Distal Bicep Rupture Referrals Pathway

1. Introduction and Who Guideline Applies to

This guideline is aimed at all health care professionals who are faced with managing Distal Biceps Ruptures.

Distal biceps tendon (DBT) conditions are a spectrum of disorders that include bicipitoradial bursitis, partial tears, acute and chronic complete tears.

In low-demand patients with complete tears, non-operative treatment may be entertained provided the patient understands the potential for residual weakness, particularly in forearm supination.

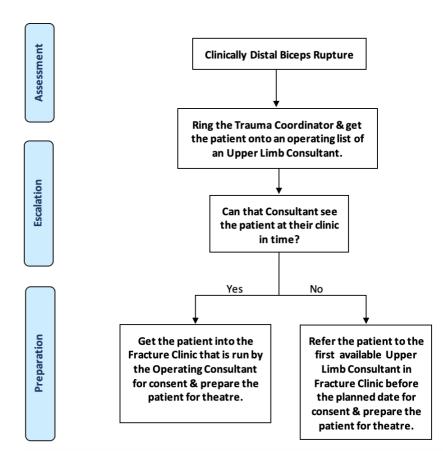
Most acute tears are best treated by urgent (<1 week) primary repair and fixation with good clinical outcomes.

Some chronic tears may be repaired, provided tendon tissue can be identified; alternatively, autograft or allograft reconstruction can be considered, and good outcomes have been reported with both techniques. (1)

2. Guideline Standards and Procedures

In all Trauma Cases perform an assessment as per the ATLS protocols with investigations dictated by the nature of the injury.

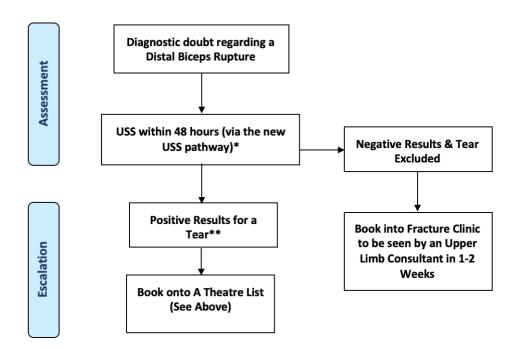
When a distal tendon biceps rupture is clinically suspected, please proceed as below:



Guideline Title: Distal Bicep Rupture UHL Orthopaedic Guideline

Approved by MSS Quality & Safety Board Approval Date 21st June 2024 Trust Ref: C9/2021

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*Request on ICE and mark as 'USS required for urgent surgical planning' (there should be a box on the form for this). Notes to be placed in triage office in the tray marked for urgent USS requests.

**USS report will come back to the mail box and will go into the PRISM box for the 'hot cons' to review.

4. Monitoring Compliance

What will be measured to monitor compliance	How will compliance be monitored	Monitoring Lead	Frequency	Reporting arrangements
Delays to Referrals & Review	No Delays in Referrals or Review	Mr Aziz Haque	6 Months	Formal Report every 6 Months

5. Supporting References

NONE

6. Key Words

Hand, Arm, Upper Limb, Trauma, Tendon Rupture, Injury, Services, Referral

CONTACT AND REVIEW DETAILS				
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Head of Service: Trauma & Orthopaedics UHL				
Written By:				
Dr Geeth Silva & Miss Alison Armstrong				
Details of Changes made during review: Awaiting Review				

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REFERENCES

 Alentorn-Geli E, Assenmacher AT, Sánchez-Sotelo J. Distal biceps tendon injuries: A clinically relevant current concepts review. EFORT Open Rev. 2017;1(9):316-324. Published 2017 Mar 13. doi:10.1302/2058-5241.1.000053