               |
|                       | Selin Demirel                                                                                                 |
|                       | Feza Korkusuz                                                                                                 |

Big DATA : **548** knees from **387** patients 12 month follow-up





# Mode of Action — let's take a closer look

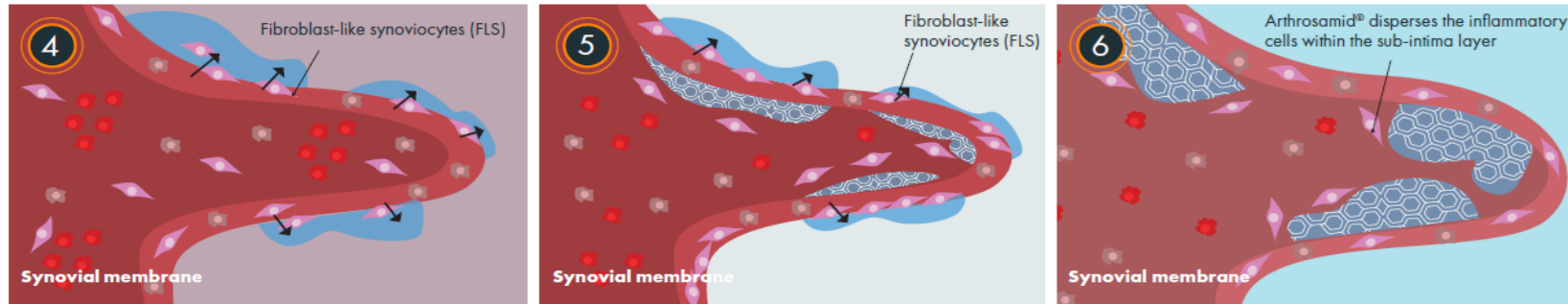


Untreated OA knee: the synovial fluid loses its viscoelastic properties. The synovial membrane contains an accumulation of inflammatory cells that are a precursor to pain and swelling.<sup>18</sup>

Arthrosamid is injected into the joint cavity, distributes within the joint fluid, and begins to adhere to the synovial lining.<sup>19</sup>

Macrophage like synoviocytes (MLS) enter the hydrogel but are unable to phagocytise

**Synovial implant**



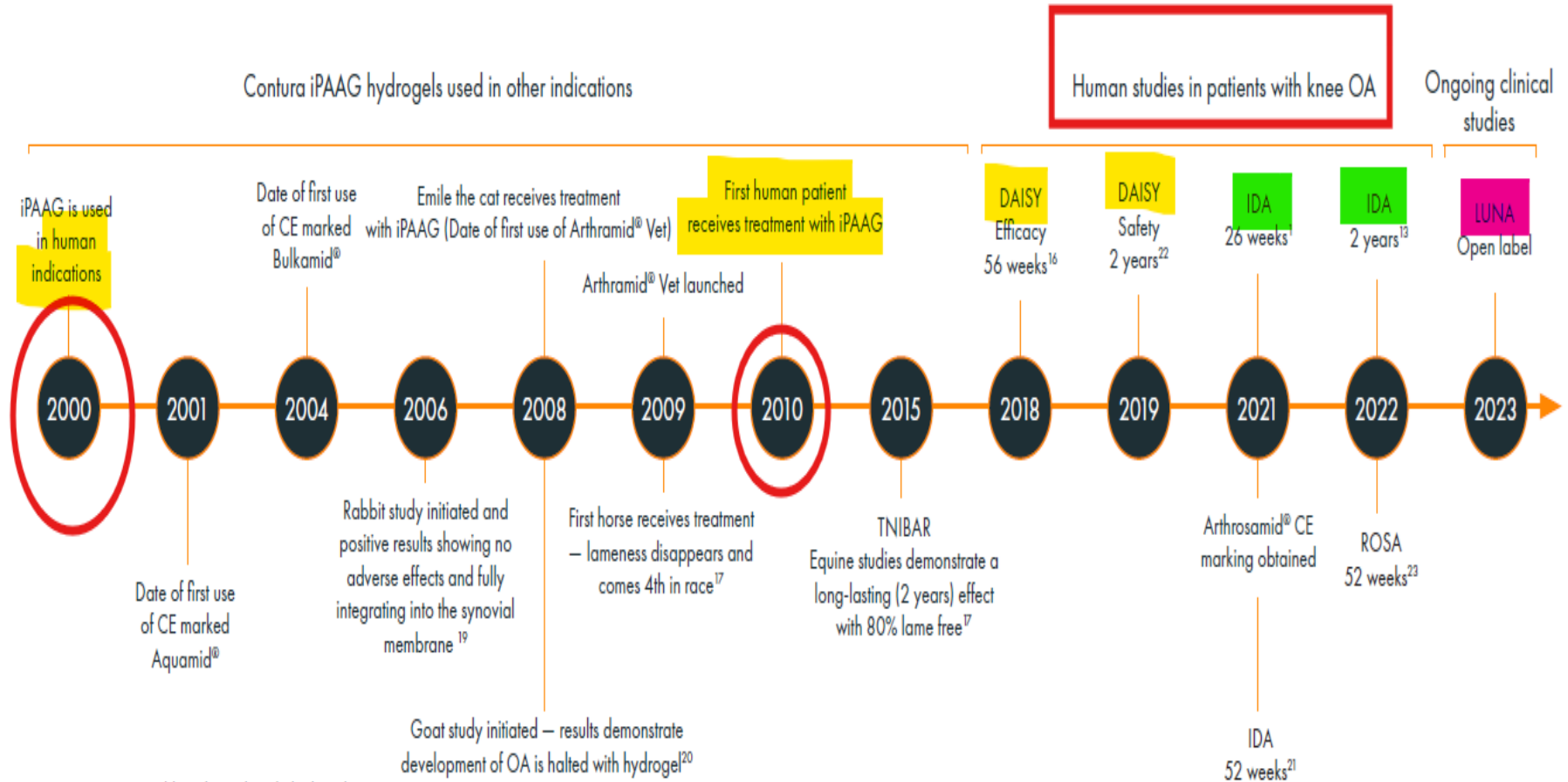
The MLS cells differentiate into fibroblast-like synoviocytes (FLS) which start integrating through the hydrogel, creating a thin vessel bearing fibrous network.<sup>19</sup>

iPAAG: Injectable polyacrylamide hydrogel

A new layer of intima forms on the top of the integrated iPAAG synovial membrane.<sup>19</sup> This new layer consists of scattered non inflammatory type cells, with the iPAAG acting as a scaffold within the sub-intima layer. This process takes 1 month.<sup>20</sup>

The thickening of the synovial sub-intima layer<sup>20</sup> causes distancing of the inflammatory cells<sup>7</sup> and breaks the inflammatory cycle.

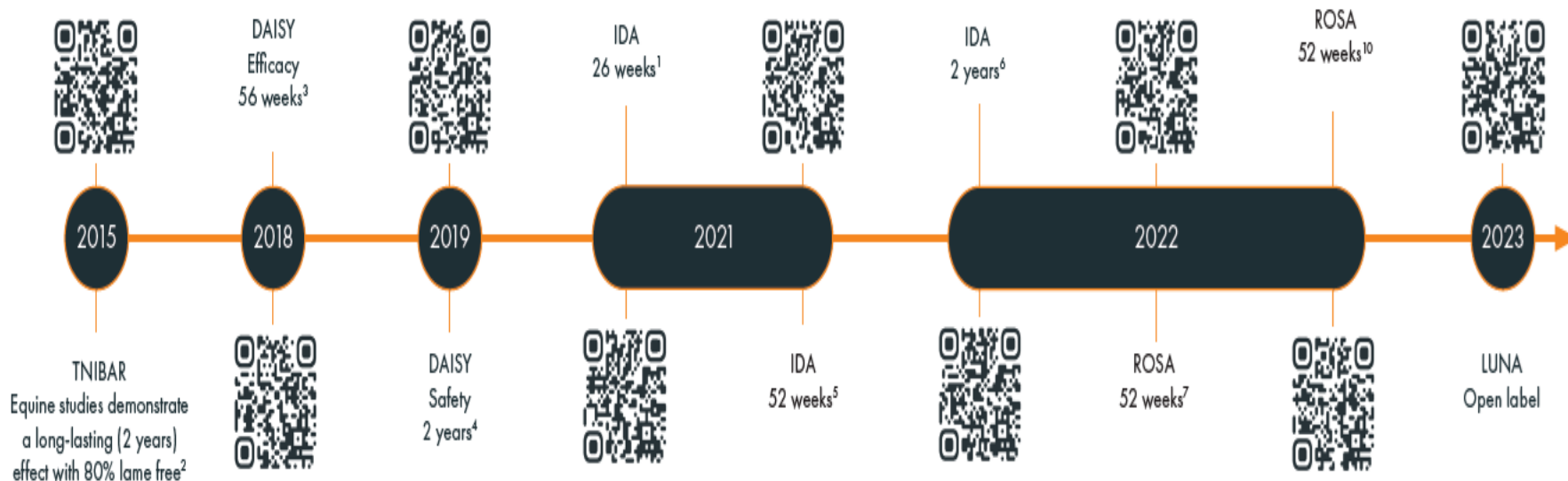
# Time Table



## ANIMAL STUDY

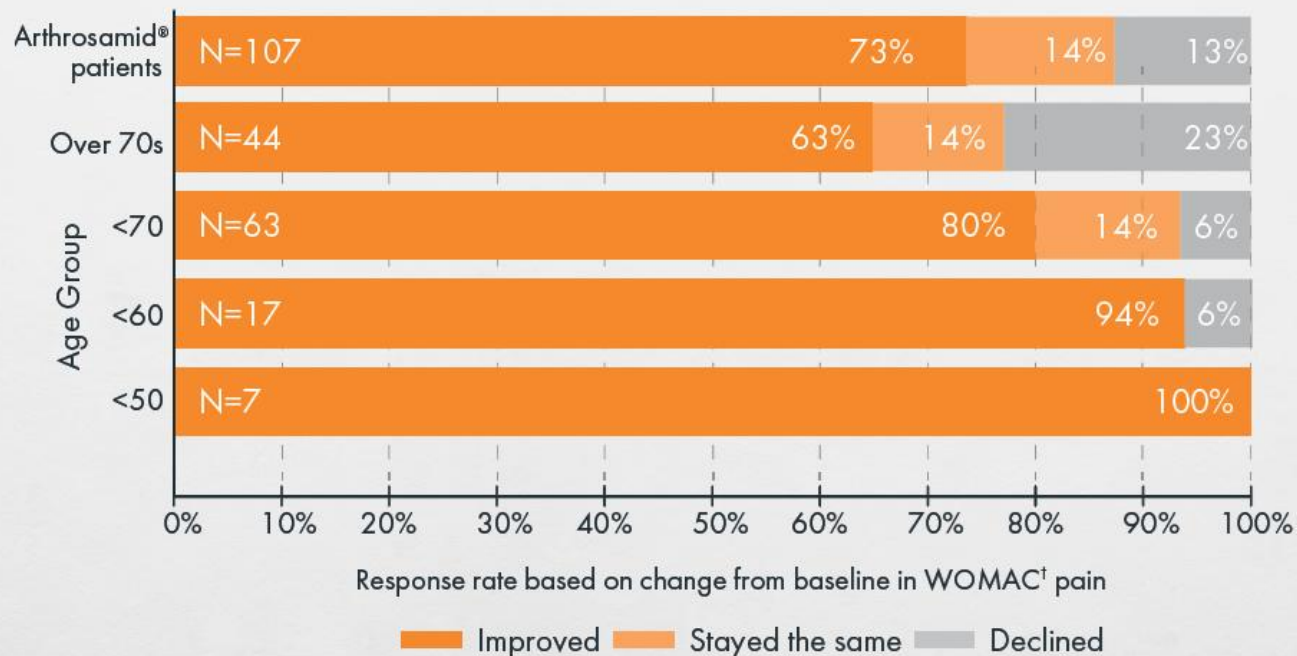
## HUMAN STUDIES IN PATIENTS WITH KNEE OA

## ONGOING STUDY



## Response rate with Arthrosamid®

A randomised study of one-year performance of polyacrylamide hydrogel (iPAAG) vs. hyaluronic acid.<sup>23</sup>



80% response rate with the under 70 year olds.<sup>7</sup>

# My clinical experiences

Start injection date **1.02.2023** between **24.04.2025**

- **572** patient
- **484** Female
- 88 Male

Processed data ( Still processing )

- 132 Left , 97 Right, 318 Bilateral
- x ray KL Grade ( 439 Patient)
  - Gr 2 : 30 ,
  - Gr 3 : 393 ,
  - Gr 4 : 16
- VAS , WOMAC ( injection - 1 year follow up )

## Additional Treatment (s)

Weight Loss

Physical Therapy >> Exercise

Medications ( NSAiD)

Custom made insole

Prolotherapy

Tendon release ? ( mcl ? )

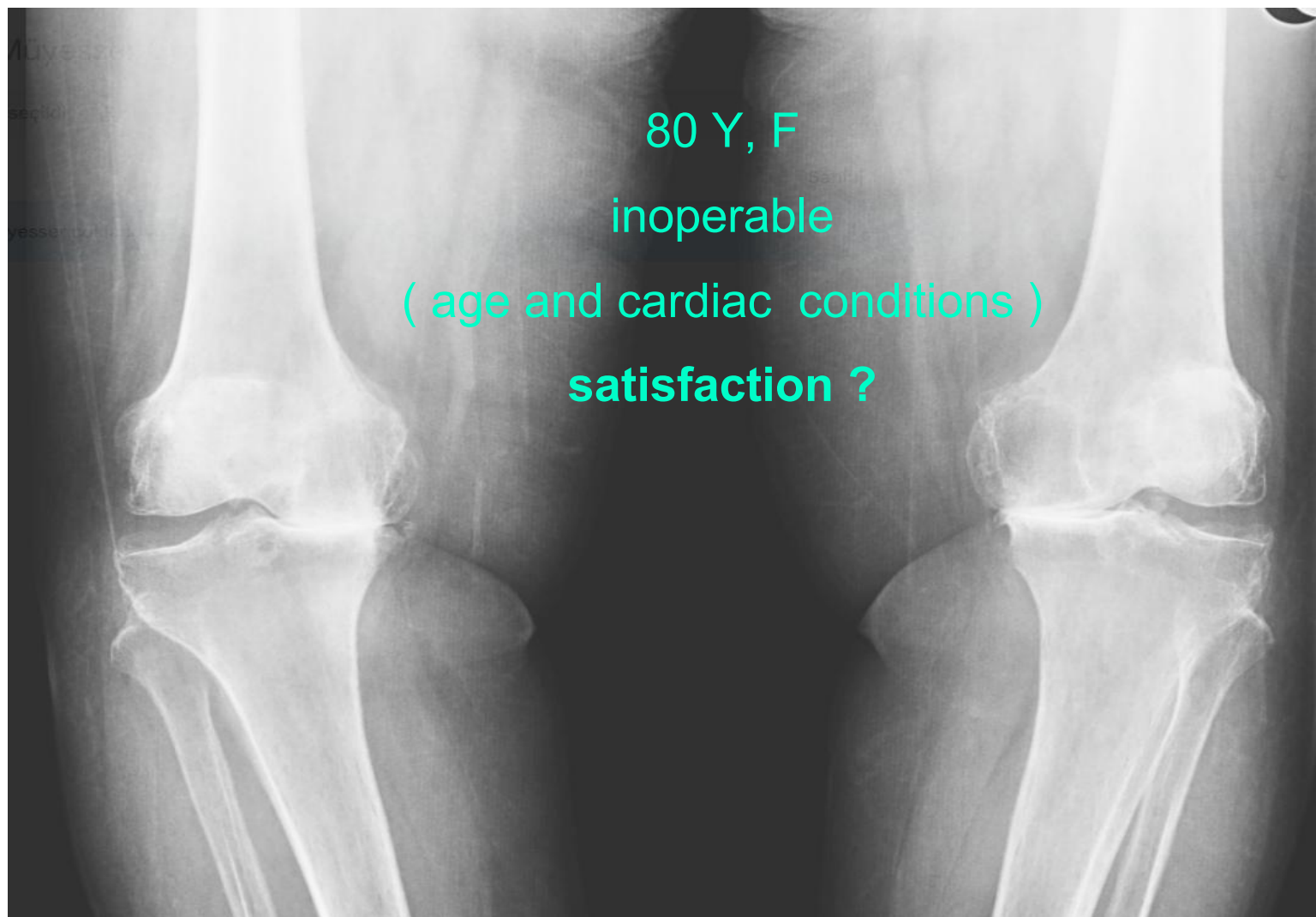
R U READY ?

TO BE

SURPRISED !!!





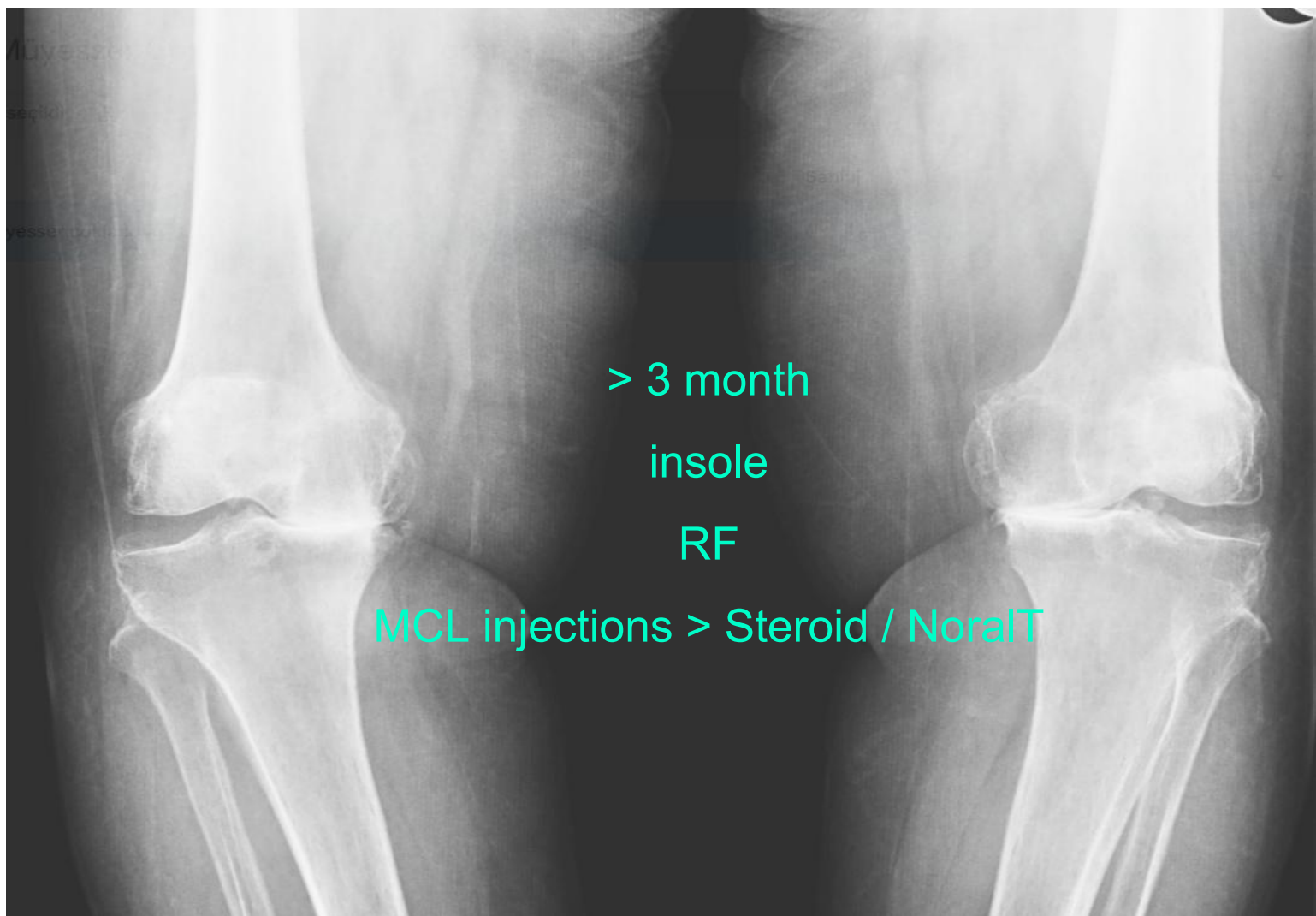


80 Y, F

inoperable

( age and cardiac conditions )

**satisfaction ?**



> 3 month

insole

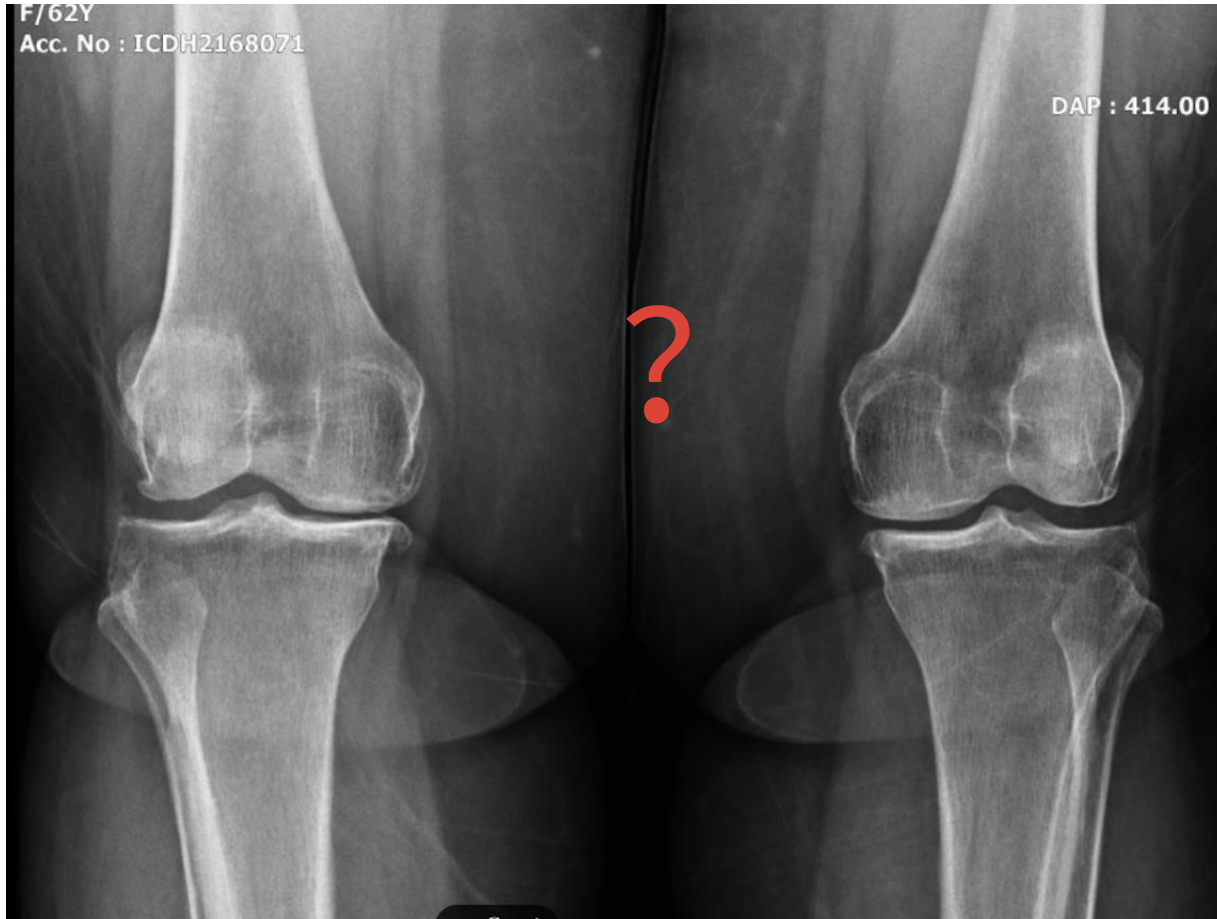
RF

MCL injections > Steroid / NoralT

F/62Y  
Acc. No : ICDH2168071

DAP : 414.00 r

?



F/62Y

Acc. No : ICDH2168071

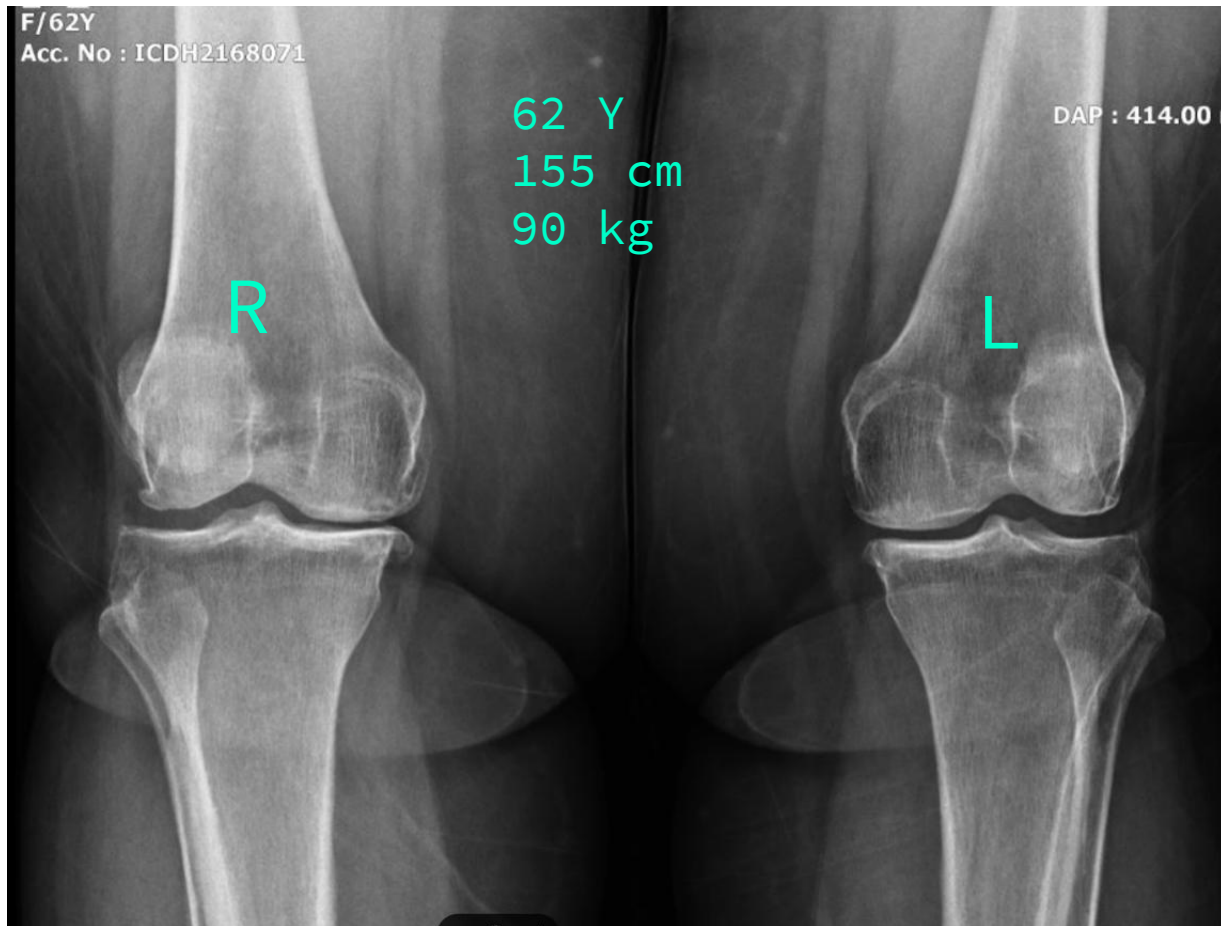
DAP : 414.00 r



F/62Y  
Acc. No : ICDH2168071

62 Y  
155 cm  
90 kg

DAP : 414.00 m



F/62Y  
Acc. No : ICDH2168071

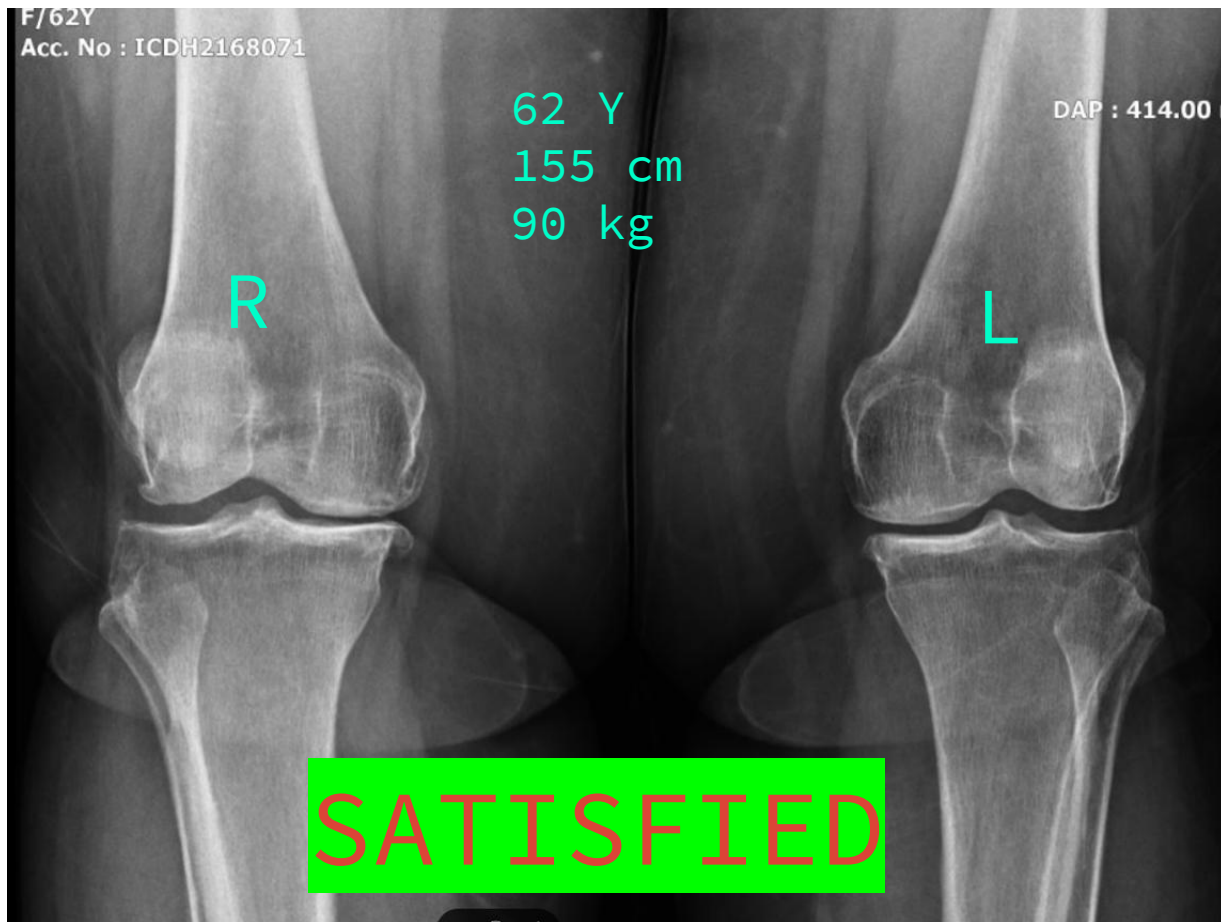
62 Y  
155 cm  
90 kg

DAP : 414.00 m

R

L

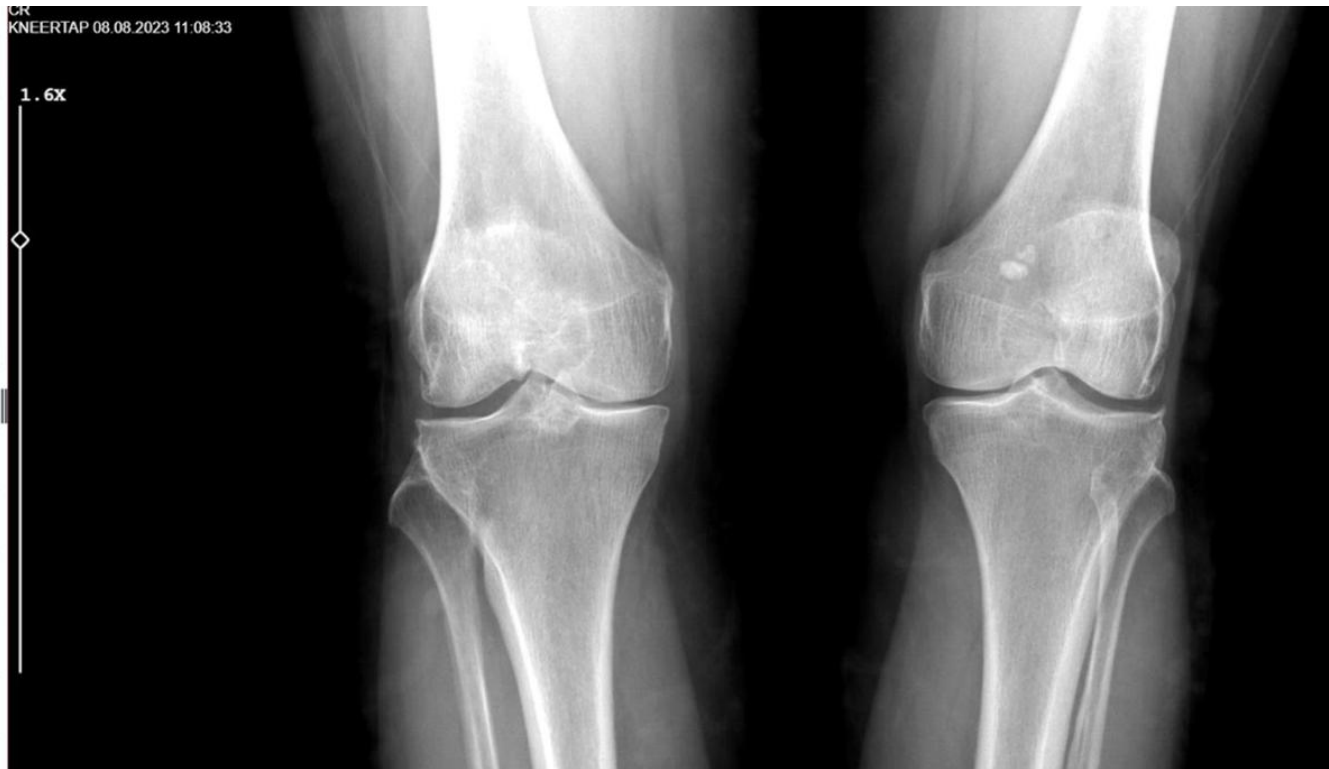
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CR  
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1.6x

M



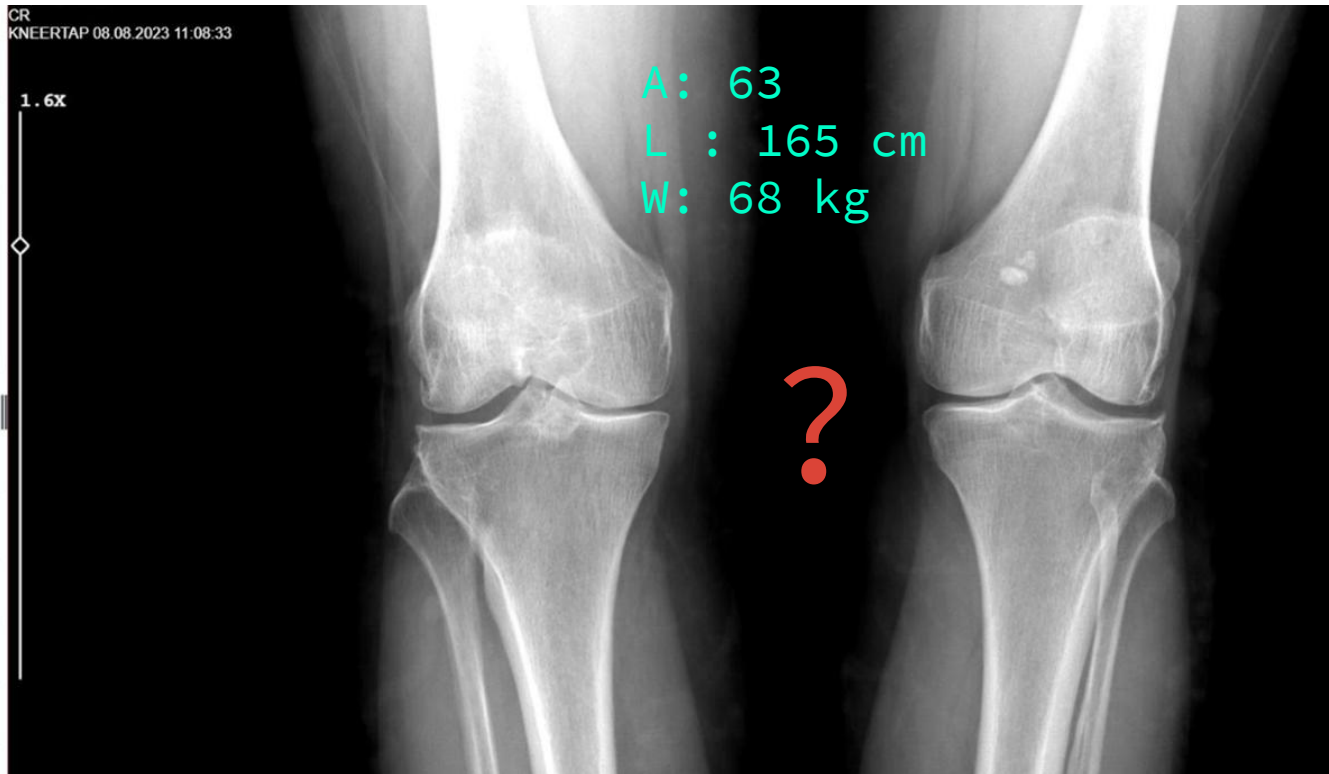
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A: 63  
L : 165 cm  
W: 68 kg

?





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1.6x

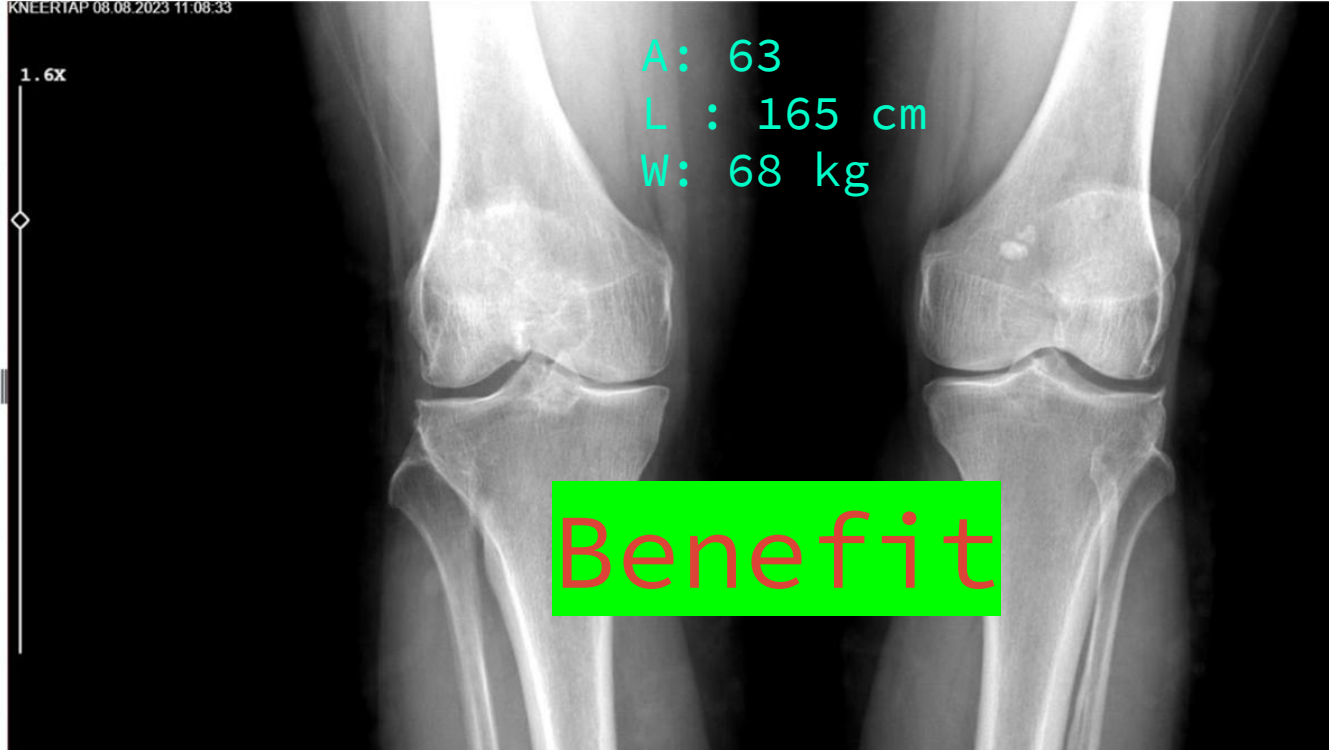
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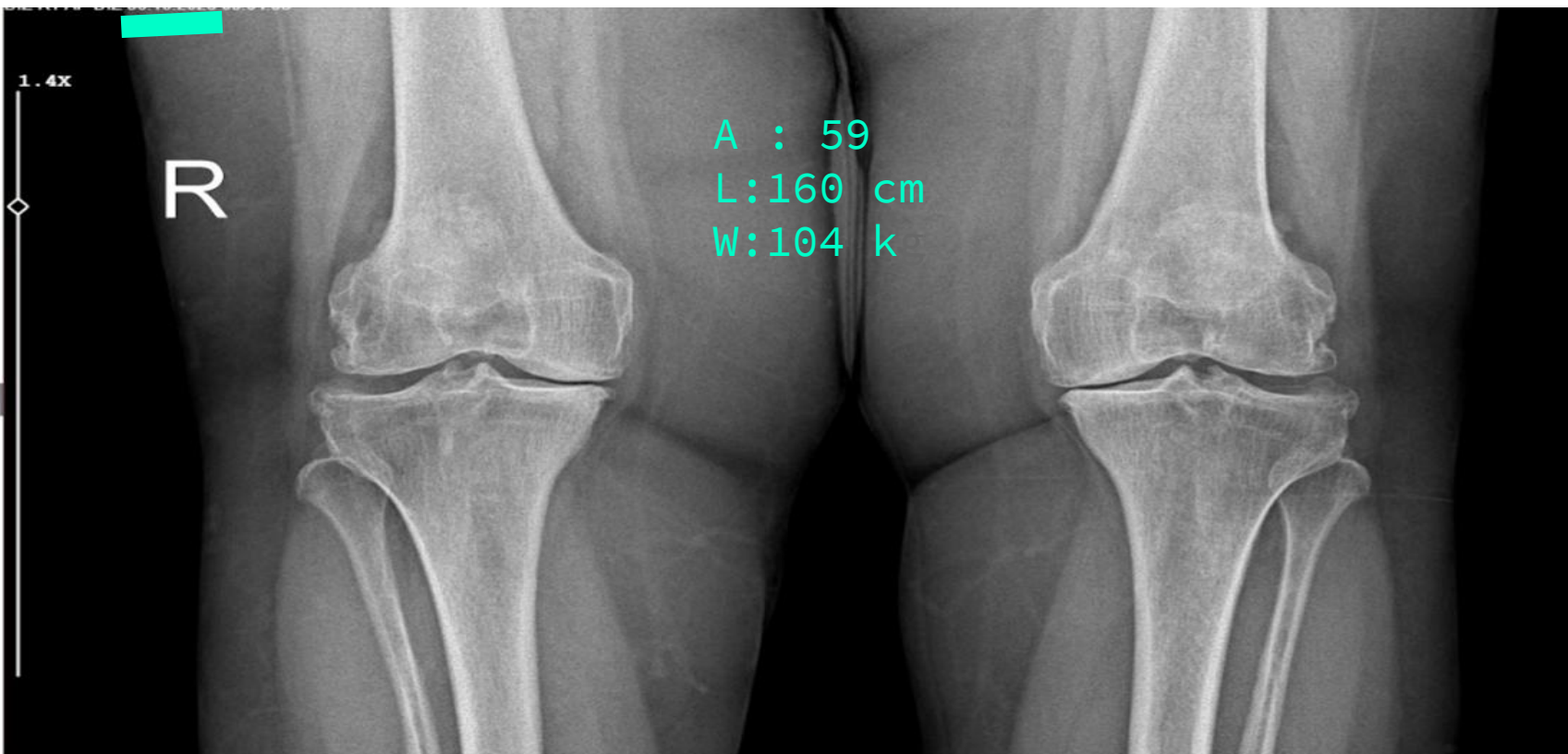
A: 63

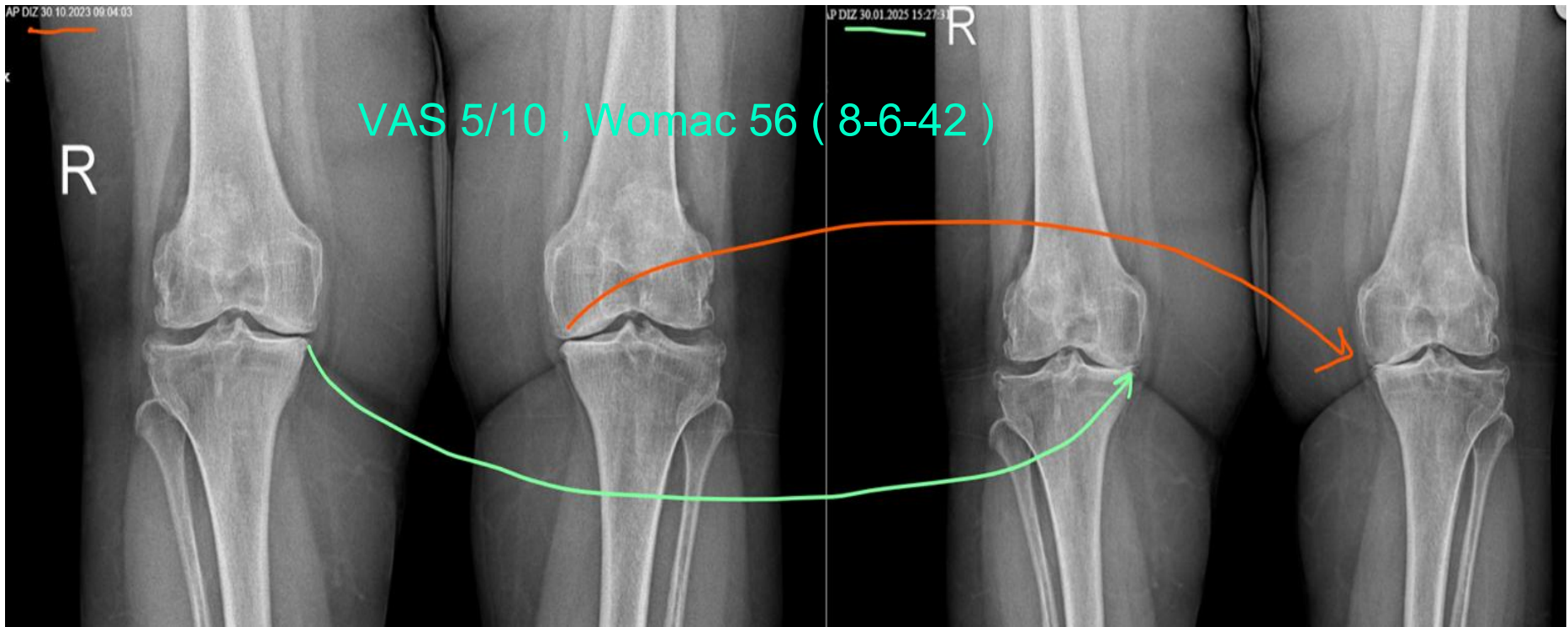
L : 165 cm

W: 68 kg

Benefit







VAS 5/10 , Womac 56 ( 8-6-42 )

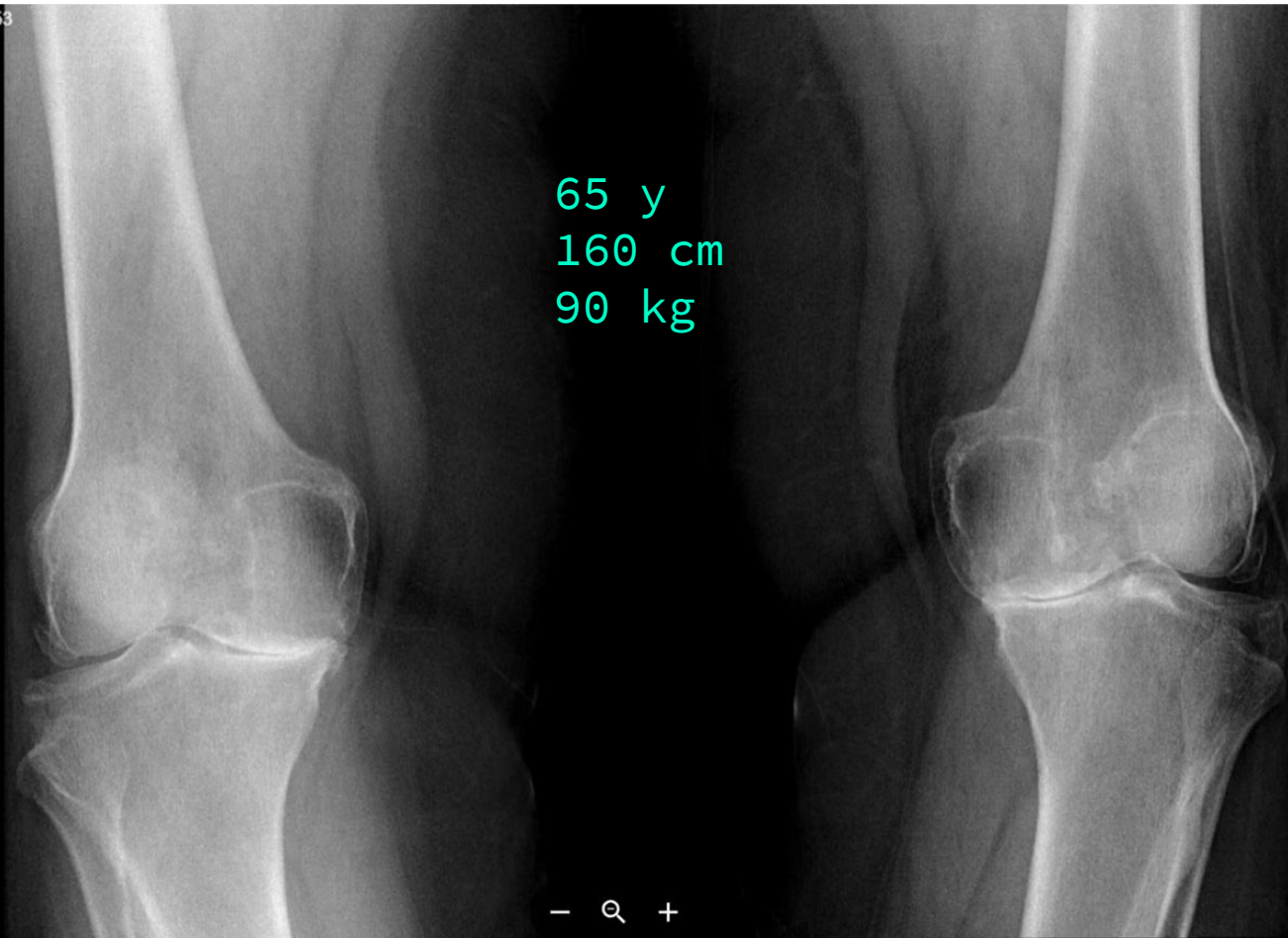
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1.0x



65 y  
160 cm  
90 kg

- 🔍 +



15.02.2024 11:21:53

1.0x

65 y  
160 cm  
90 kg

Pain 1/10 ,  
Fonction 9/10 ,  
Satisfaction 10/10

- 🔍 +

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1.2X



R

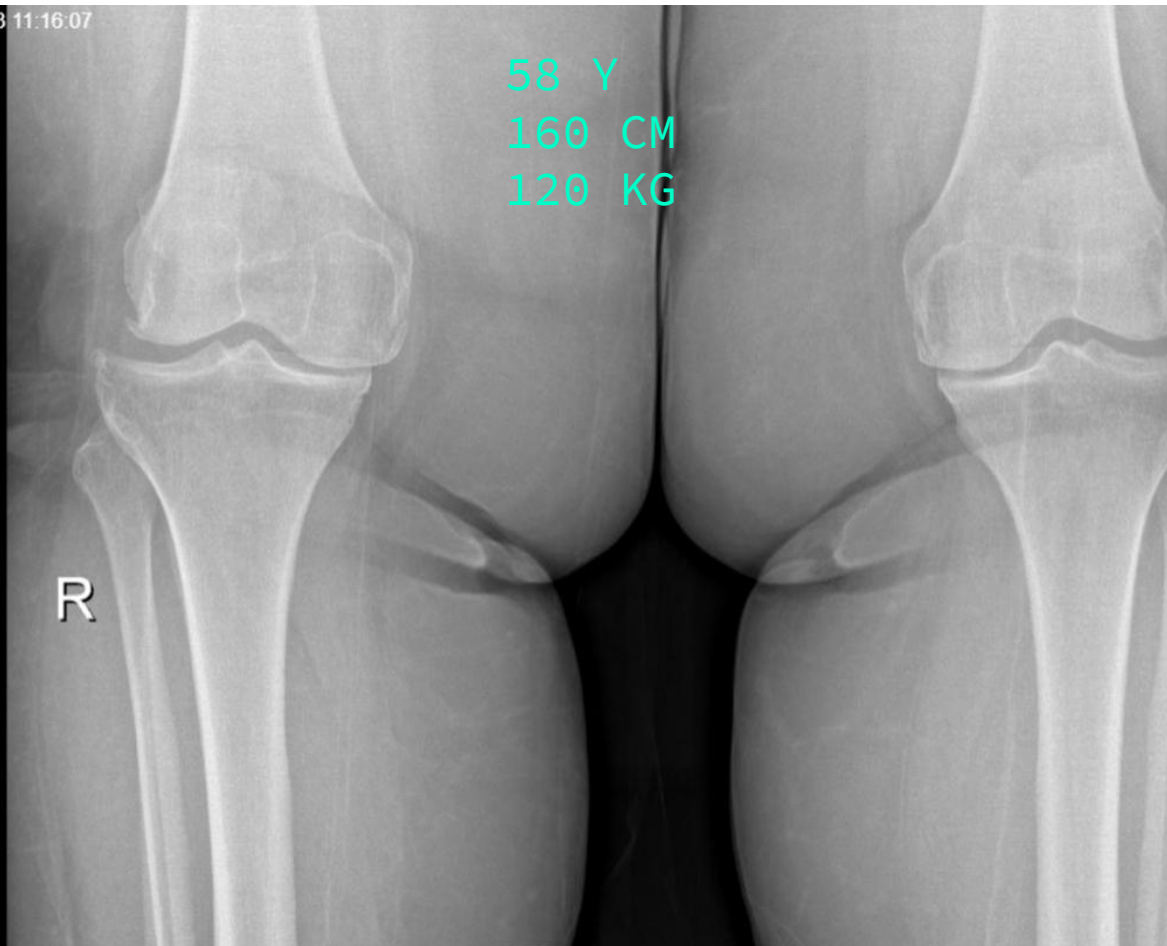




1.2X

58 Y  
160 CM  
120 KG

R



OVER ALL ...

Patient selection is important ! ! ! !



**Need Time & more study**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENT :)



