

# ARGOSPINE 2008

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Lausanne, Switzerland**

- 29 y old female on antiepileptics
- Fall while on holidays abroad
- T12 + L1 , no neurology
- Surgery 2 weeks later (superficial skin laceration)
- Fixation



- 9 months later : pain, deformity wound discharge (pus) with E Coli positive cultures
- Implant removal and débridement
- Ceftriaxone iv



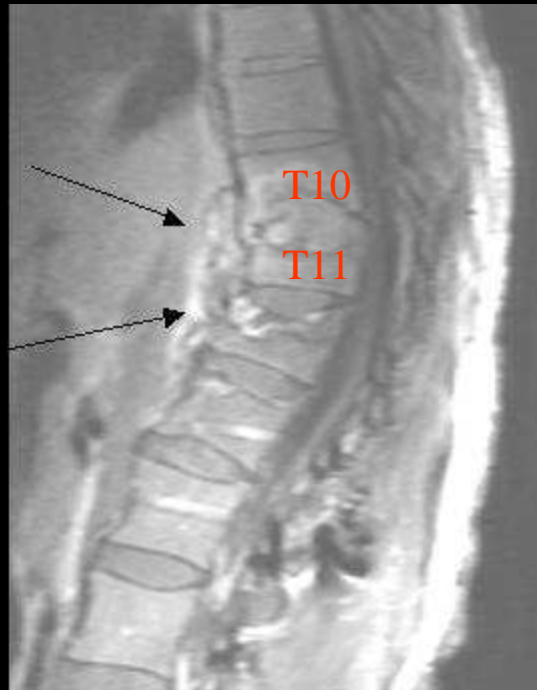
- Pre op Xrays

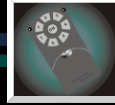


- Immediate post op Xray

# MRI

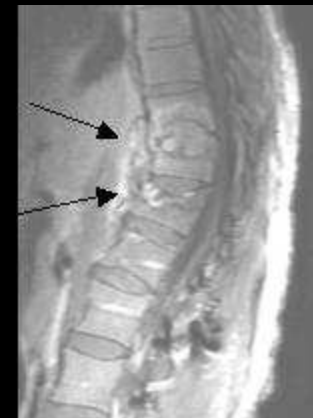
- Anterior abcess





Question 1: What further treatment would you suggest?

1. IV Antibiotics (AB)
2. IV AB + brace
3. Surgery and IV AB
4. Other



# Question 1: What further treatment would you suggest?

1. IV Antibiotics (AB)

■ 4%

2. IV AB + brace

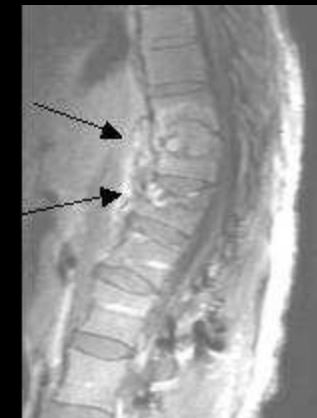
■ 32%

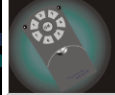
3. Surgery and IV AB

■ 60%

4. Other

■ 4%





Question 2: If you voted for surgery, what type of surgical approach would you prefer?

1. Posterior
2. Anterior
3. Combined anterior/posterior (same day)
4. Combined anterior /posterior staged different dates)
5. Other



## Question 2: If you voted for surgery, what type of surgical approach would you prefer?

1. Posterior



2. Anterior



3. Combined anterior/posterior (same day)



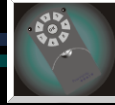
4. Combined anterior /posterior staged different dates)



5. Other

0%

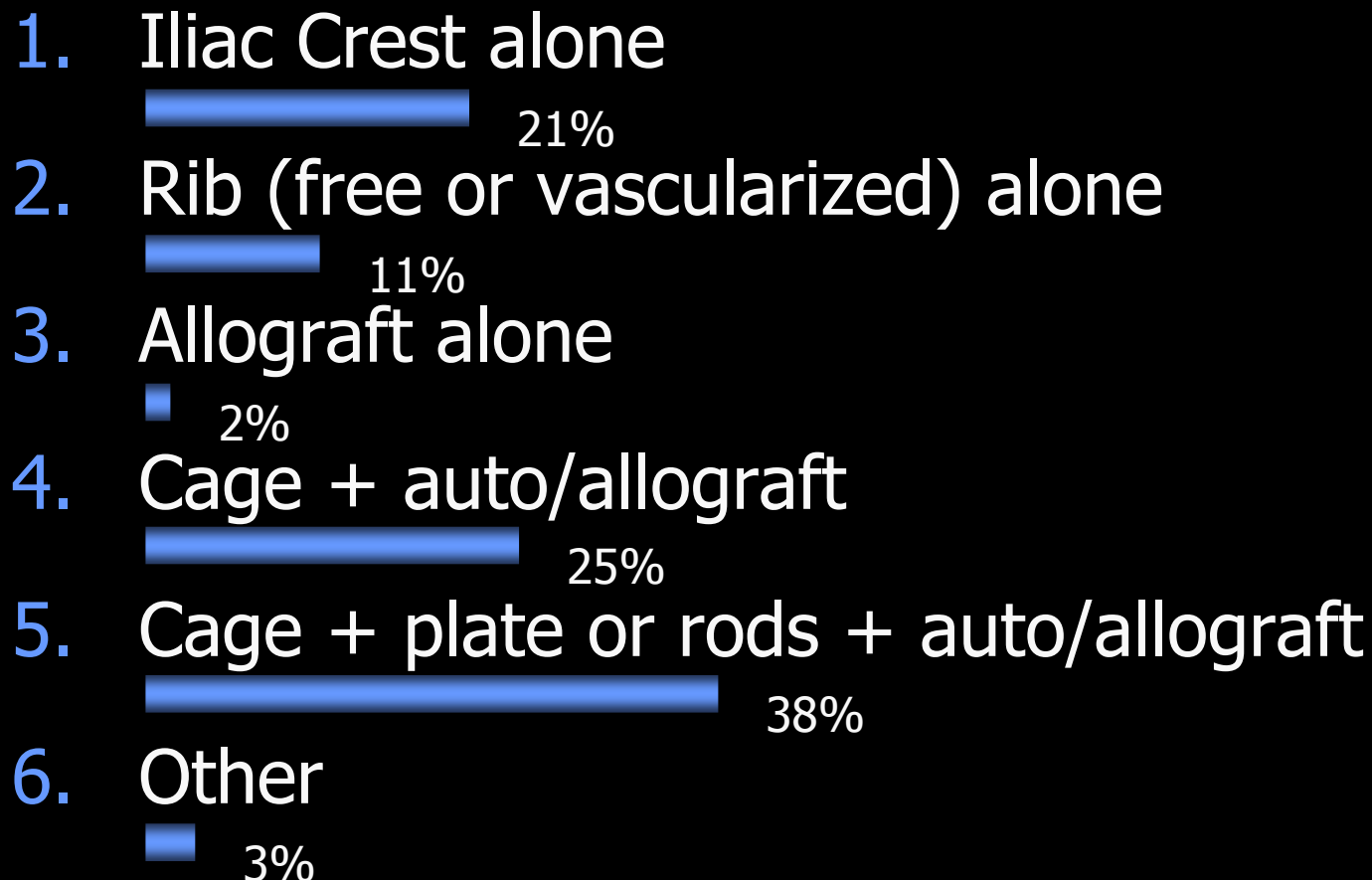


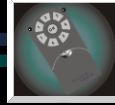


## Question 3: How would you reconstruct 'anterior column'?

1. Iliac Crest alone
2. Rib (free or vascularized) alone
3. Allograft alone
4. Cage + auto/allograft
5. Cage + plate or rods + auto/allograft
6. Other

# Question 3: How would you reconstruct 'anterior column'?

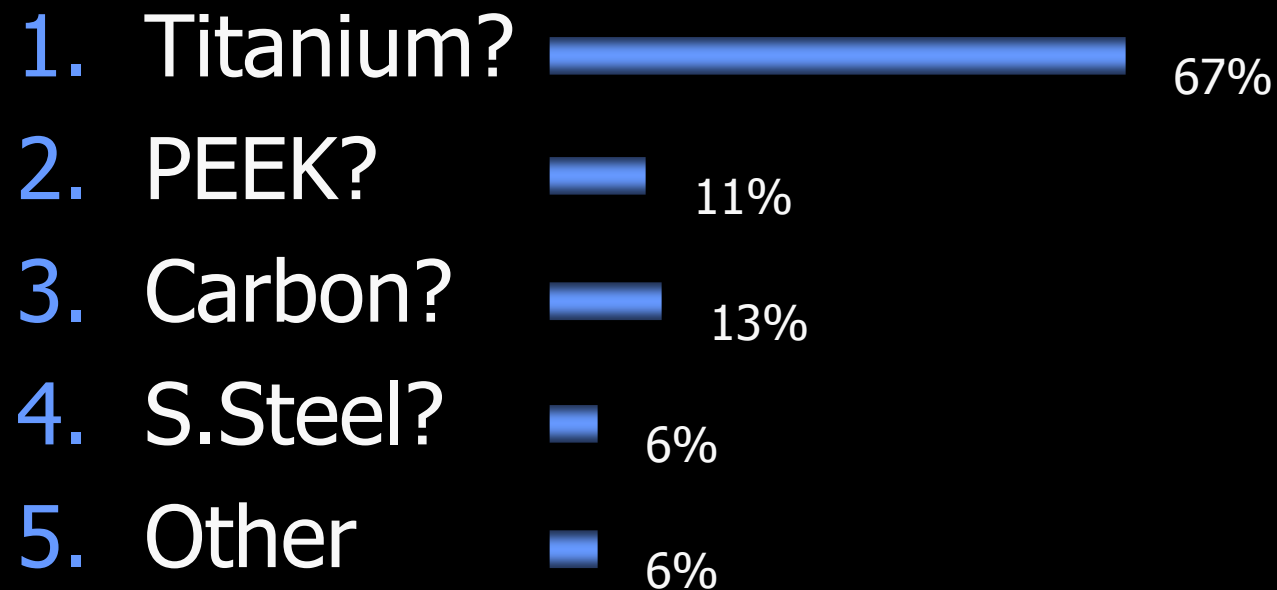


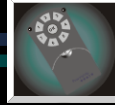


Question 4: What material should the cage(s) be made of?

1. Titanium?
2. PEEK?
3. Carbon?
4. S.Steel?
5. Other

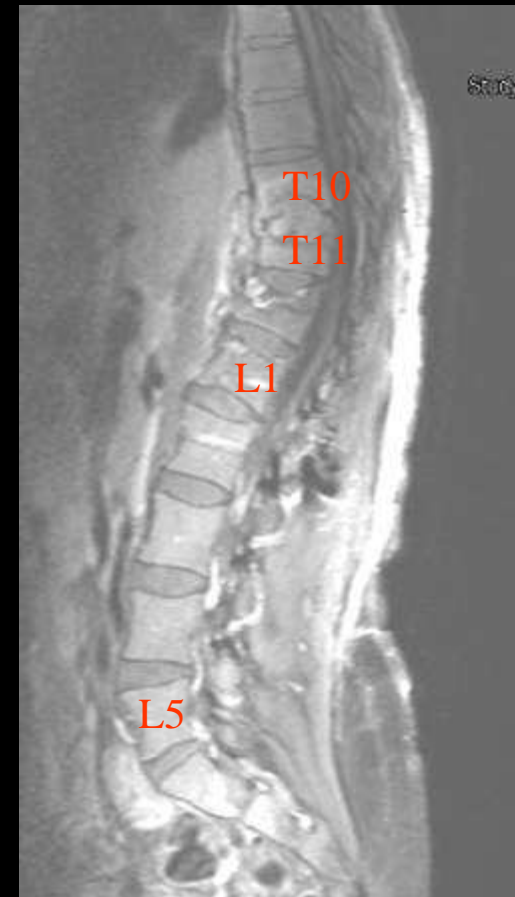
# Question 4: What material should the cage(s) be made of?



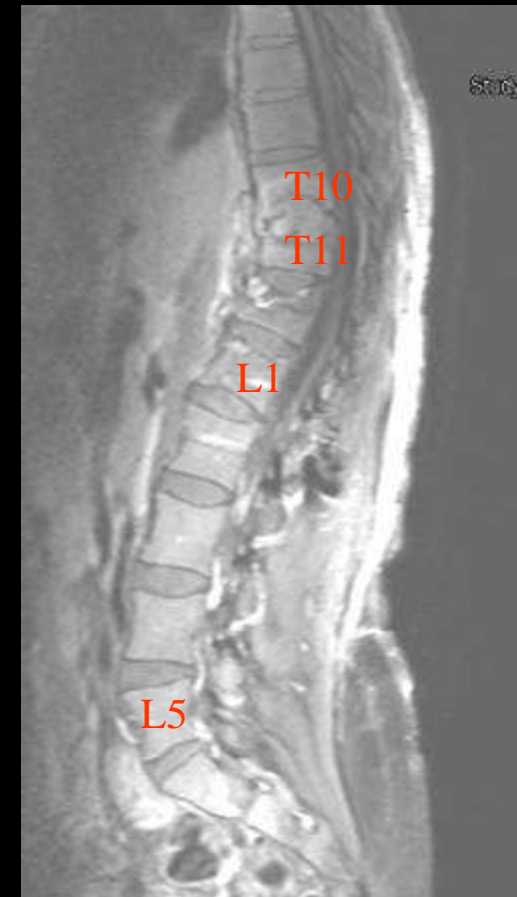


## Question 5: What length should be fused?

1. T10-T11
2. T10-T12
3. T9 – L1
4. T9 – L2
5. T9 – L3
6. Other



# Question 5: What length should be fused?



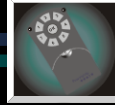
# Anterior single stage reconstruction T9-L2

- Titanium cages
- Iliac crest + rib
- Dual rod (titanium)



## BAD SURPRISE!

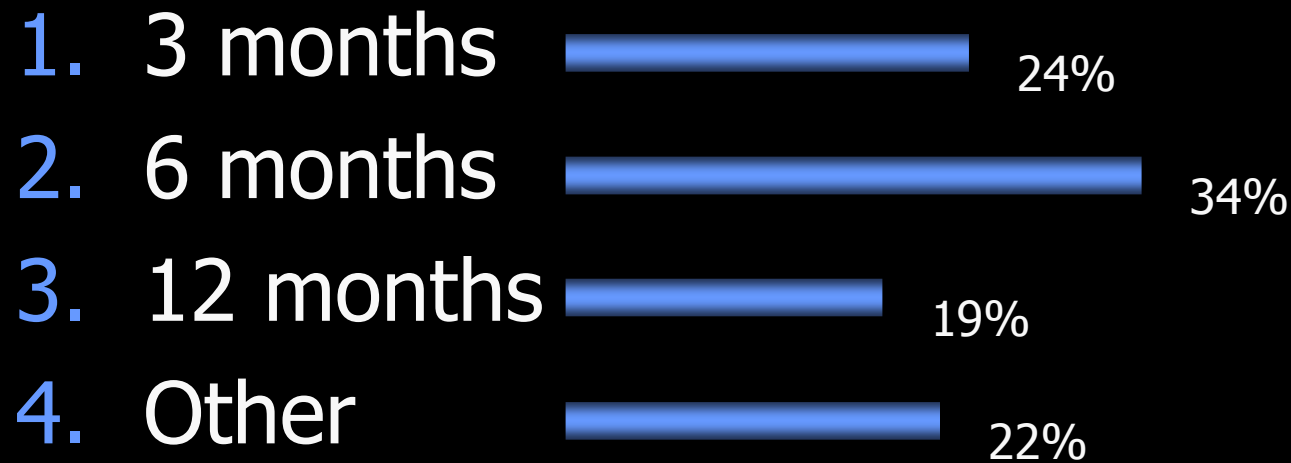
- growth of ESBL E. coli. (extended-spectrum beta-lactamases) sensitive to carbapenem only!
- Patient had implants inserted while on the wrong antibiotic!



How long would you treat the patient for? (Carbapenem IV)

1. 3 months
2. 6 months
3. 12 months
4. Other

# How long would you treat the patient for? (Carbapenem IV)



# Patient treated with 12 months IV Carbapenem

- At latest follow up, 6 months following end of AB treatment CRP ESR remain normal
- CT : Fusion(?)
- MRI no abcess



# Conclusions

- Multi-level anterior spinal infection + Deformity + Resistant organism
  - Implants?
  - Staged anterior approach?
  - Length of antibiotic treatment?
- Little evidence in the literature in support of one or other treatment
- One has to tailor treatment to individual case