

Vascularised bone grafts in wrist surgery

Christian Dumontier

Institut de la Main & hôpital Saint Antoine,
Paris

(With the help of C. Mathoulin & Y. Saint-Cast)

VBGs in wrist surgery

- Roy-Camille and Judet (1965)
- Kuhlman (1987) described the volar vascularisation of the distal radius
- Zaidenberg (1991) then the Mayo team (1995) described the vascularisation of the dorsal radius
- Experimental works gave some justification to their use

Experimental works

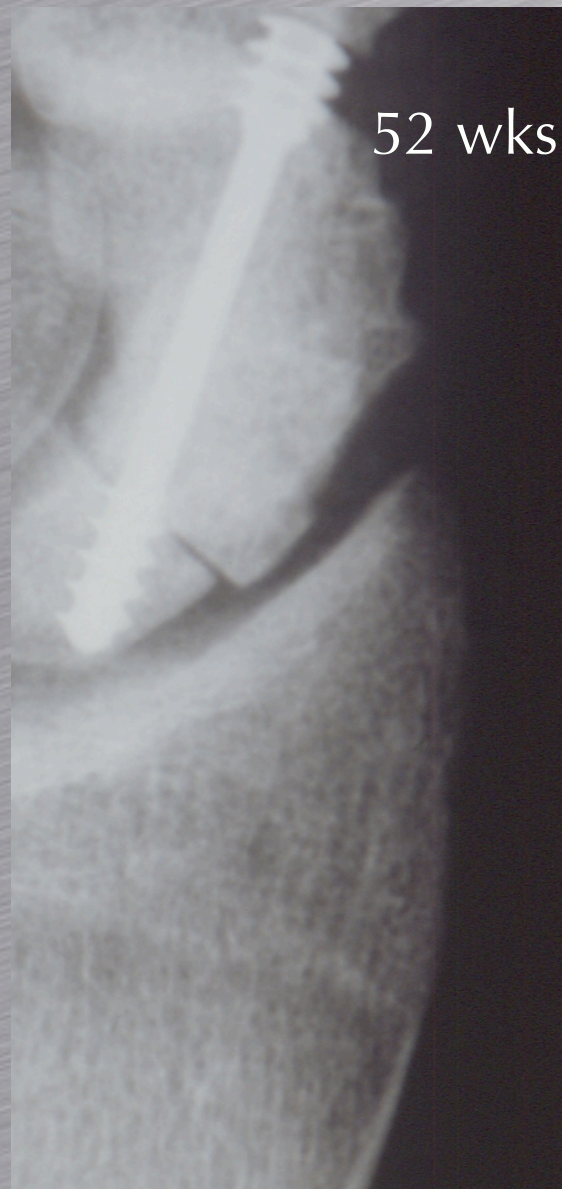
- In a dog radius model
- VBGs preserve circulation
- VBGs preserve viable osteoclasts and osteoblasts that allows primary bone healing without creeping substitution



Experimental works

- Immediate blood flow was 51% of the circulation in the contralateral radius
- Hyperhemic response at 2 weeks doubles the flow (compare to contralateral wrist) and multiplies it by 54 compare to conventional grafts

Experimental works



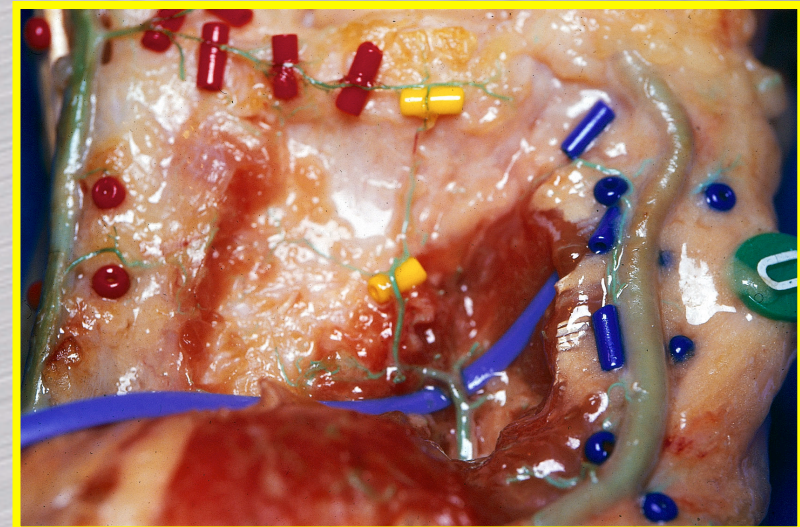
Intercalary graft

- Animal works have shown their superiority compare to conventional grafts



Zaidenberg's VBG

Anatomical works



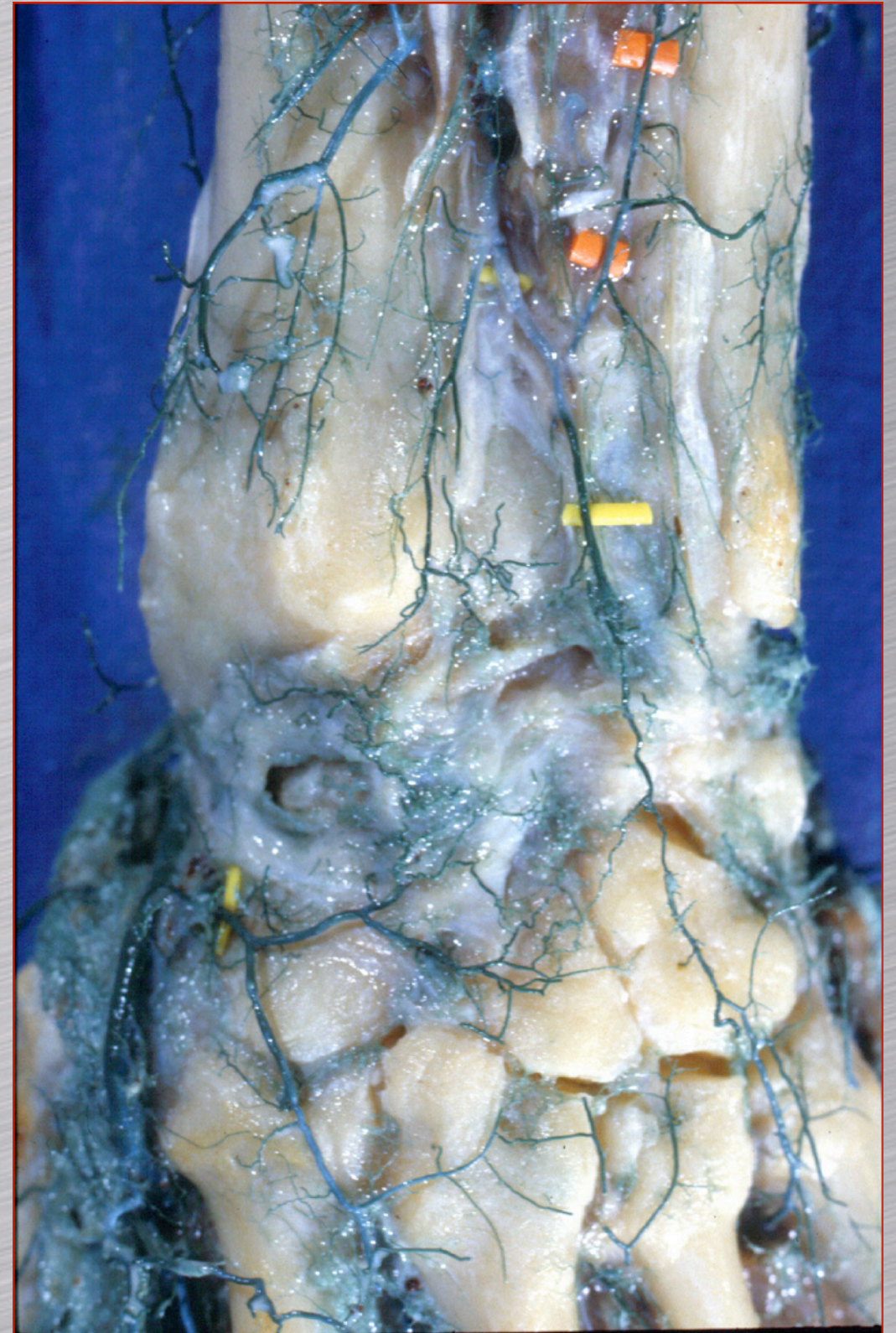
- Have shown that anatomy is quite constant
- Have shown that both cortical and cancellous bone were richly vascularised by those vessels

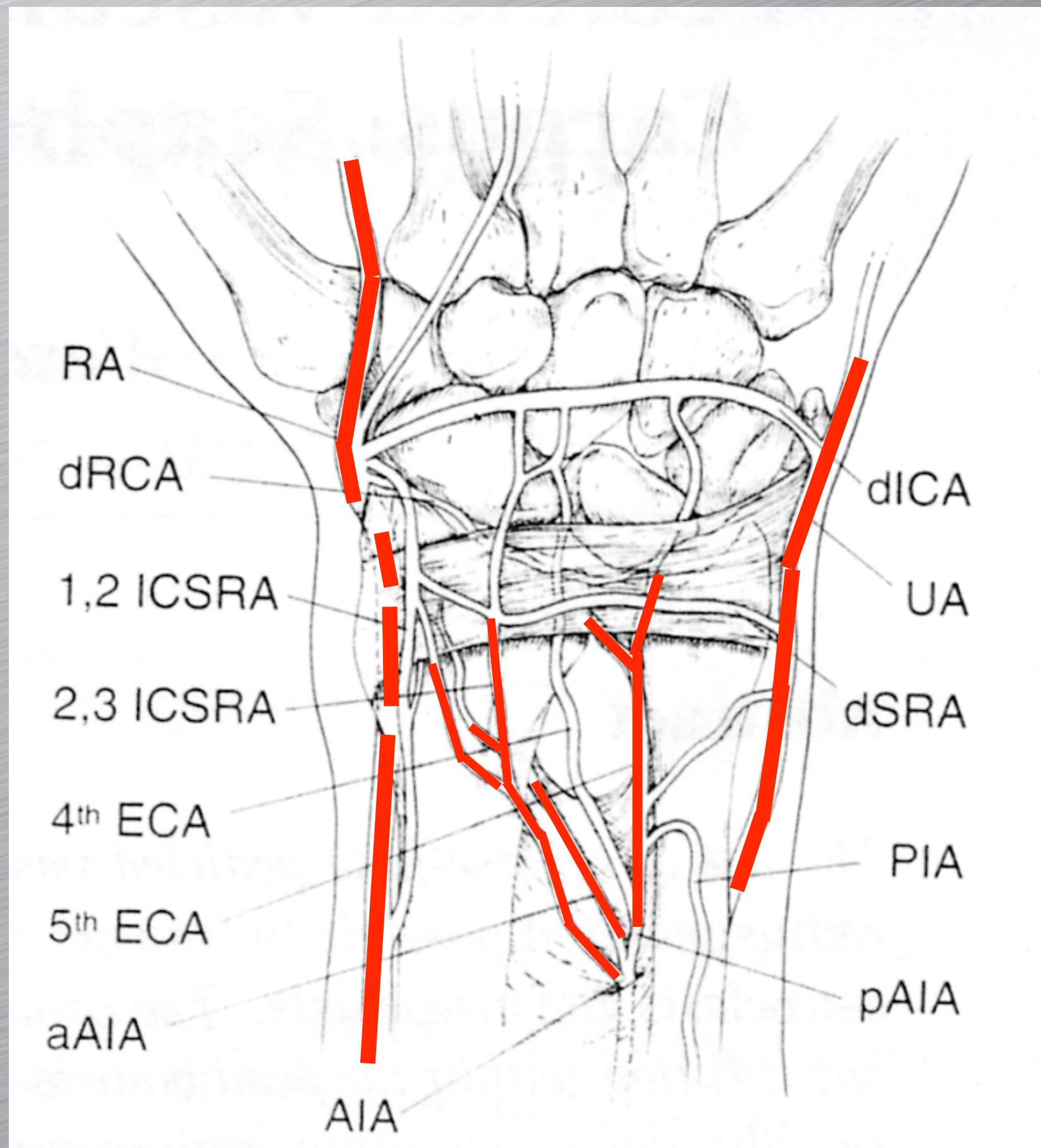
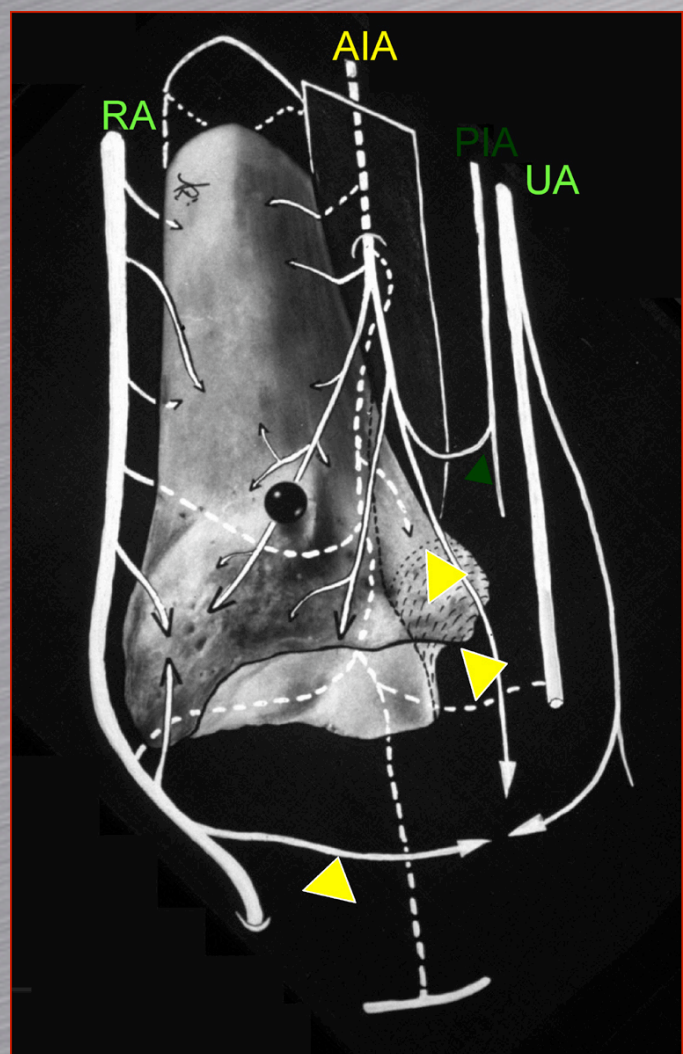
Anatomical works

- Have shown that anatomical landmarks make their dissection secure
- Have shown that it is possible to raise VBGs that can reach the carpal bones without undue tension

VBGs from the dorsal radius

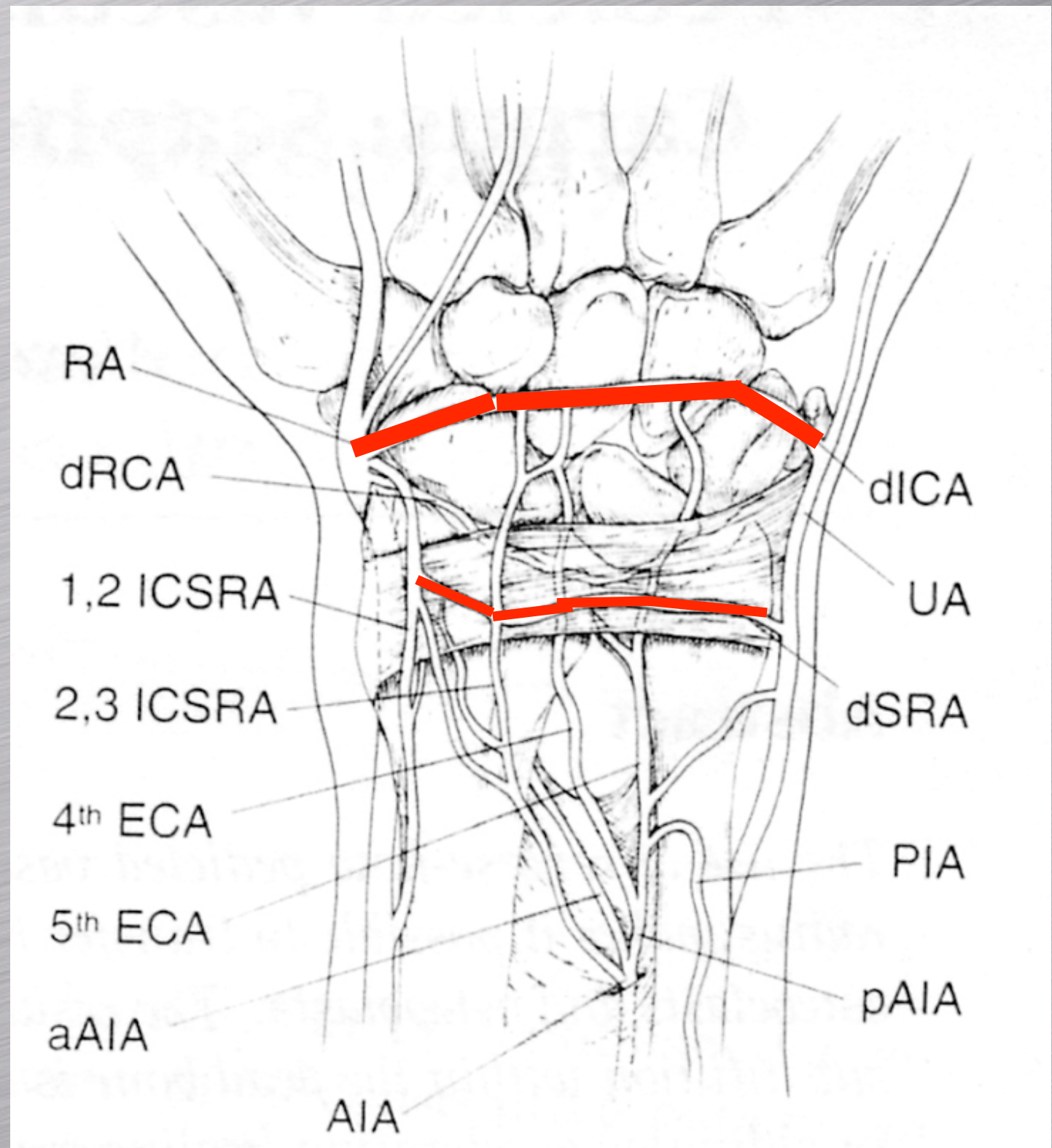
- Four vessels contribute to the vascularisation of the dorsal radius

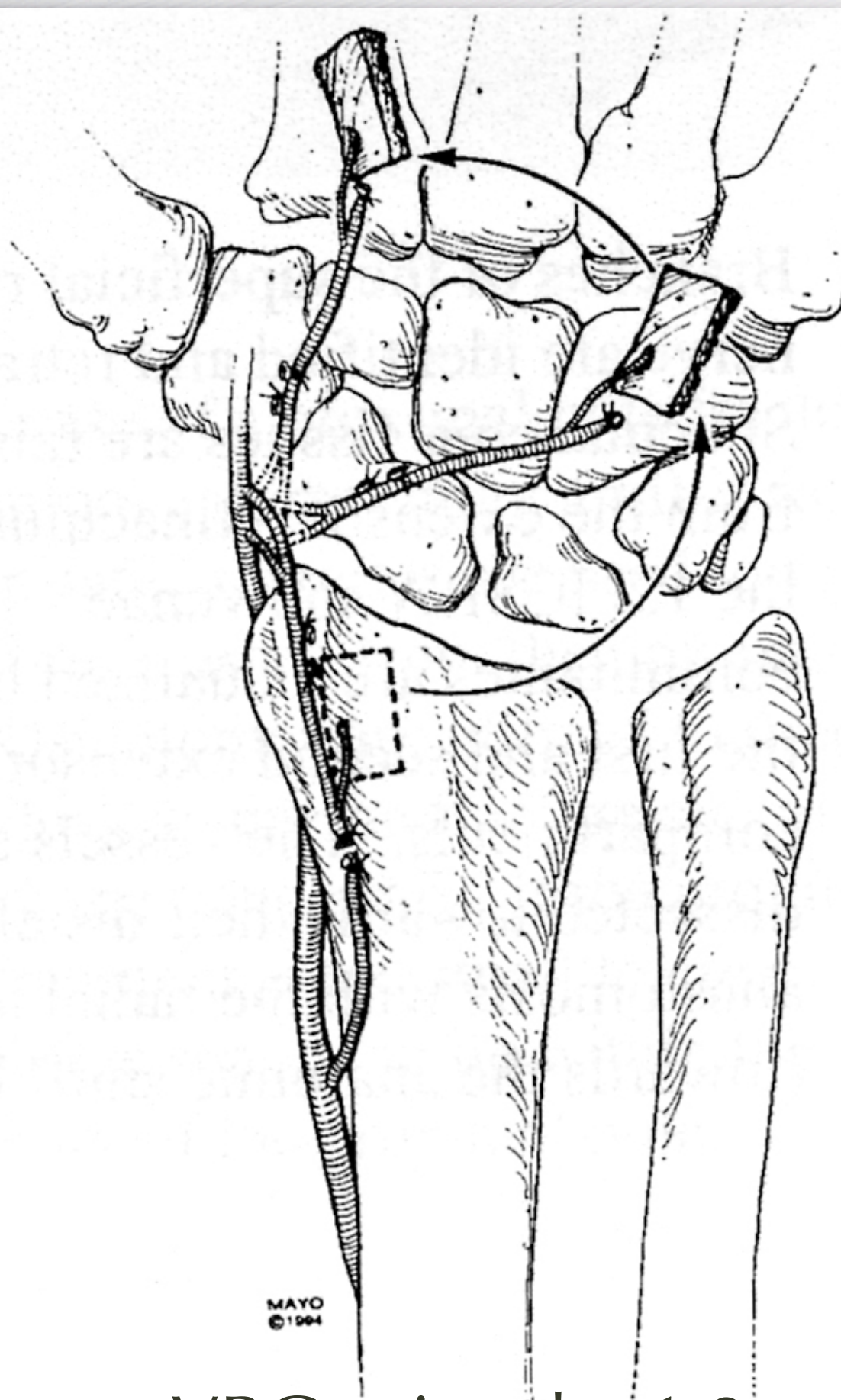




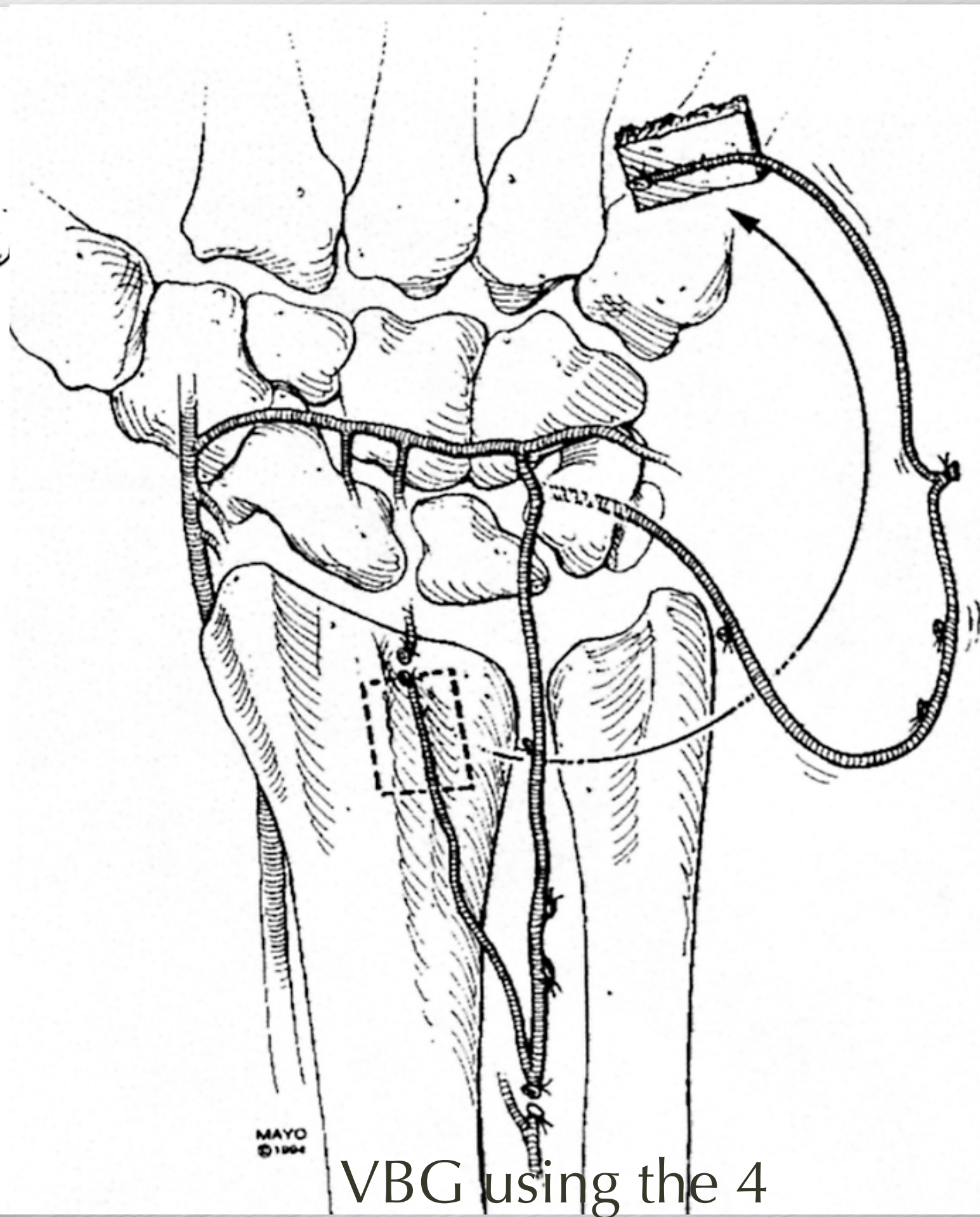
VBCs from the dorsal radius

- Multiple anastomoses allow mobilization of multiple VBCs





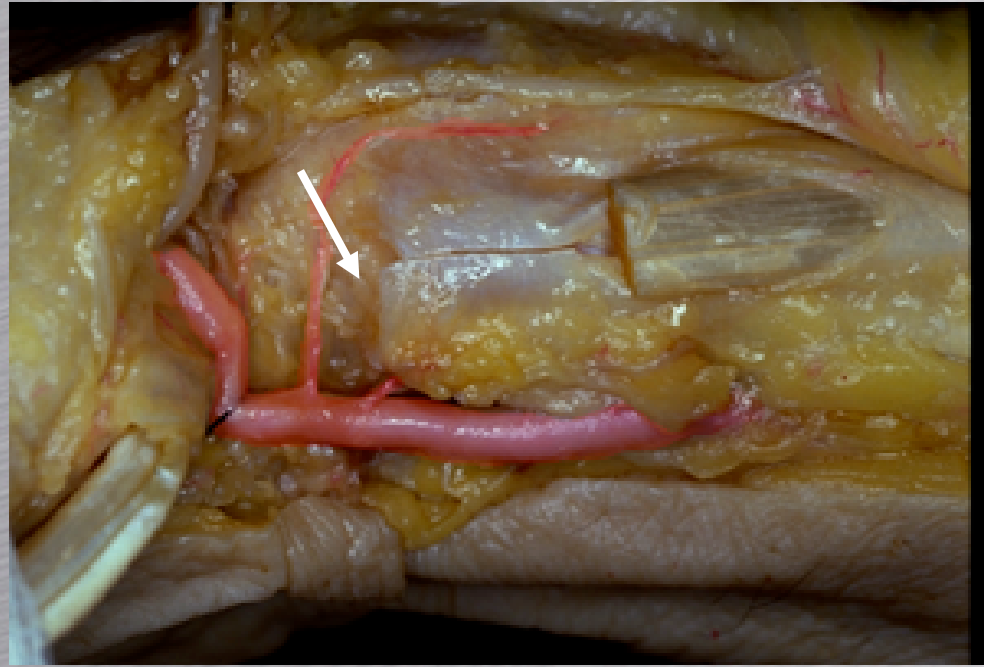
VBG using the 1,2
suprarretinacular artery



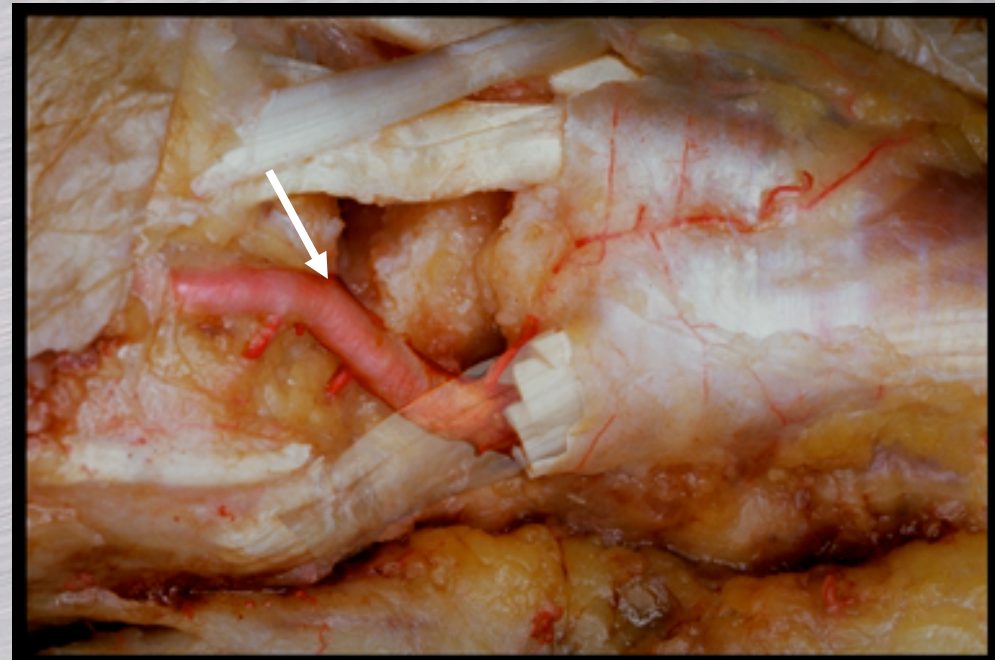
VBG using the 4
compartment artery

Anatomy of the 1,2 suprarretinacular artery

TYPE I

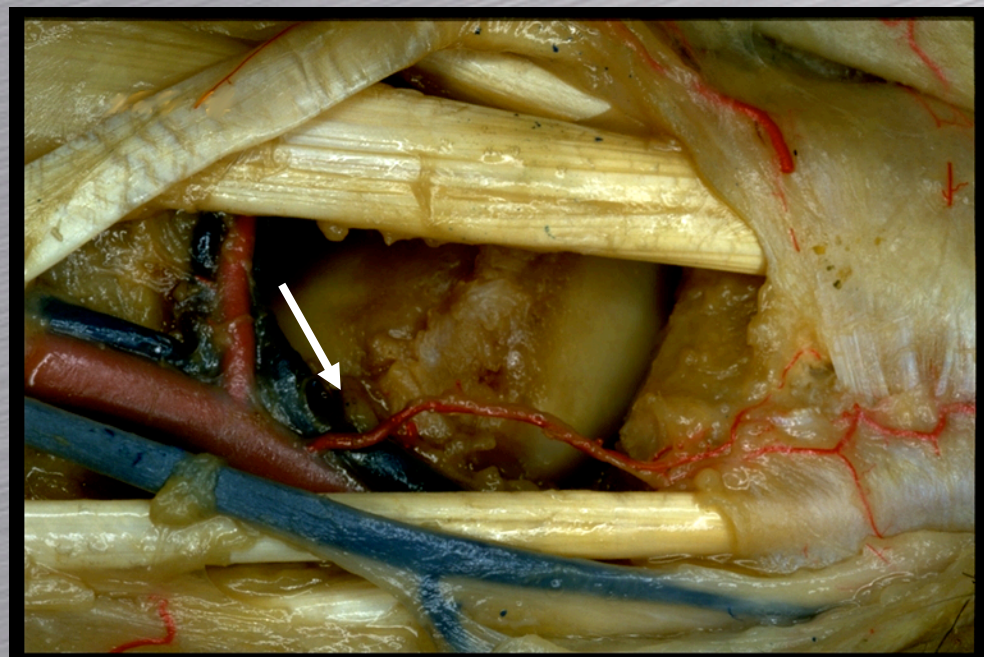


TYPE II

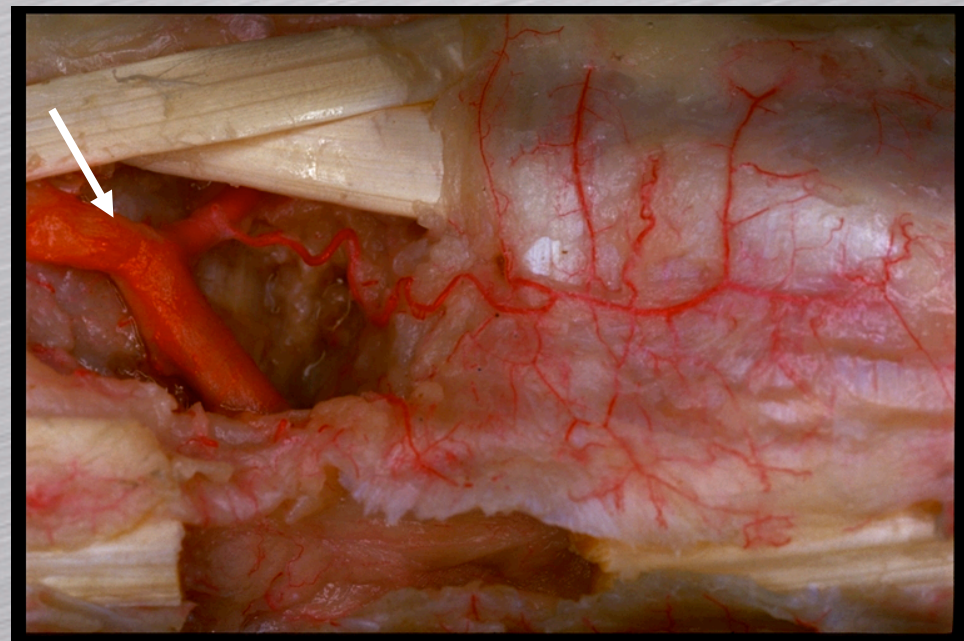


- 4 types have been described (Saint-Cast)

TYPE III

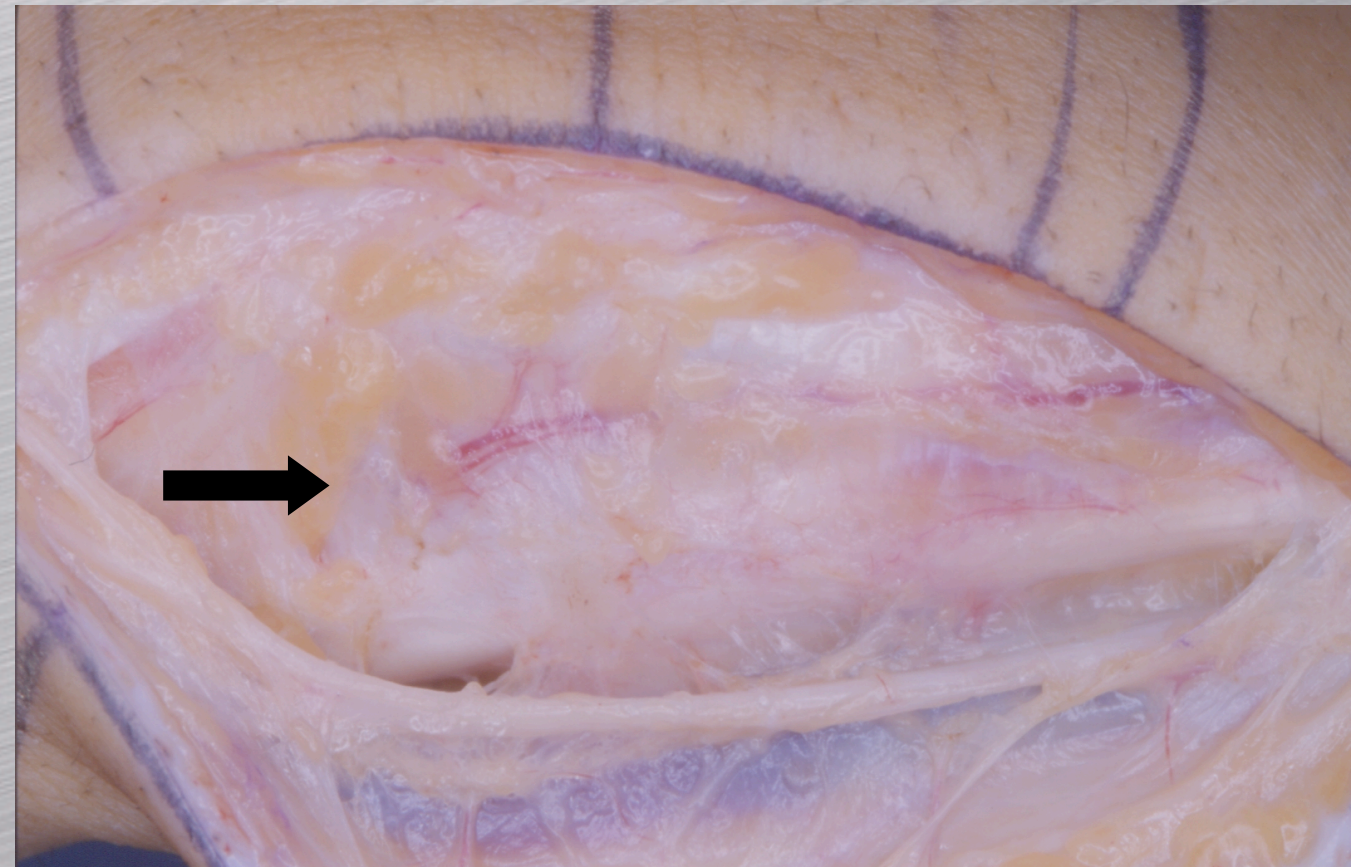
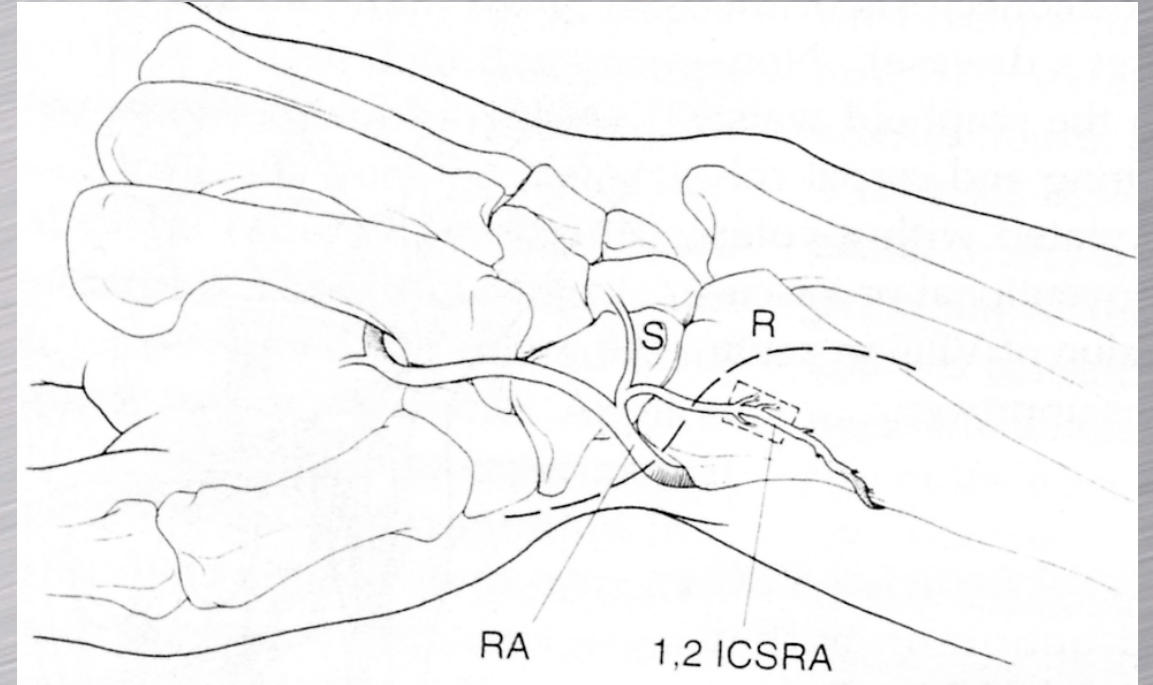


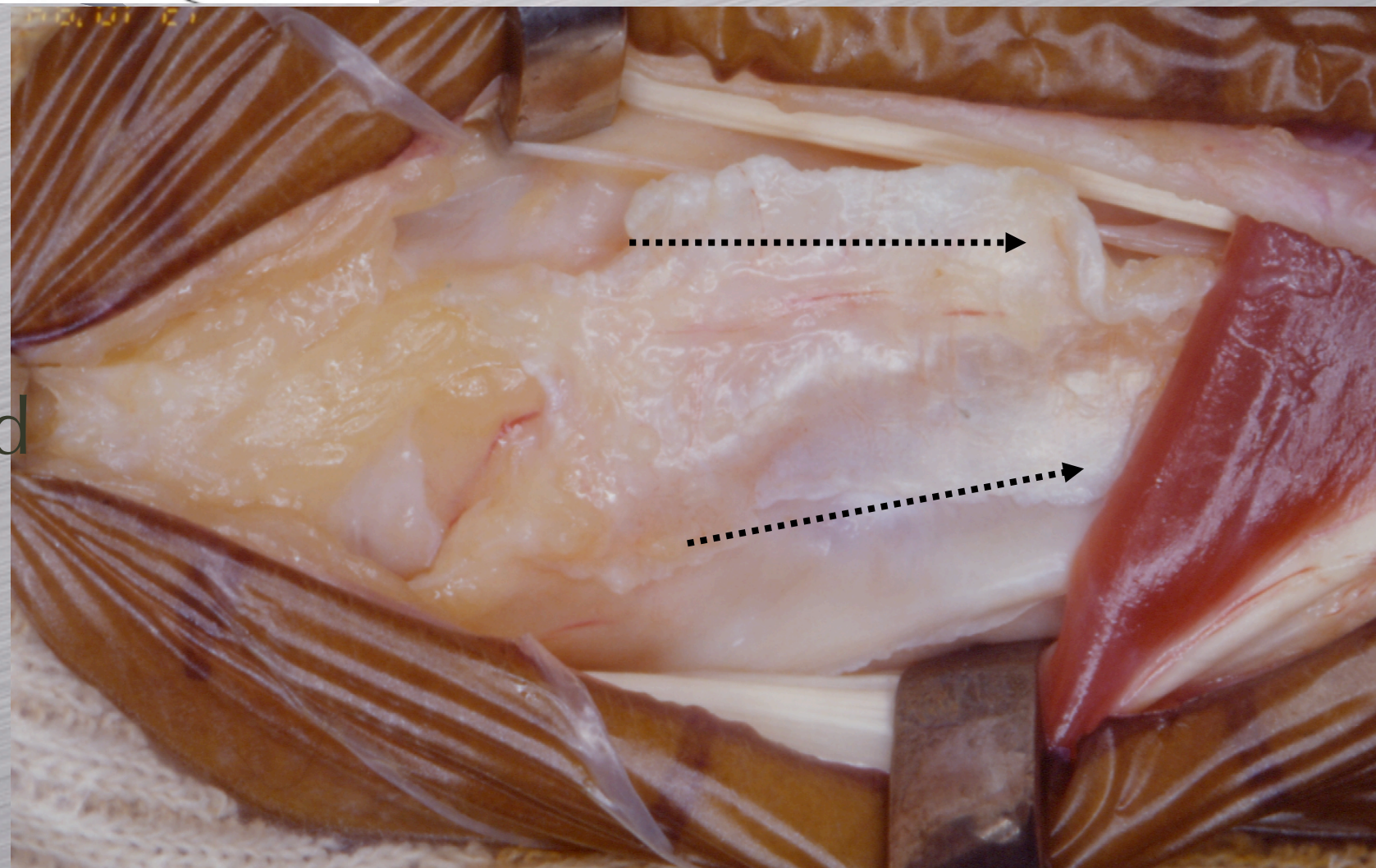
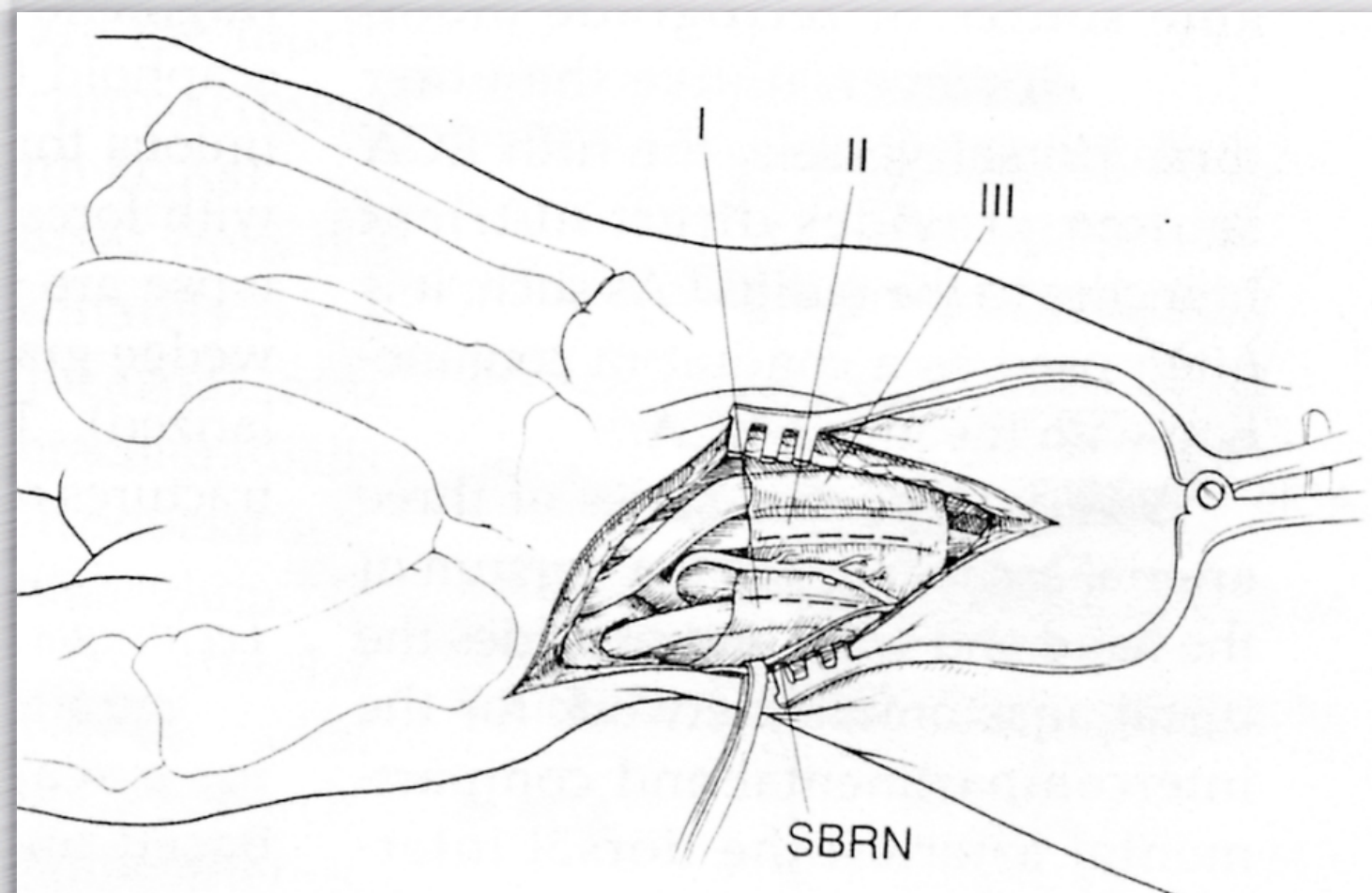
TYPE IV



Surgical technique

- Lazy S incision
- Protection of the radial nerve
- Visualisation of the 1,2 supra-retinacular artery



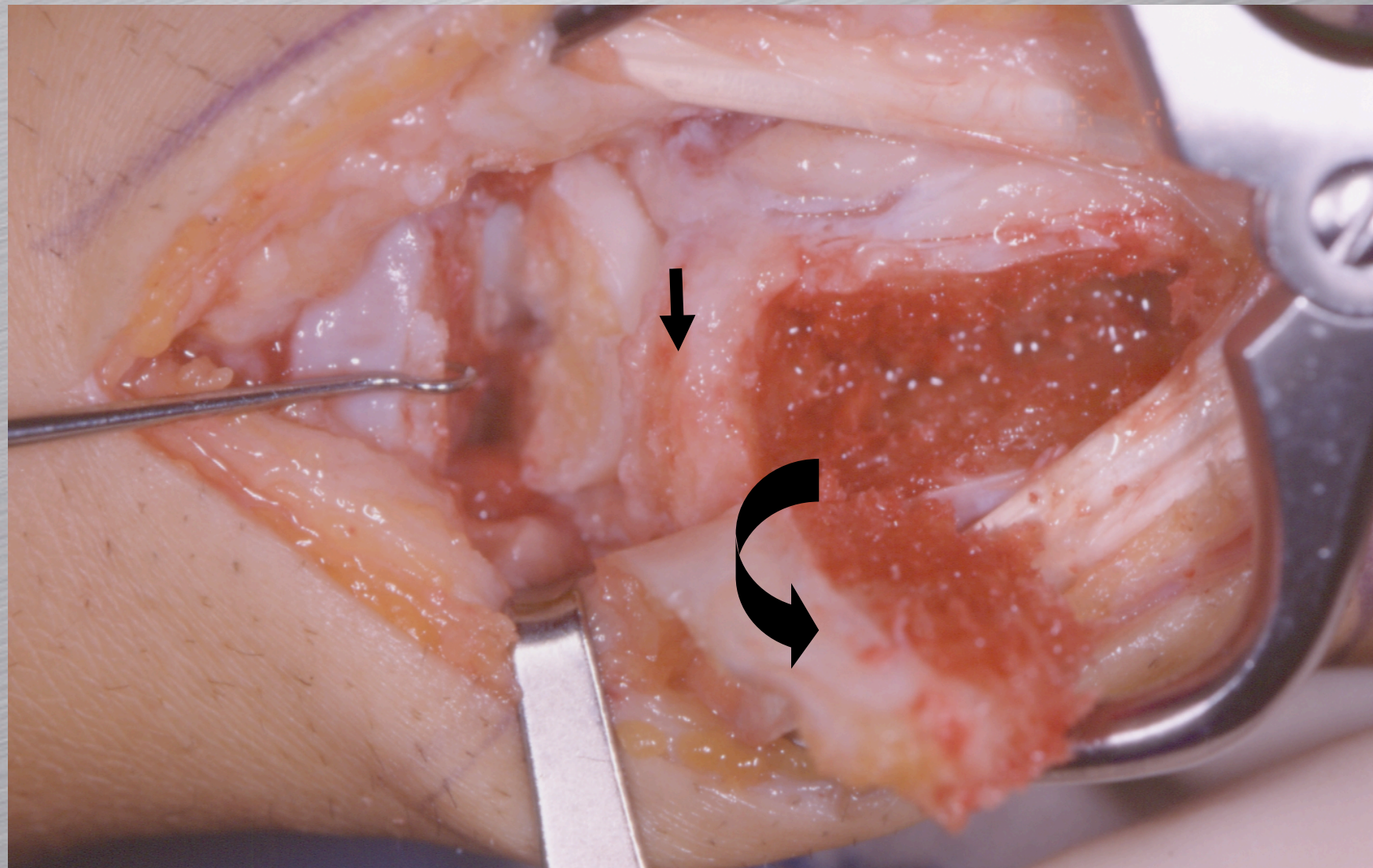


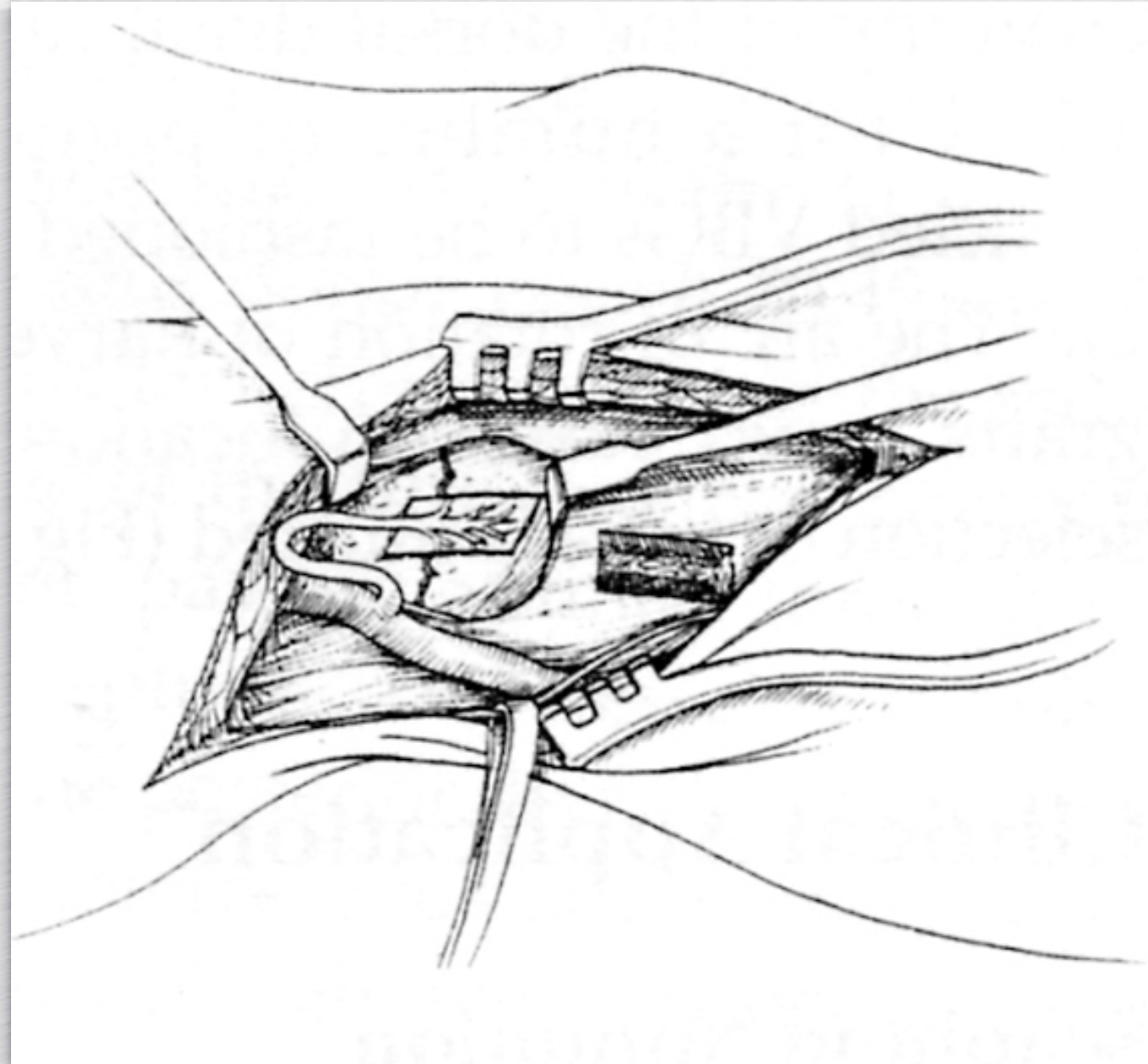
Opening of the 1st and
2nd extensor
compartments



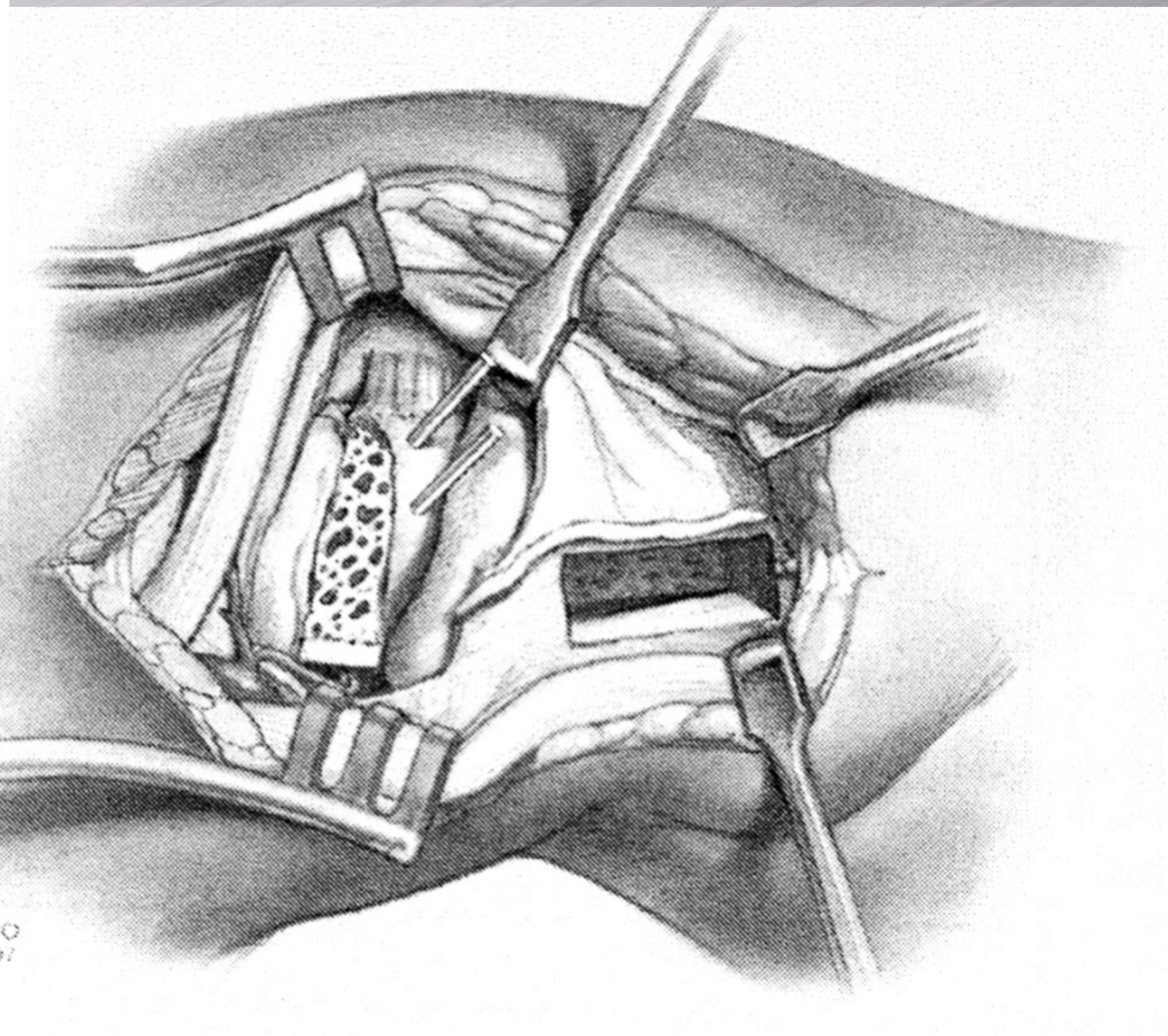
The pedicle is raised and let
attached to the capsule and
periosteum
The size of the graft is then
measured

The VBG is raised
from the radius
A styloidectomy is
performed

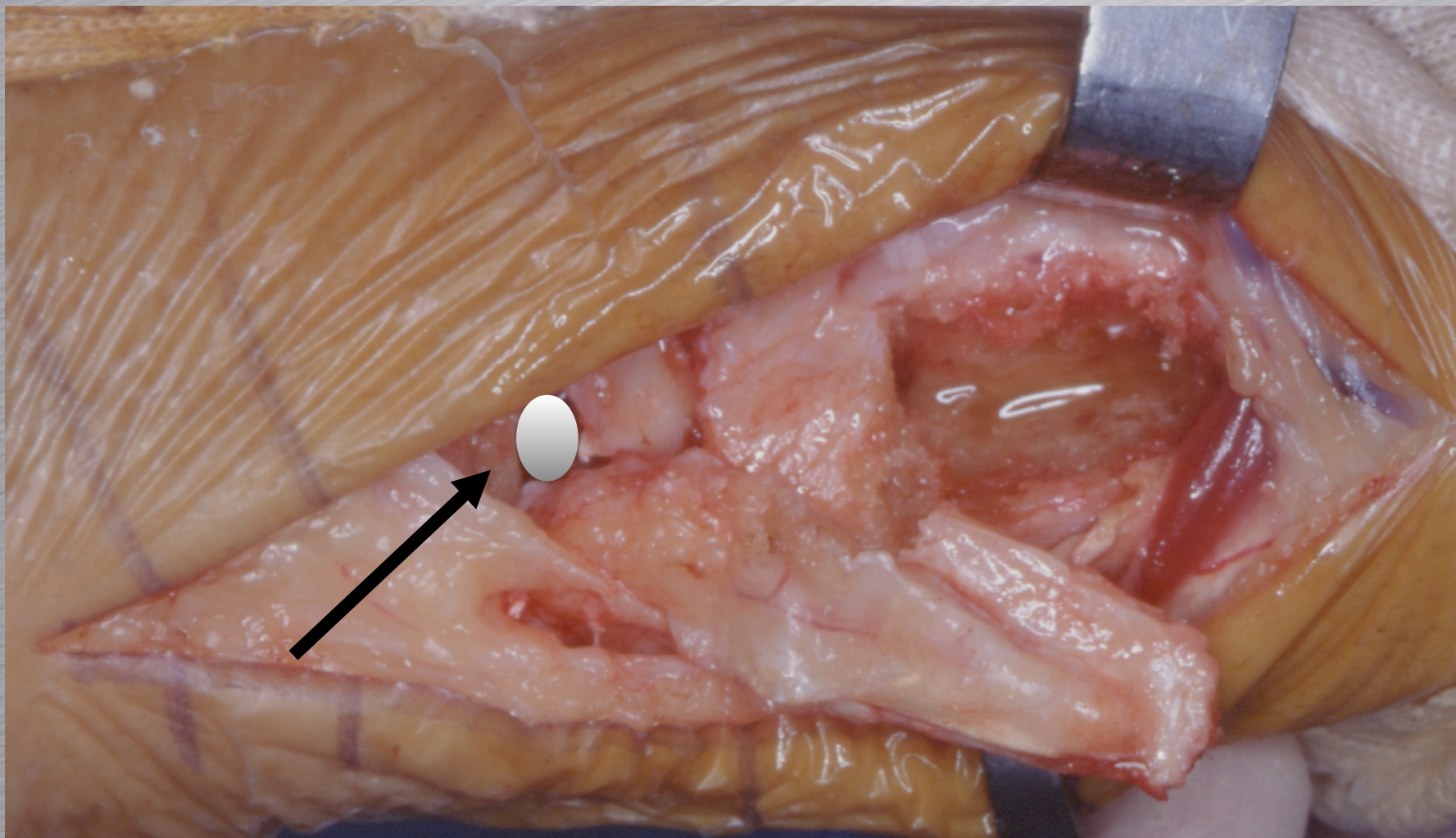




Graft is placed
longitudinally if there is
no bone loss

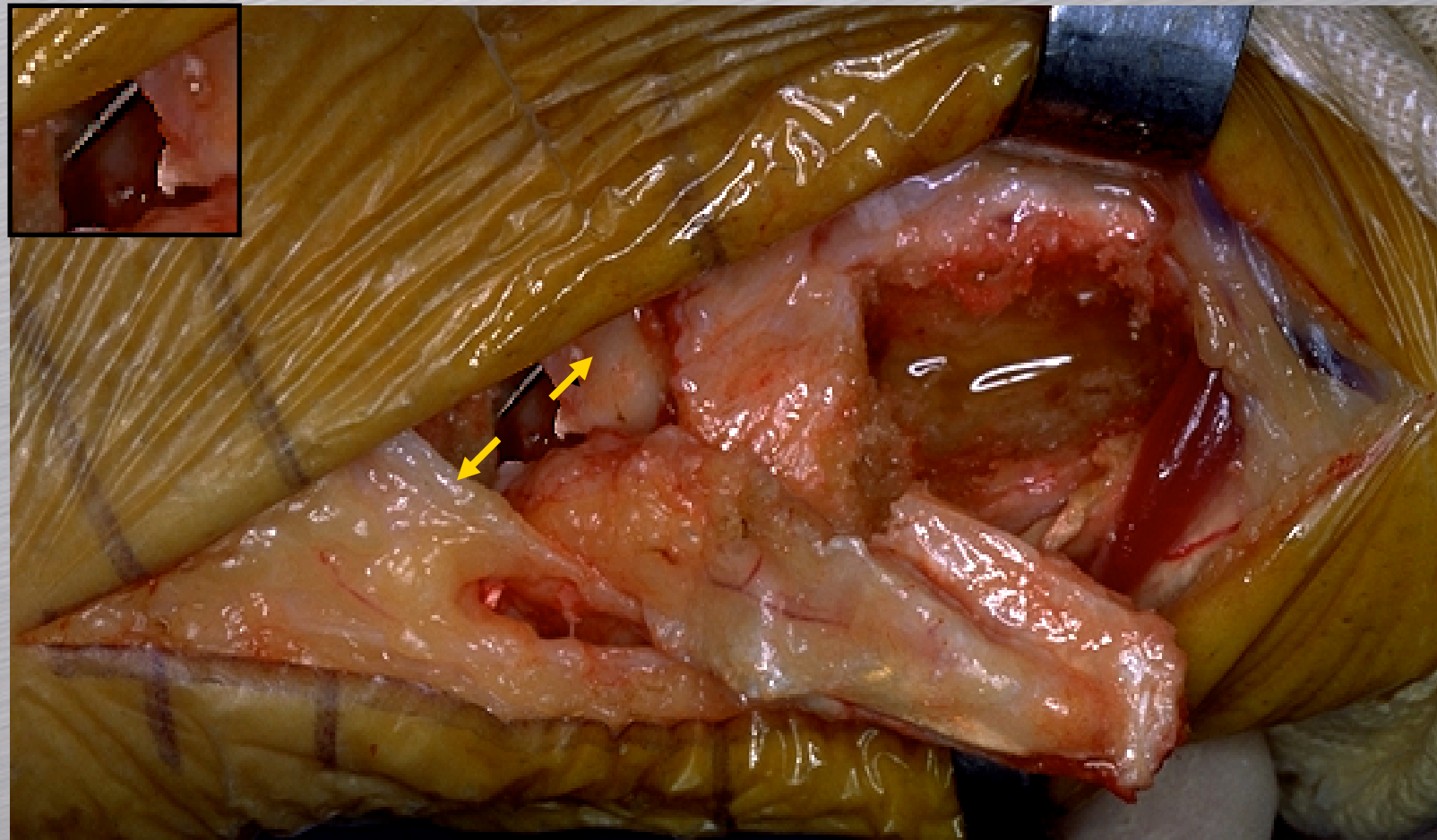


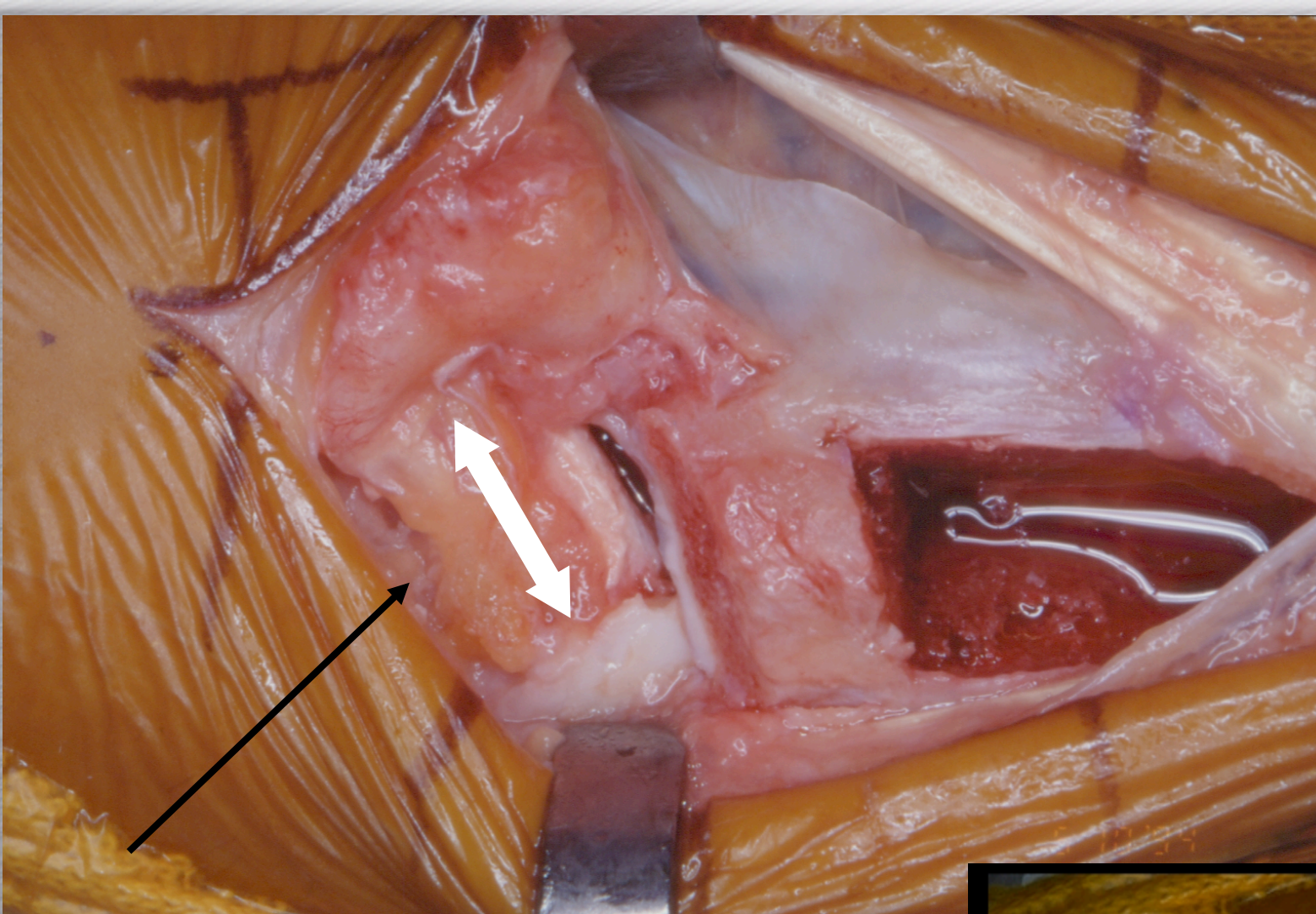
And introduced,
transversally into a
defect



K-wires are then introduced

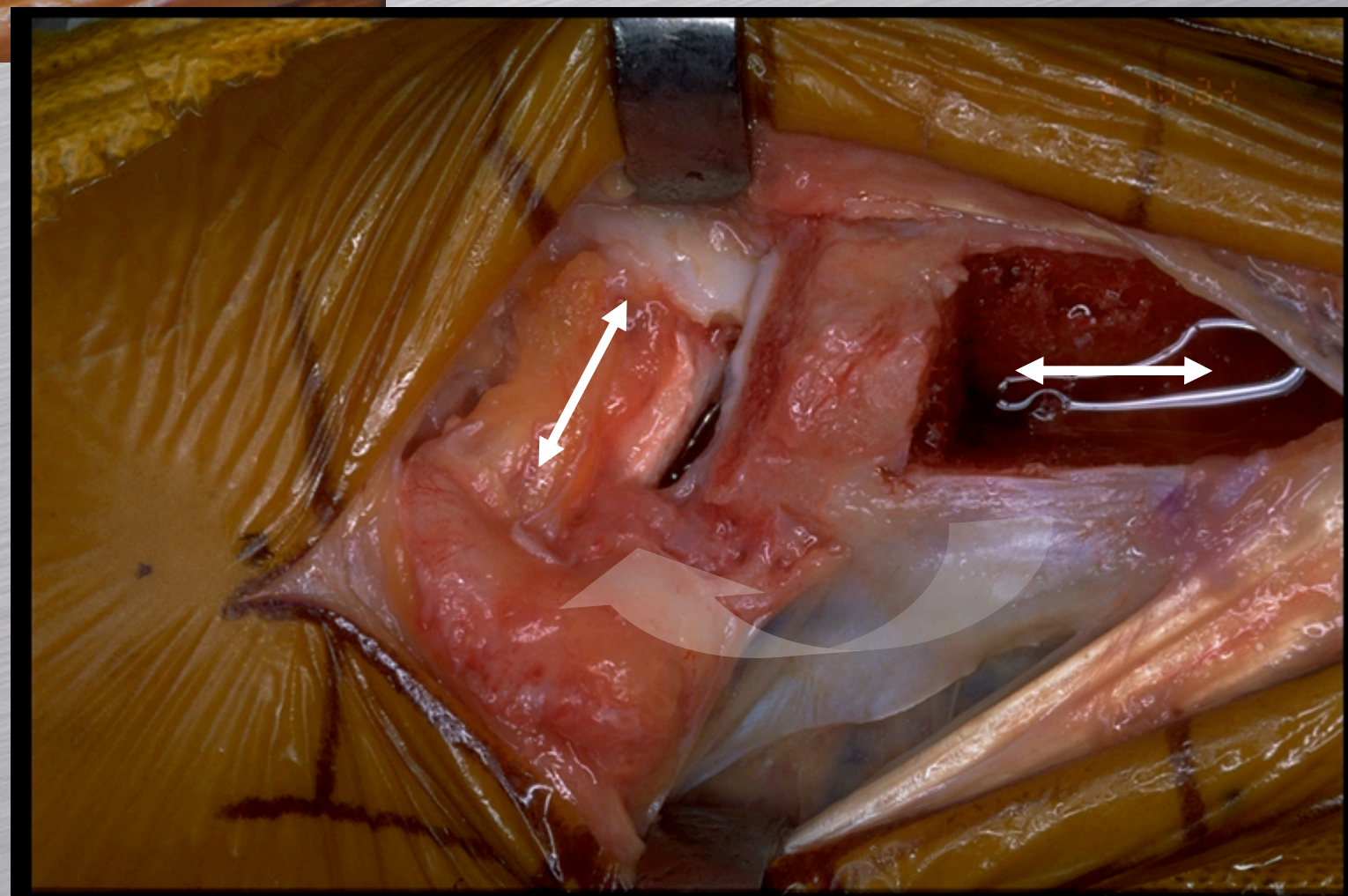
And their position controlled by direct vision in case of bone loss

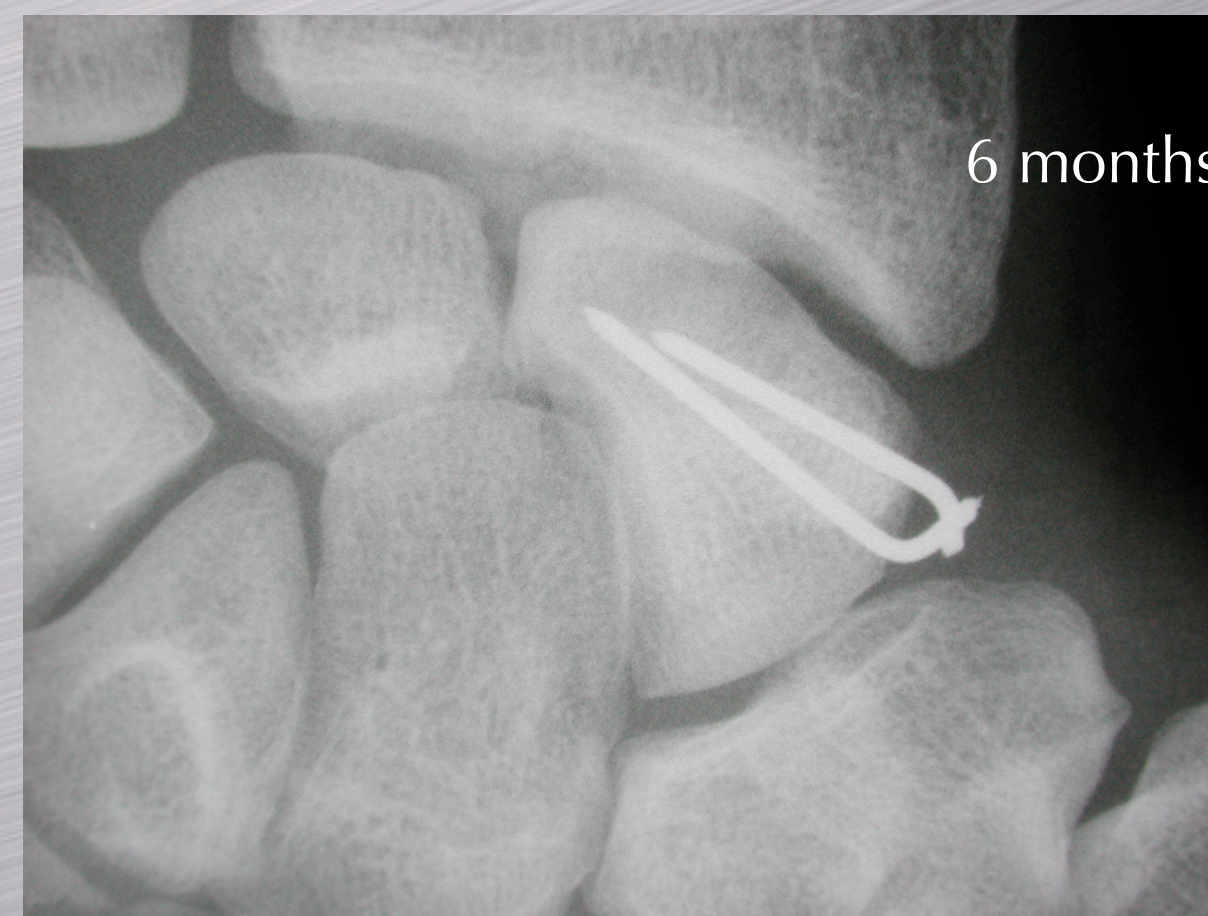
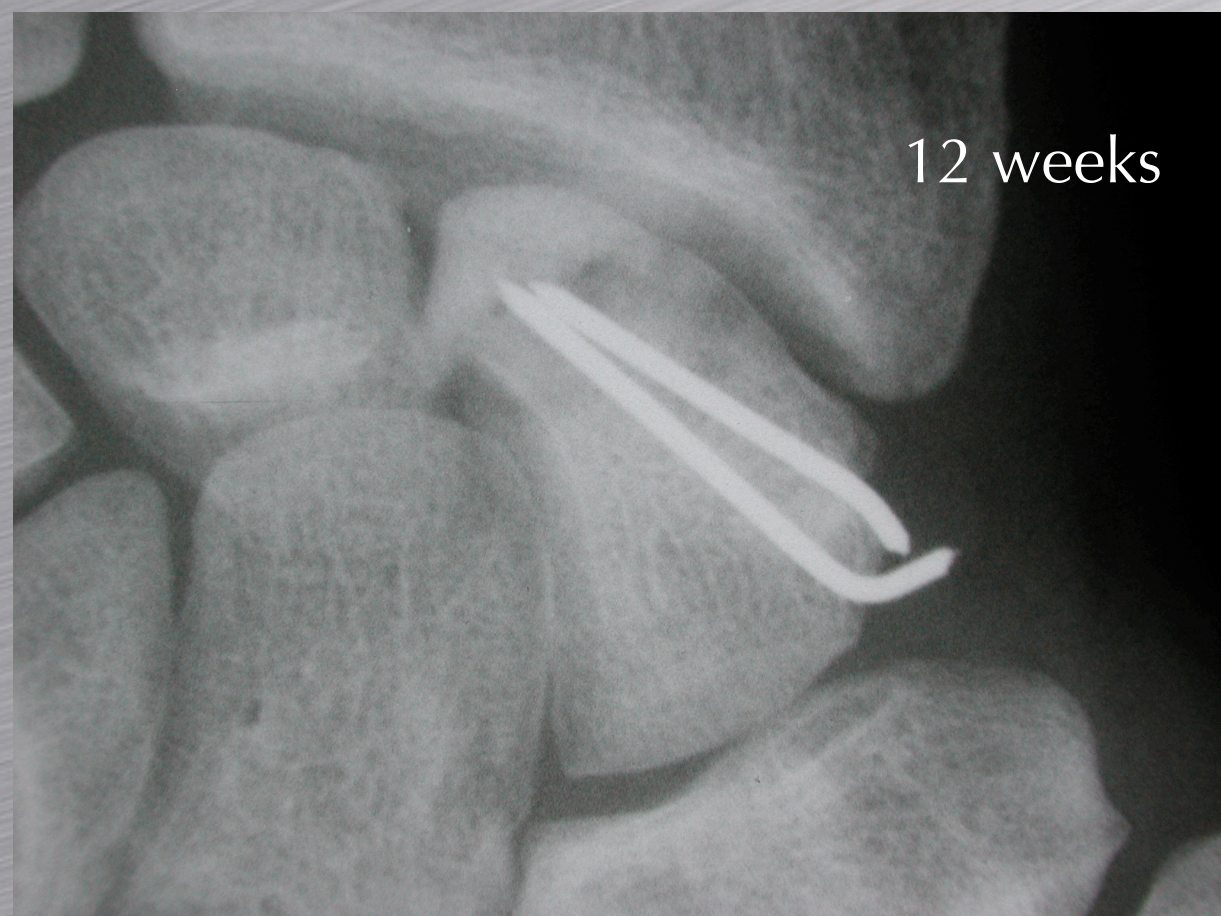
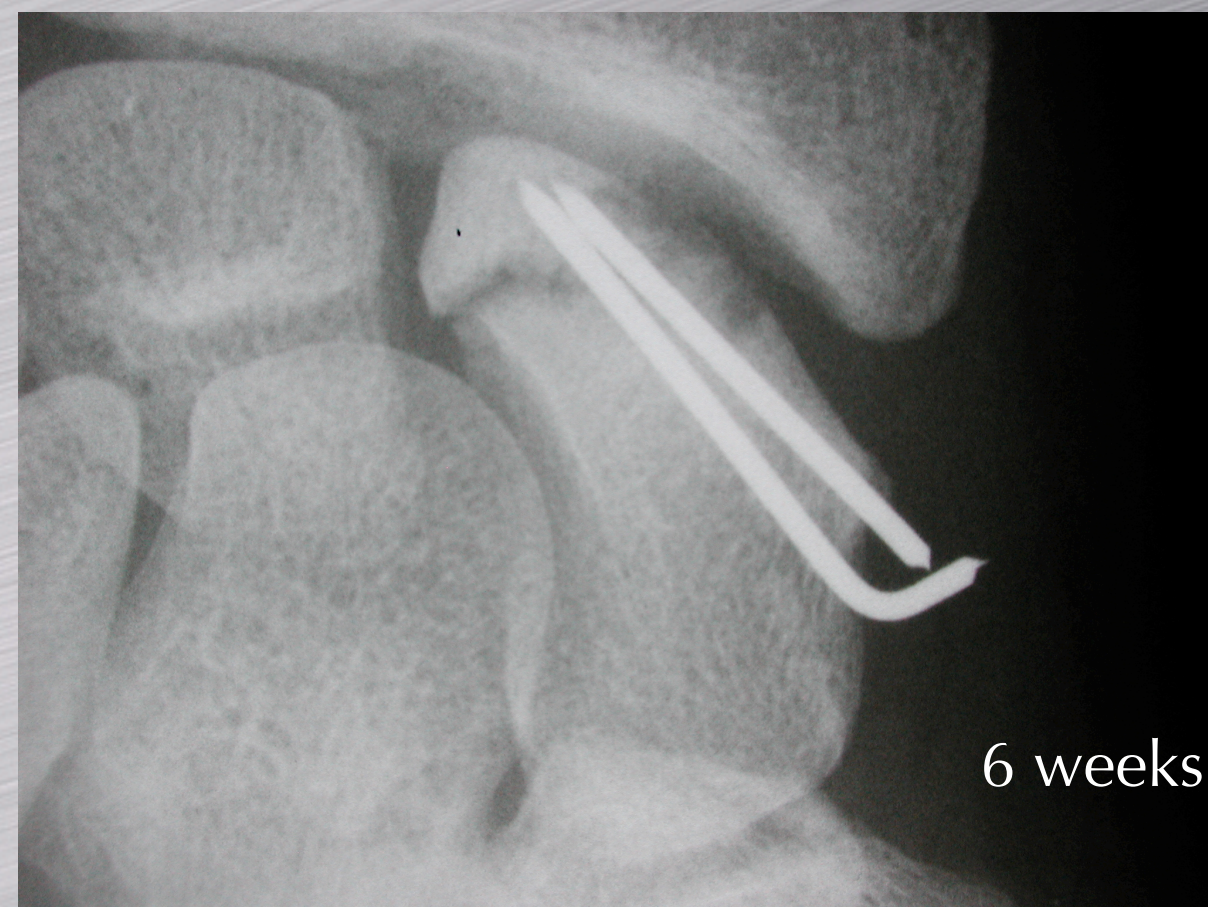




The graft is then introduced, transversally, into the defect

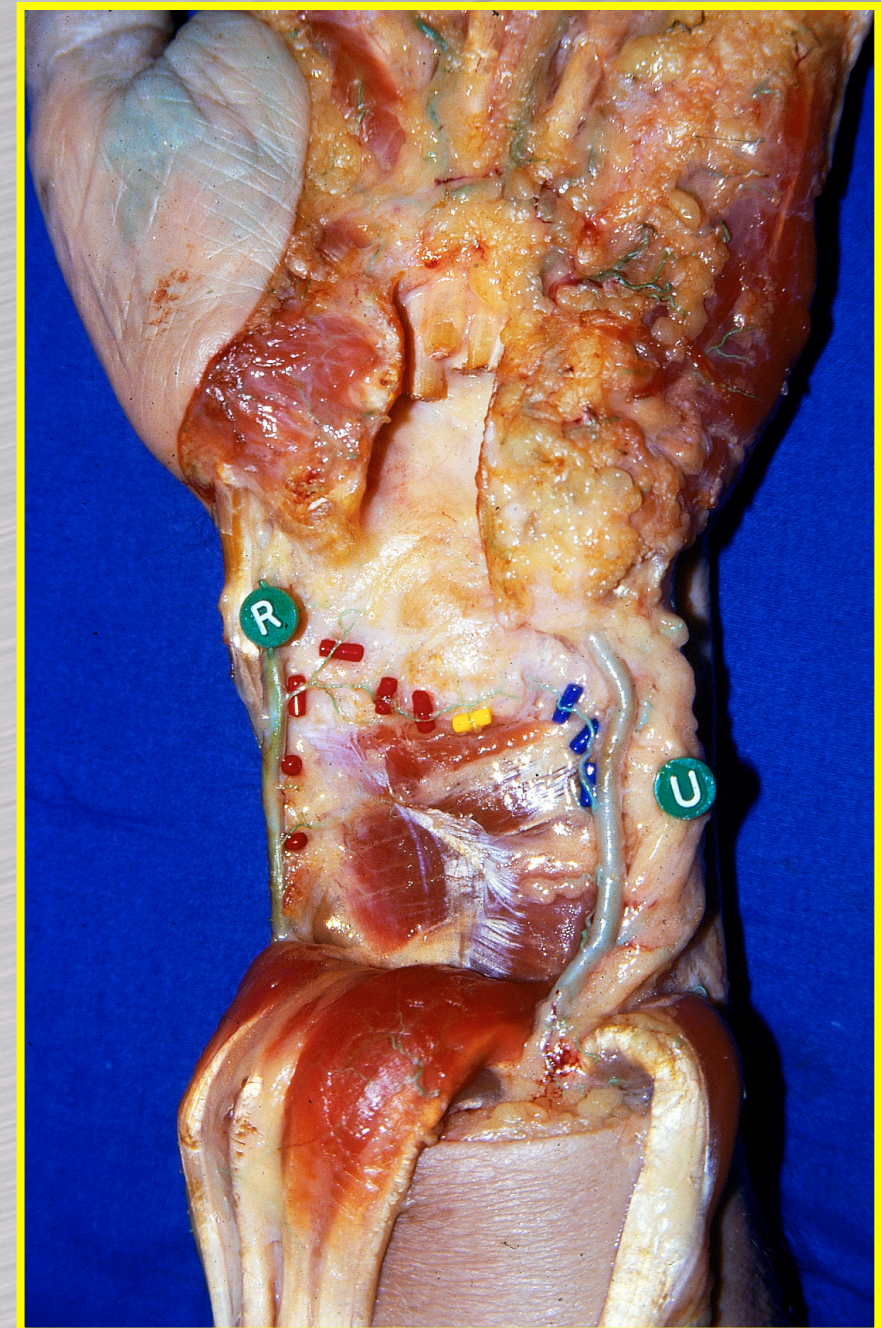
And K-wires are pushed into the proximal pole



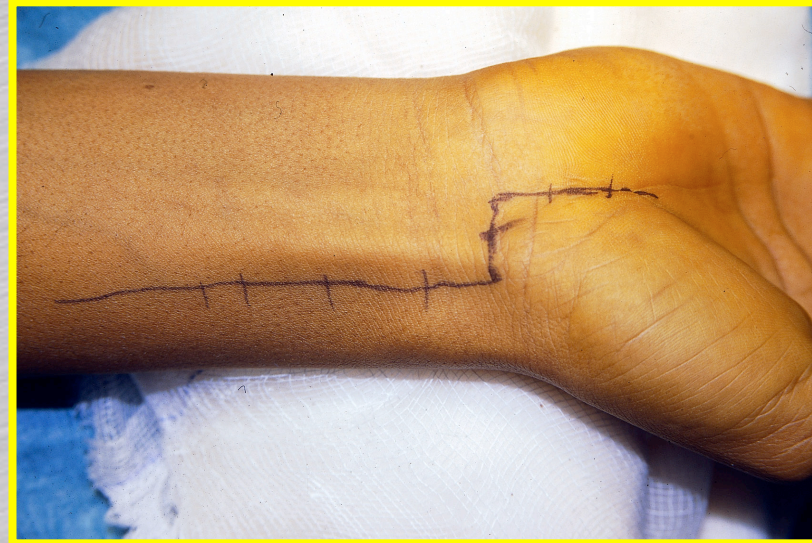
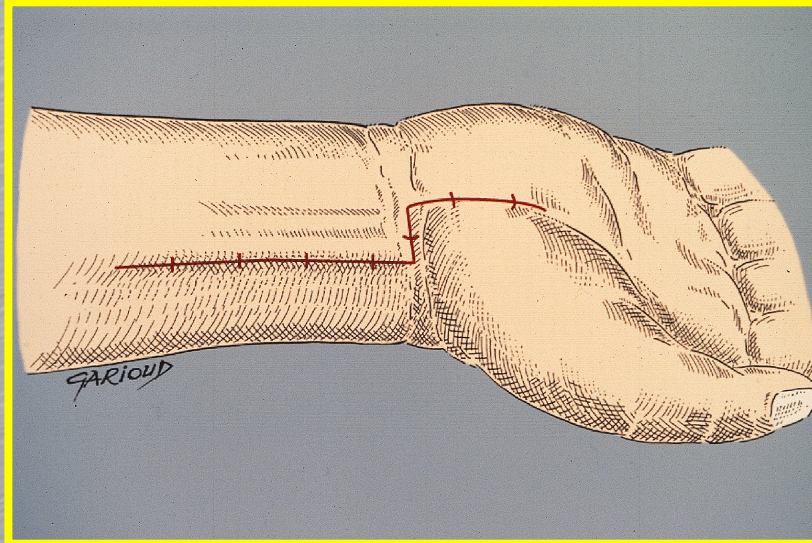


VBGs from the volar radius

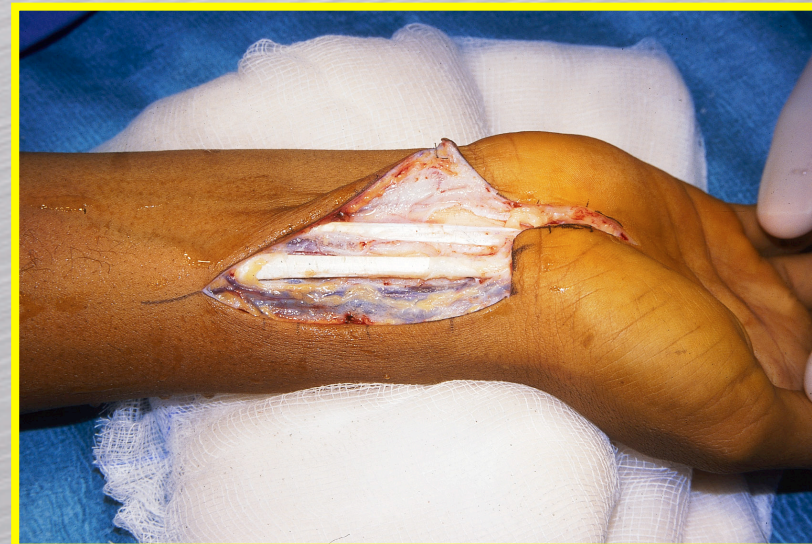
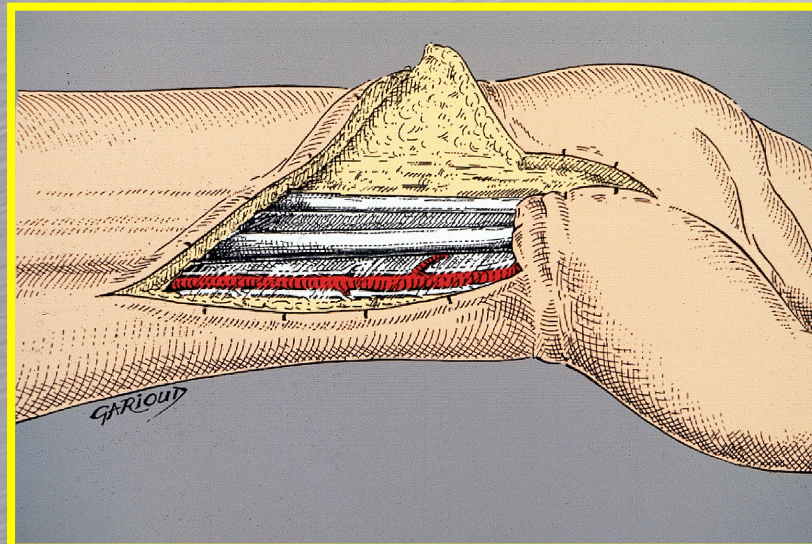
- The transverse carpal artery comes from the radial artery
- Is parallel to the distal fibers of the pronator quadratus
- And anastomoses with the anterior branch of the anterior interosseous artery and branches from the ulnar artery



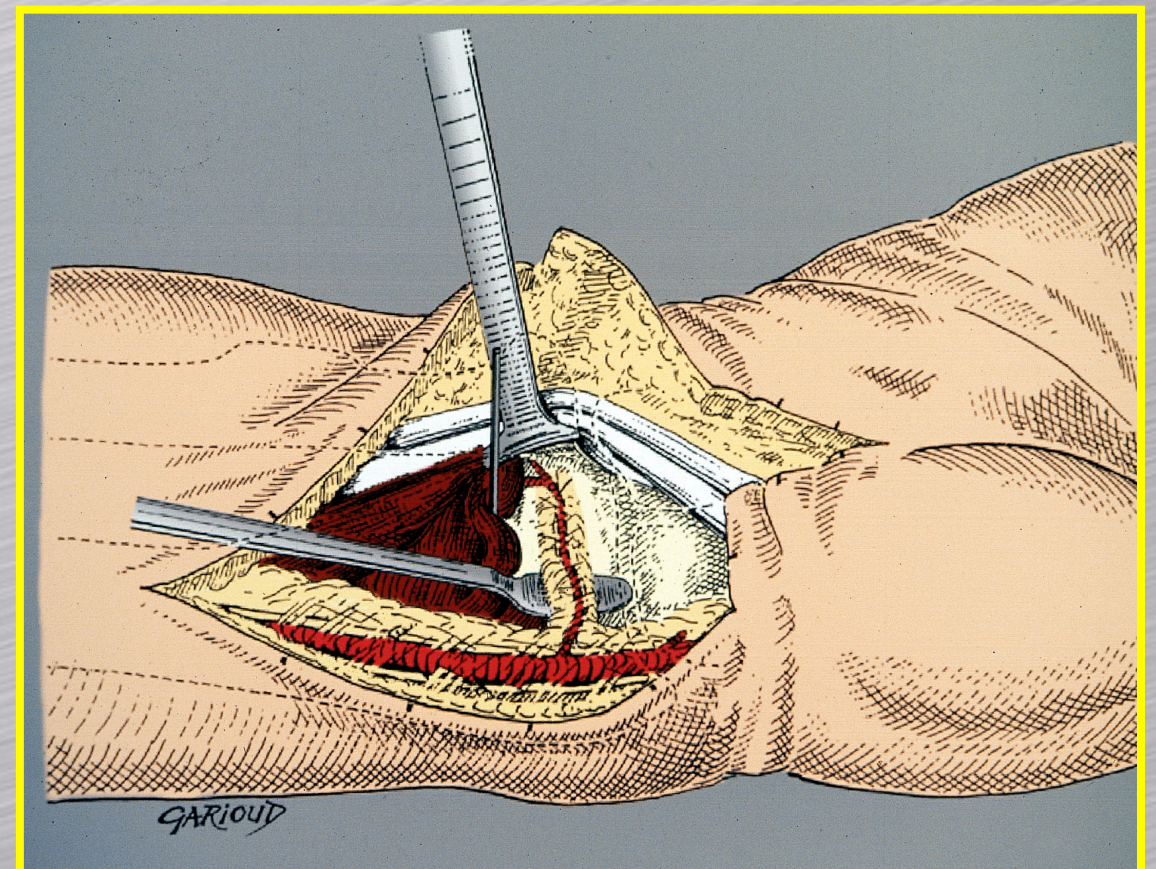
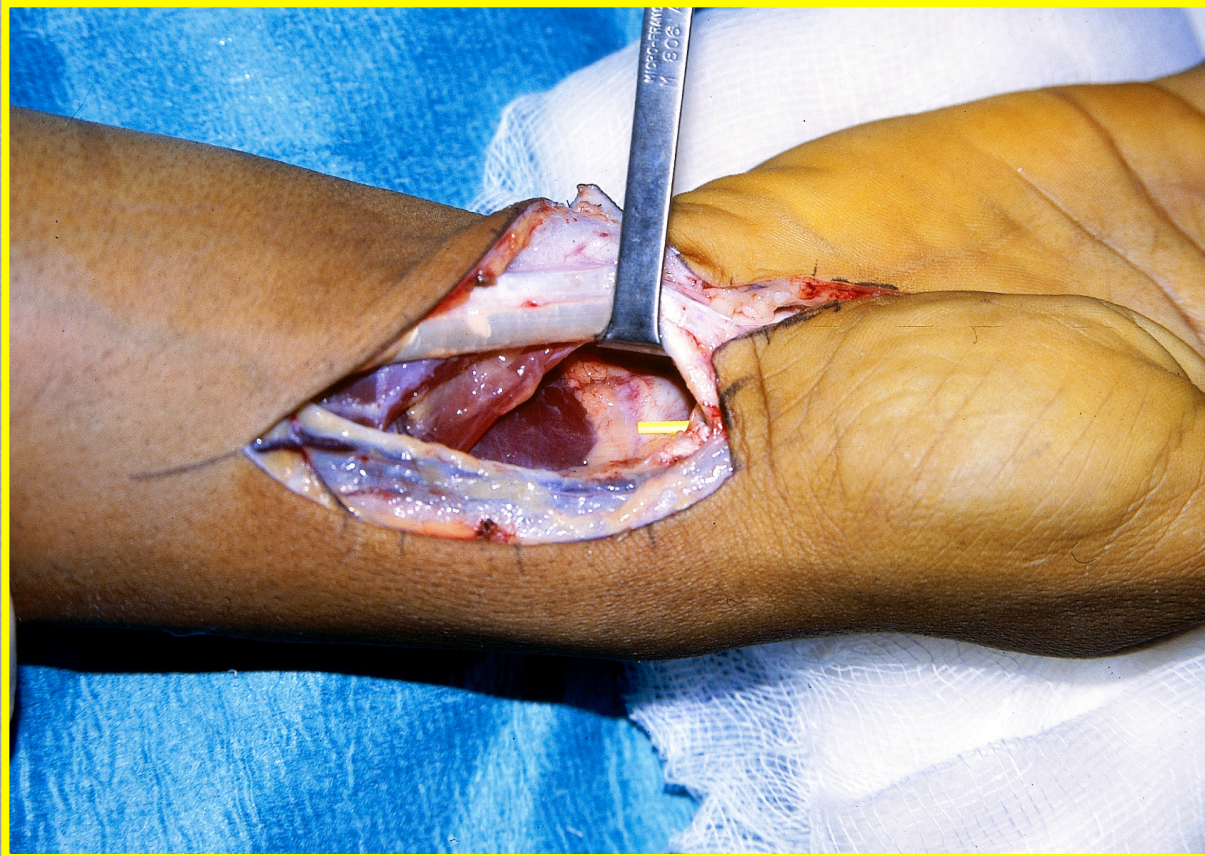
Technique



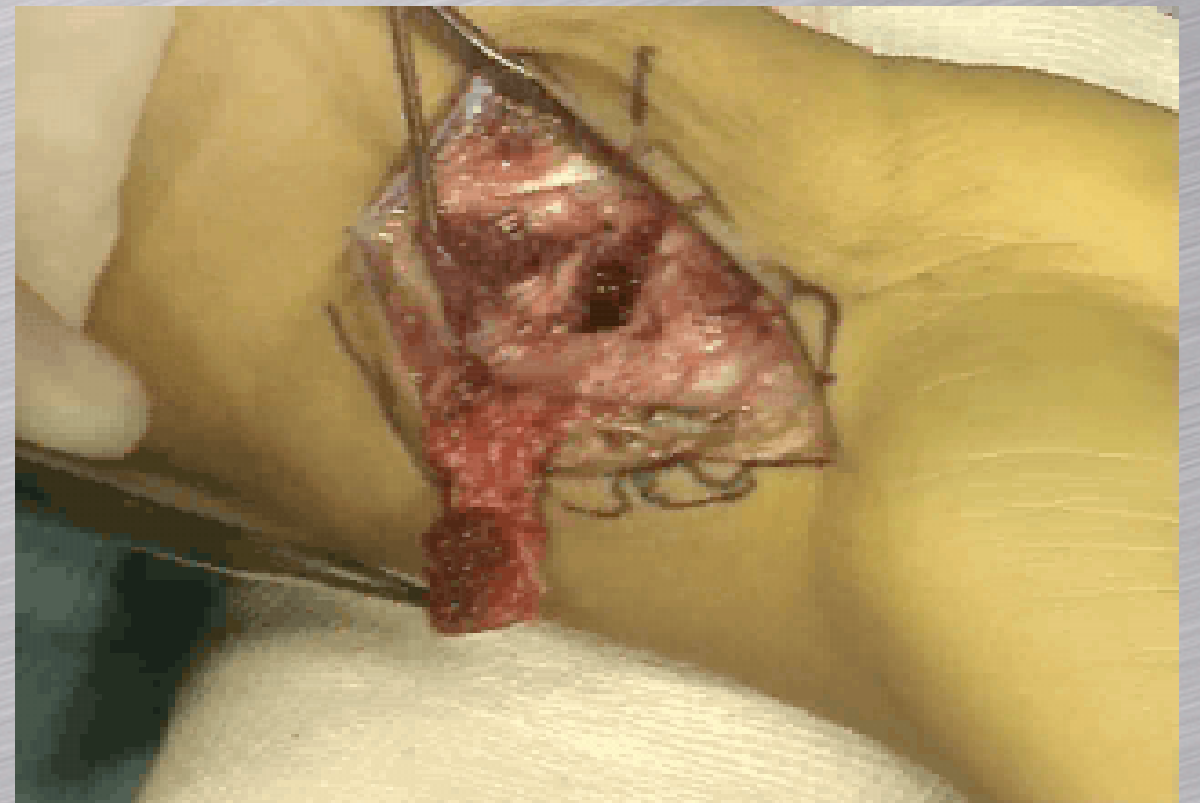
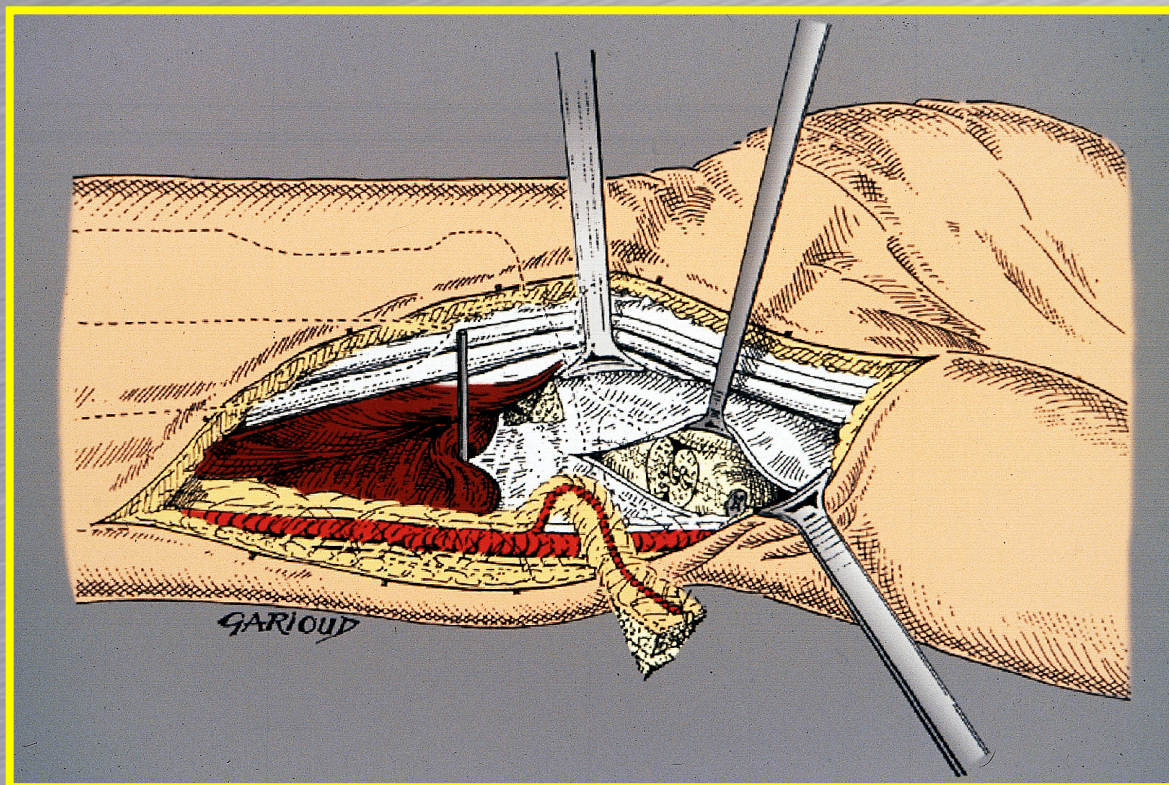
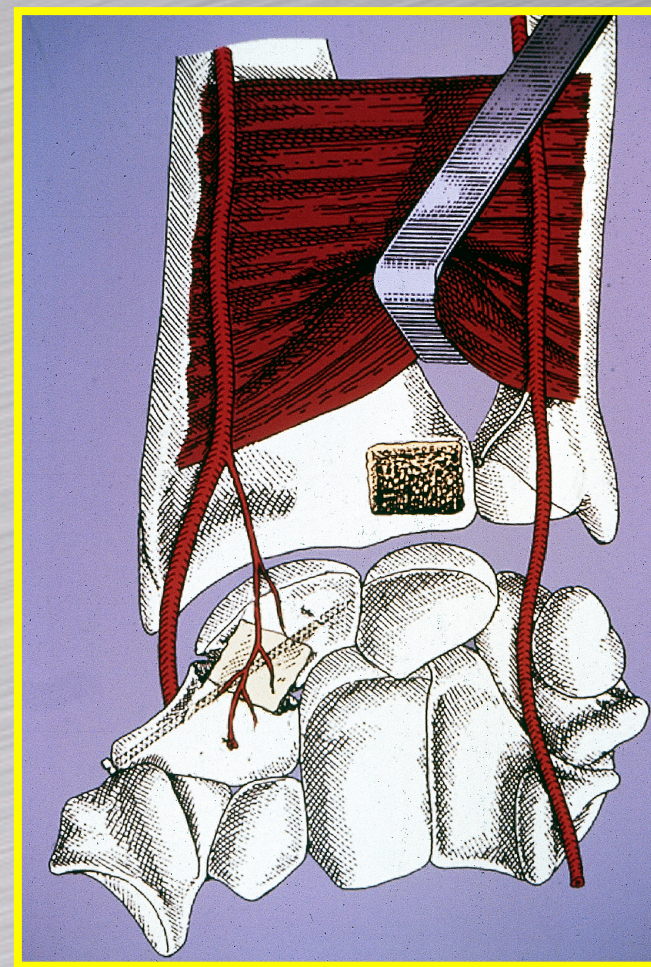
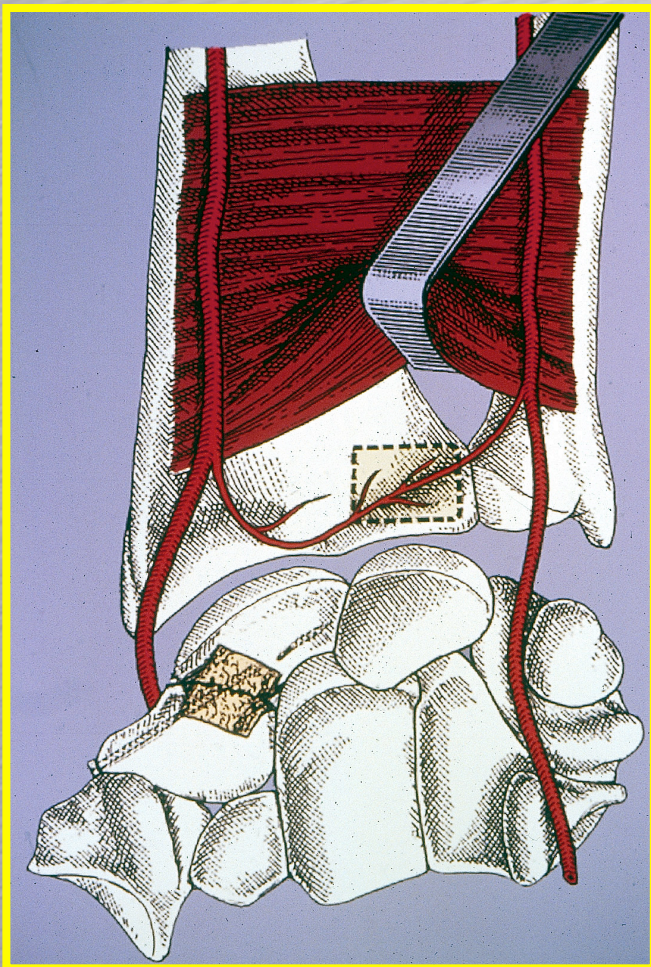
Volar Henry's approach

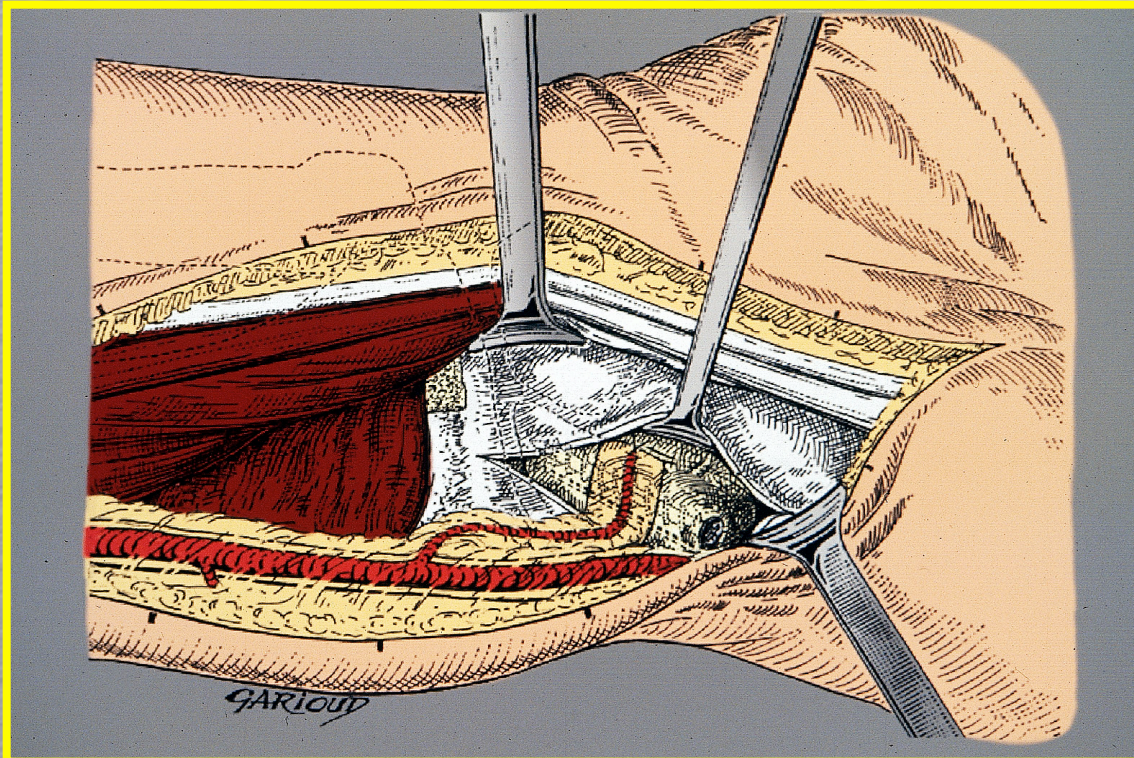


First spotting of F.C.R. and radial artery

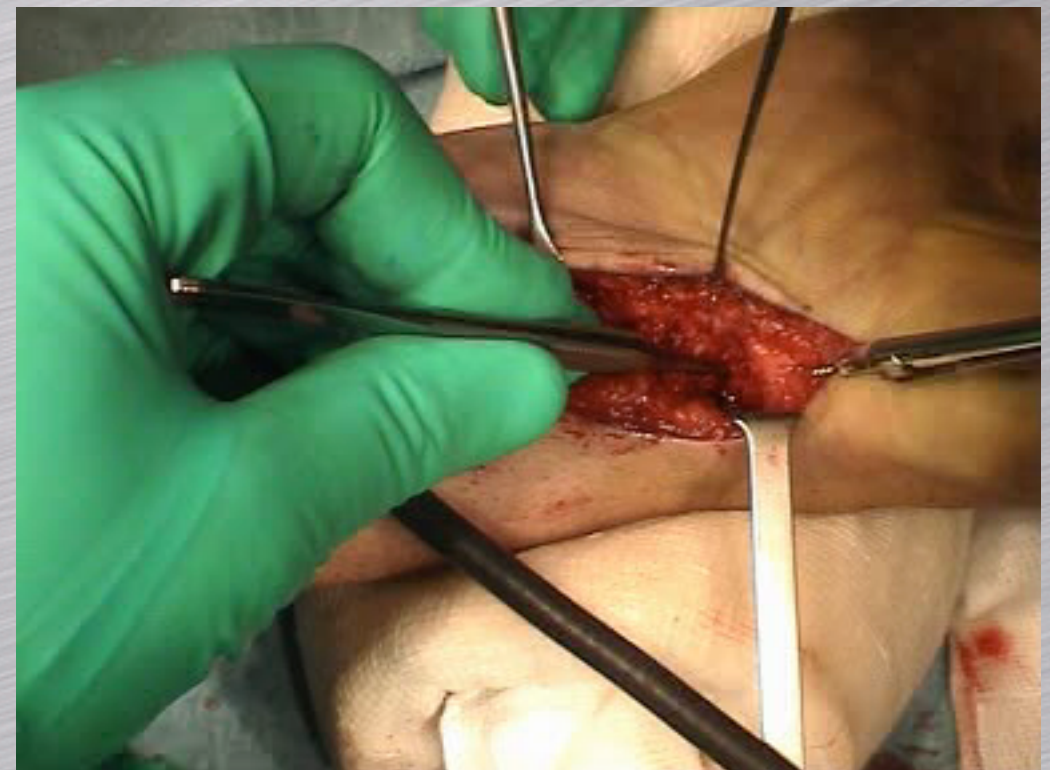






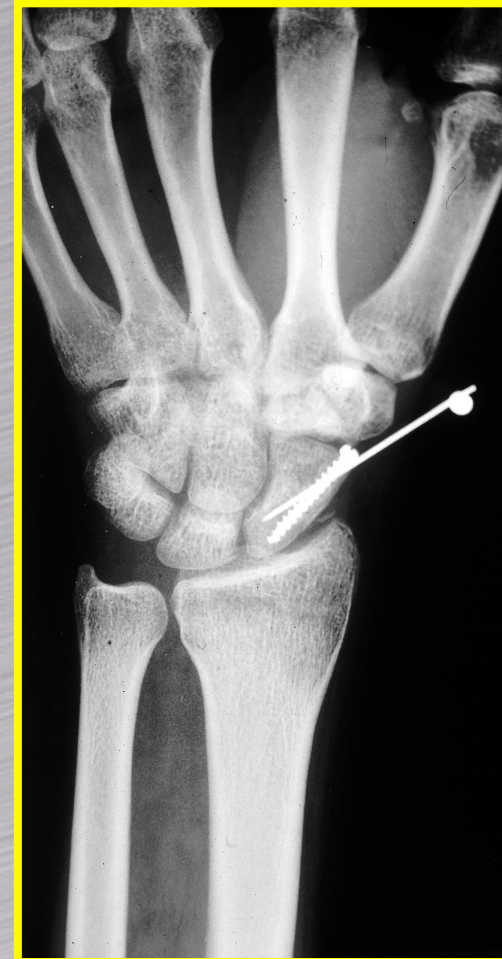


The graft is fixed by a K-wire, parallel to the scaphoid screw that is removed at 3 weeks

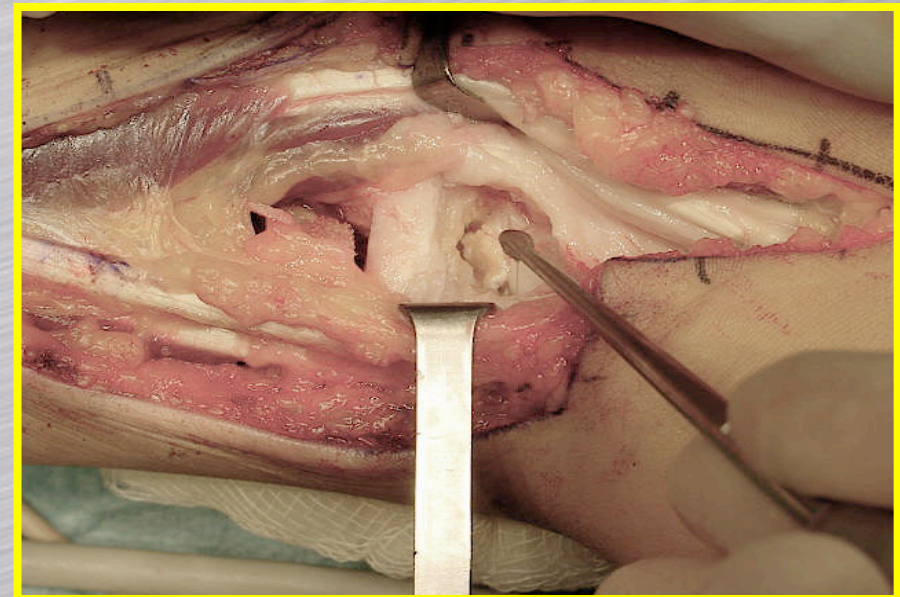
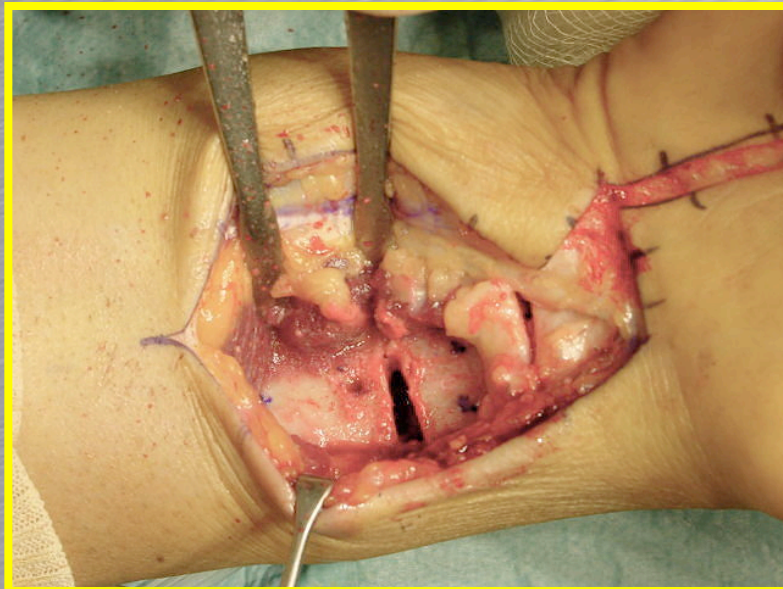
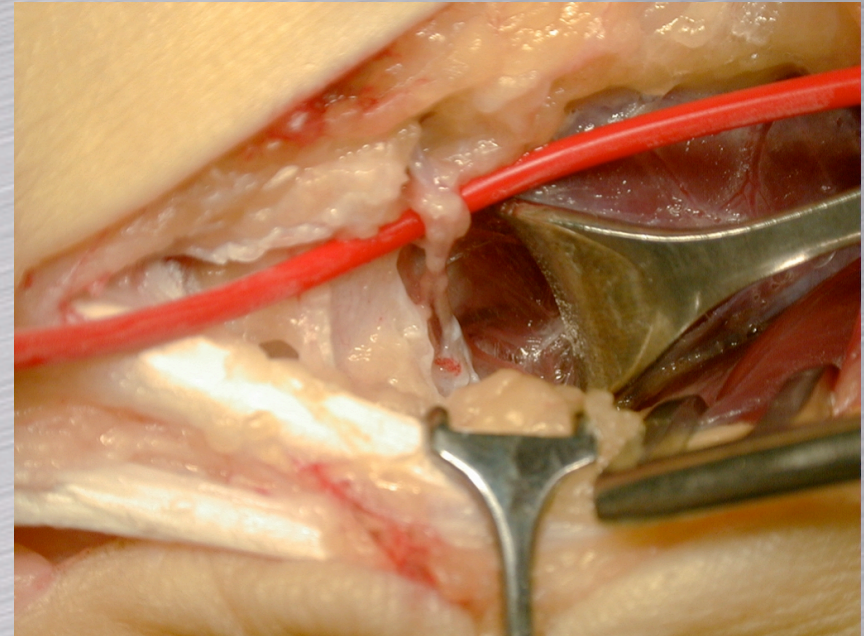
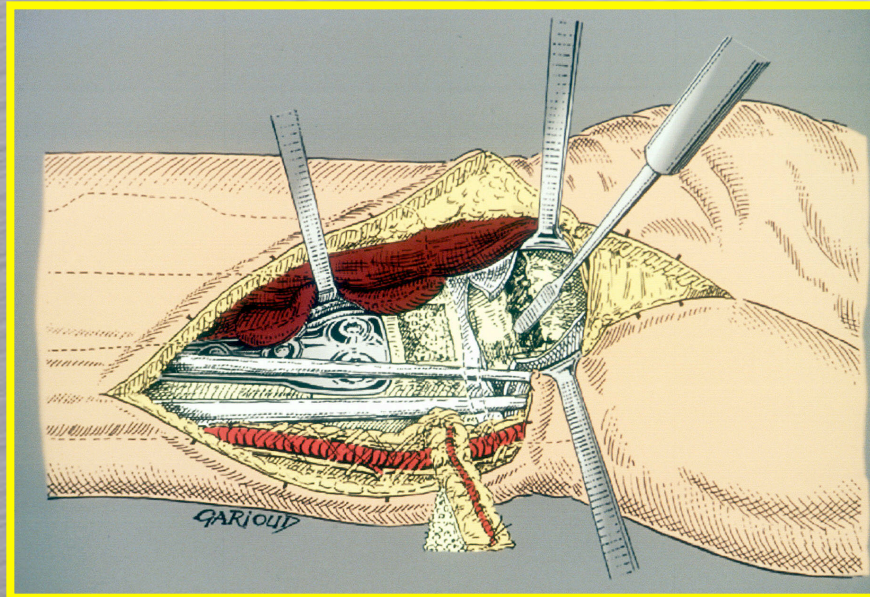




VBG from the volar
radius for scaphoid
non-union after
failed conventional
technique



Technique



Identical for Kienböck's disease

Scaphoid non-union



	Number of cases	% healing	
Mathoulin	87	93%	3 Südeck's
Saint-Cast	38	95% 87% < 12w	2 temporary paresthesiae
Steinman	14	100% (11 w)	2/3 good results
Malizos	22	100%	All improved

Scaphoid non-union



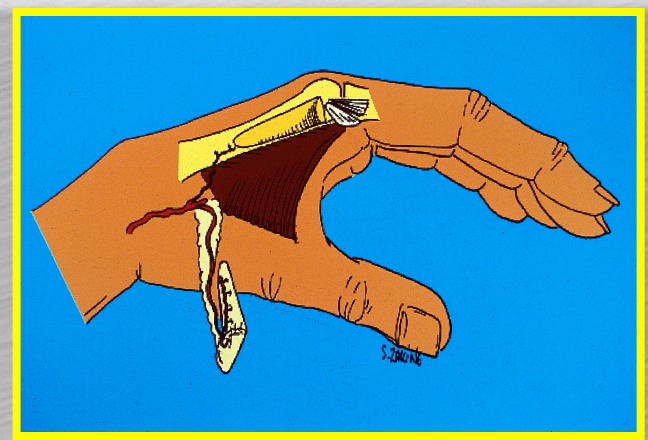
	Number of cases	% healing	
Mathoulin	87	93%	3 Südeck's
Saint-Cast	38	95% 87% < 12w	2 temporary paresthesiae
Steinman	14	100% (11 w)	2/3 good results
Malizos	22	100%	All improved
Straw	22	27%	12% if AVN proximal pole

Kienböck's disease

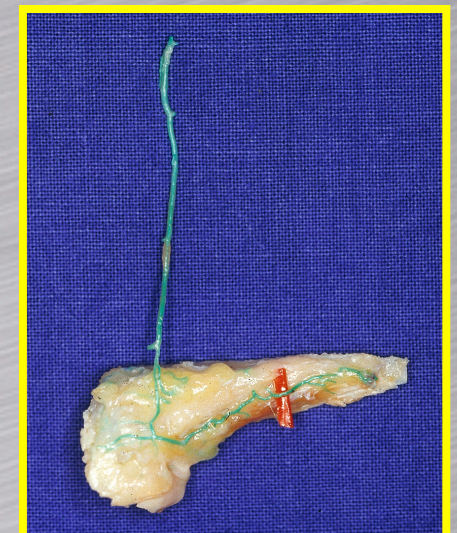


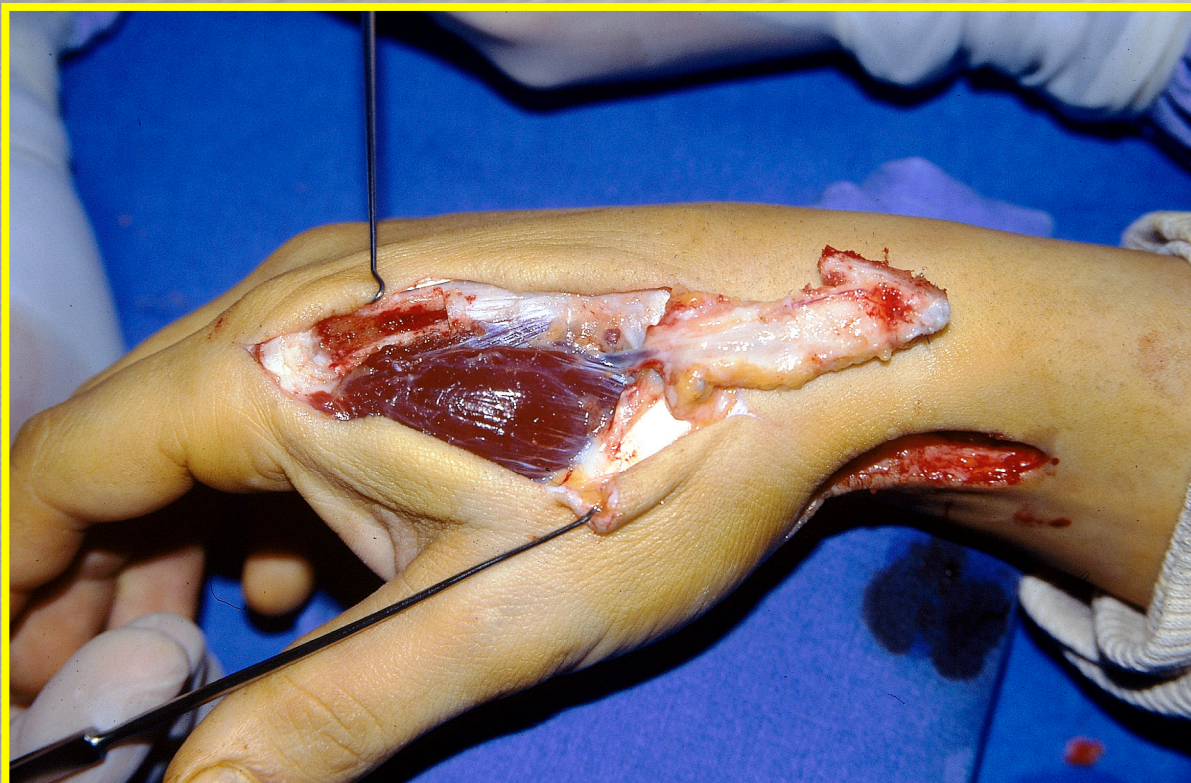
	Number of cases	% Painfree	% "healing"	
Mathoulin	22	91%	72%	23% stabilized, 5% failure
Mazur	9	?	100% at 36 months	

Other VBGs



- Part of the head of the 2nd metacarpal based on the anastomoses between the deep and superficial intermetacarpal arteries (Brunelli, 1988)





Material

- 17 patients (1988-1999), 10 males
- Mean age : 34 y.o. (26 - 44)
- Union obtained in 16 cases (1 failure)
- Average delay of union : 3 months
(range 2 to 6 months)

Complications

- No problem with 11nd métacarpal
- Radio-scaphoid arthritis : 2 cases
- Lesion of radial nerve : 2 cases
- Secondary fracture : 1 case

