



Alcohol Abusing Patients that experience Delirium Tremens during admission for hip fractures experience higher morbidity

Cory Couch, MD

Regis L. Renard, MD, MS, FACS, FAAOS

**University of Arkansas of for Medical Sciences,
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Little Rock, Arkansas**

Special Thanks

- Robert L. Garrison, MD
- James Kee, MD
- Jesse Wray, BS
- Eric Siegel, MS



Disclosures

- Orthofix, Inc.
- Stryker, Inc.
- Depuy-Synthes, Inc.
- Smith and Nephew, Inc.
- IGFS Committee Member



Background

- Alcohol abuse disorder is common
 - 10% of women and 20% men in western societies
- Decrease life span
- Severe Reduction of alcohol intake leads to symptoms of withdrawal tremens
 - -Delirium Tremens (DT)



Criteria for Alcohol Withdrawal

- Cessation or reduction of heavy alcohol consumption
- And at least two withdrawal symptoms



Criteria for Delirium

- Decreased attention/awareness
- Sensory Disturbance
- Cognitive Disturbance
- No other cognitive disorder



Delirium Tremens

- Meets criteria for Alcohol Withdrawal and Delirium
- Untreated DT with the current benzodiazepine treatment regimens have reported mortality rates of 1-4%



Hip Fractures

- Hip fracture incidence is 0.5-1.0%
- Usually require surgery and hospitalization
- Poor outcomes in hip fracture patients who abuse alcohol



Objective

- Effects of DT on acute hip fractures patients
- Incidence of DT in at risk patients with hip fractures
- Characteristics of DT vs. Alcohol Abusing patients with hip fractures
- Identify rates of morbidity, mortality, and increased health care utilization



Objective

- Evaluate effect of DT prophylaxis on alcohol abusers suffering hip fractures



Hypothesis

- DT in hip fracture patients will have an increase of inpatient morbidity, mortality, and health care resource utilization



Inclusion Criteria

- ICD-9 Diagnosis codes for Subtrochanteric, intertrochanteric, neck or head femur fractures
 - 820.00, 820.01, 820.02, 820.03, 820.09, 820.20, 820.21, 820.22, and 820.8

- ICD-9 Diagnosis codes for Alcohol abuse and/or Delirium Tremens diagnosis
 - 291.x, 303.0x, 305.0, 305.00, 305.02, 790.03, 980.0, 980.0, 980.1, 980.2, 980.3, 980.8, 980.9, E860, E860.0, E860.1, E860.2, E860.3, E860.4, E860.8, E860.9, V11.3, V70.4, V79.1



Exclusion Criteria

- Incomplete records or imaging
- Patients younger than 18 years of age
- Periprosthetic fractures
- Non-operative greater trochanteric fractures



Methods

- Institutional review board approval
- Retrospective chart review April 2006-August 2015



Methods

- Occurrence of DT in alcoholic hip fracture patients
- Characteristics of DT vs. Alcohol Abusing patients with hip fractures
 - Age, gender, Charlson Comorbidity Index, Injury patterns, Surgical treatment
- Evaluated morbidity, mortality, length of stay, and ICU utilization



Statistical Analysis

- Fisher's exact tests
- Wilcoxon rank-sum test
- Kaplan-Meier curves



Results

- 86 patients identified
- 45 patients met inclusion criteria

Demographics

	Age (mean)	Sex	Charleson Co-Morbidity Index
No DT	53	69% Male	2.2
DT	62	100 % Male	3.1



Fracture Type

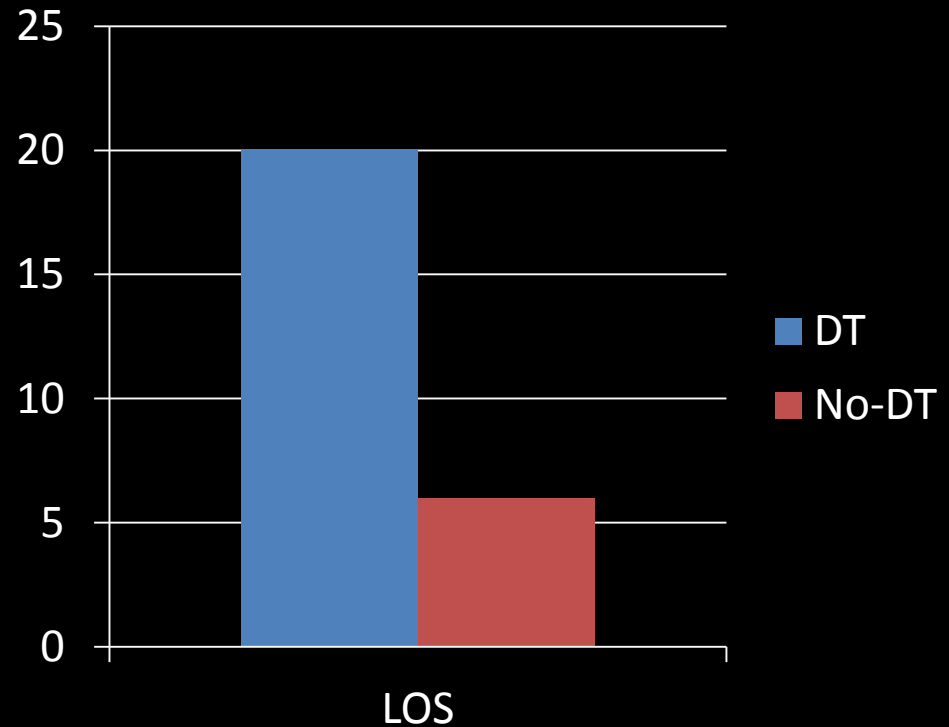
Fracture	DT	No-DT
Femoral Head	0 %	6.1%
Femoral Neck	14.3%	45.5%
Intertrochanteric	71.4%	33.3%
Subtrochanteric	14.3%	15.1%

Surgery Type

Surgery	DT	No-DT
ORIF	0%	15.2%
Intramedullary Nail	85.7%	48.5%
Sliding Hip Screw	0%	3%
Hemiarthroplasty	14.3%	15.2%
Total Hip Arthroplasty	0%	12.1%
Closed Treatment	0%	6%

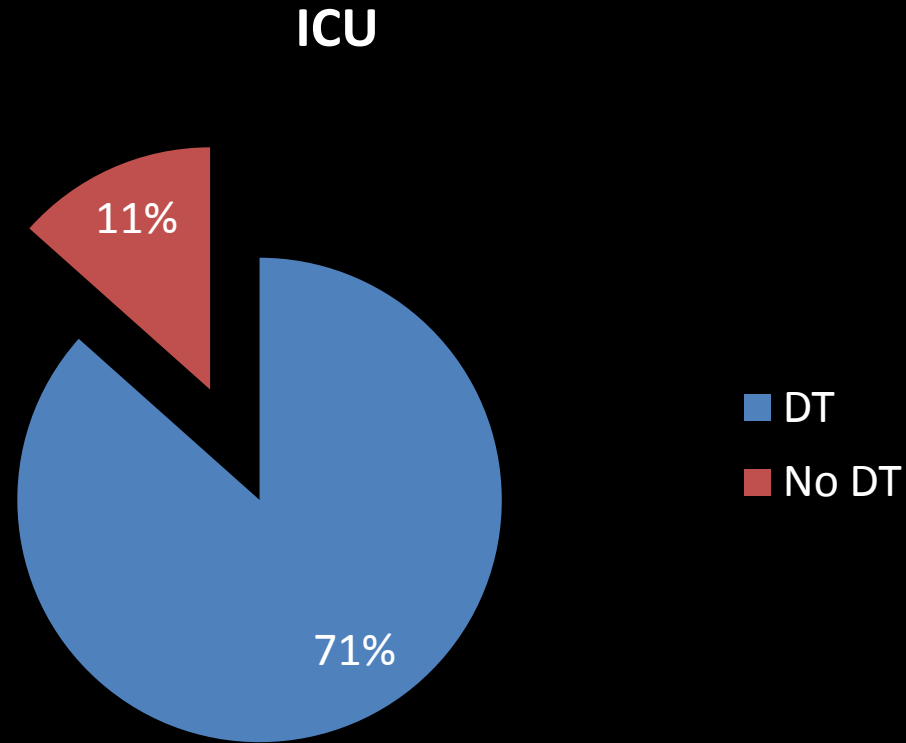
Results

- 16% experienced DT
- LOS significantly longer in the DT group ($p=0.0013$)



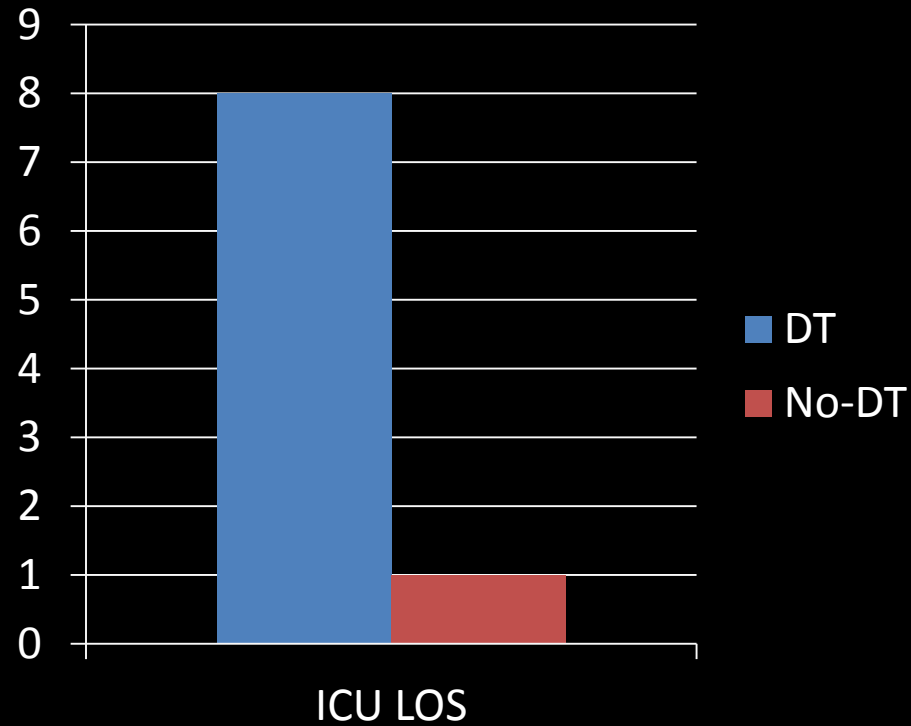
Results

- DT group more likely to require an ICU stay ($p=0.0018$)



Results

- ICU LOS was significantly longer ($p=0.0052$)
- Inpatient complications significantly higher ($p=0.0035$)



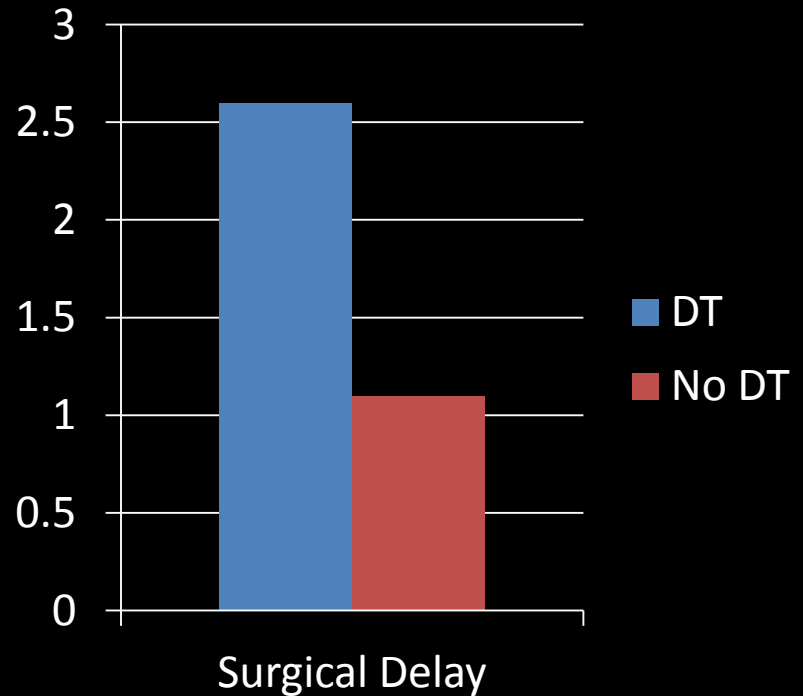
Results

- DT patients more frequently received benzodiazepine treatment
- Duration of prophylaxis not significantly different
- Number of prophylactic regimens not significantly different



Results

- Significant delay to surgical intervention in DT patients ($p=0.04$).



Discussion

- Patient characteristics
 - DT trending to be older male patients with higher CCI from low energy mechanisms
 - The non-DT ETOH abusing patients included a higher proportion of trauma patients therefore a greater range of treatments and injury patterns. Also likely reason for younger age.



Discussion

- DT group suffered significantly more inpatient morbidity
 - Sepsis, Pneumoniae, Aspiration
- DT group experienced a significant delay on average of almost 2 more days until having surgical treatment



Discussion

- DT group
 - Significant increase in LOS: 20 vs 6 days
 - Significant increase in ICU Days : 8 vs 1 days

These increases are likely due to the increased morbidity experienced by these patients



Discussion

- Alcohol supplementation
- Prophylactic regimens utilized



Discussion

- Potential biomarkers for DT screening:
 - Phosphatidylethanol
 - May be a marker for chronic alcohol intake
 - Carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT)
 - Blood ethanol



Discussion

- Weakness
 - Retrospective chart review
 - Diagnosis entry errors?
 - Limited Number of Patients



Conclusion

- DT may occur in 16% of at risk alcohol abusing patients that suffer a hip fracture
- Patients with hip fractures complicated by DT have significant increases in inpatient morbidities
- DT hip fracture patients have significant increases in resource utilization
- Aggressive use of DT prophylaxis in at risk hip fracture patients



Conclusion

- Further studies?
 - National hospital database review
 - Review non-alcohol abusing hip fracture patient characteristics at our institution



References

- Johnston et al. Hip fractures and chronic alcohol excess: a series of 7,023 cases. *Hip Int.* 2014 Dec 5;24(6):644-9.
- Pasoto et al. Osteoporotic hip fractures in non-elderly patients: relevance of associated co-morbidities. *Rheumatol Int.* 2012 Oct;32(10):3149-53.
- Stearns et al. Displaced intracapsular hip fractures in the working age alcohol-abusing patient. *Scott Med J.* 2009 Feb;54(1):16-20.
- Berg et al. Association between alcohol consumption and both osteoporotic fracture and bone density. *Am J Med.* 2008 May;121(5):406-18.
- Mukamal KJ, Robbins JA, Cauley JA, Kern LM, Siscovick DS. Alcohol consumption, bone density, and hip fracture among older adults: the cardiovascular health study. *Osteoporosis Int.* 2007 May;18(5):593-602.
- Felson DT, Kiel DP, Anderson JJ, Kannel WB. Alcohol consumption and hip fractures: the Framingham Study. *Am J Epidemiol.* 1988 Nov;128(5):1102-10.
- Zhang X, Yu Z, Yu M, Qu X. Alcohol consumption and hip fracture risk. *Osteoporosis Int.* 2015 Feb;26(2):531-42.



Thank You



UAMS

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

