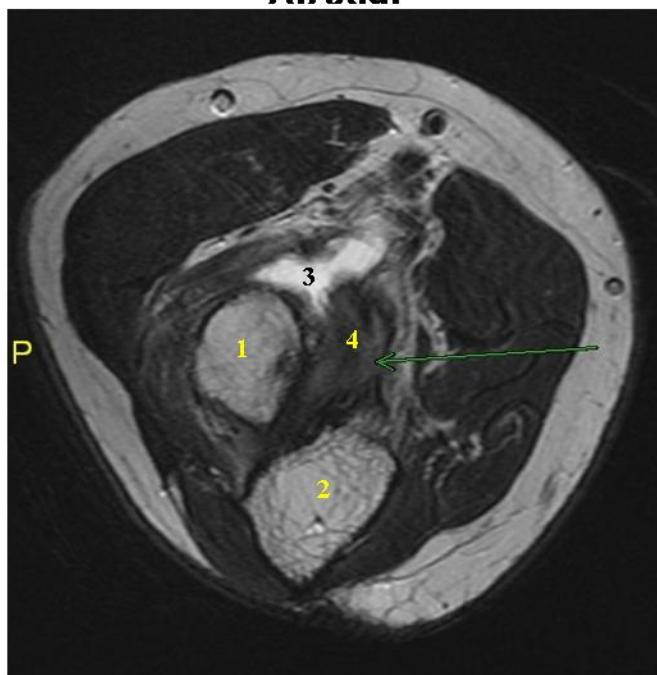


MRI: Distal Bicep Tear

History: 35-year-old athletic male with sudden "pop" while doing "curls" and acute sharp elbow pain

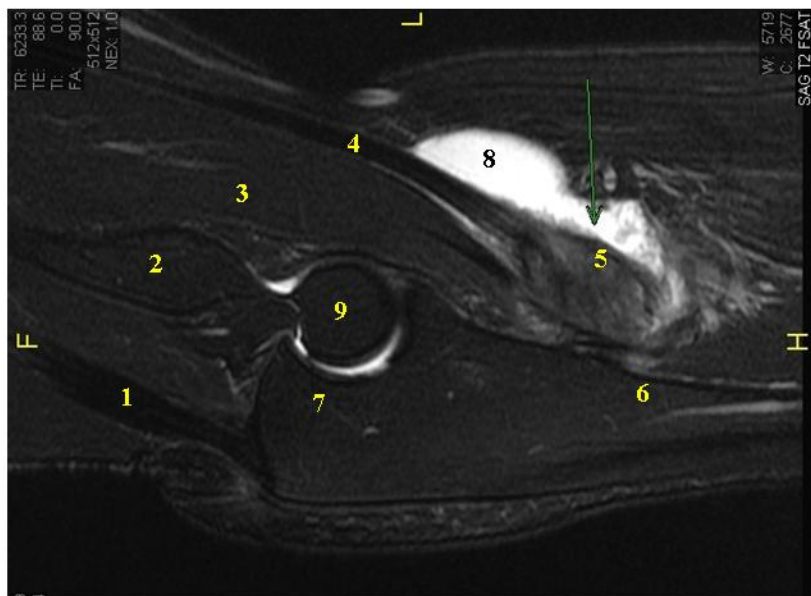
A: Axial



A: Axial

1. Proximal radius
2. Proximal ulna
3. Effusion and blood adjacent to tear
4. Torn edge of bicep tendon

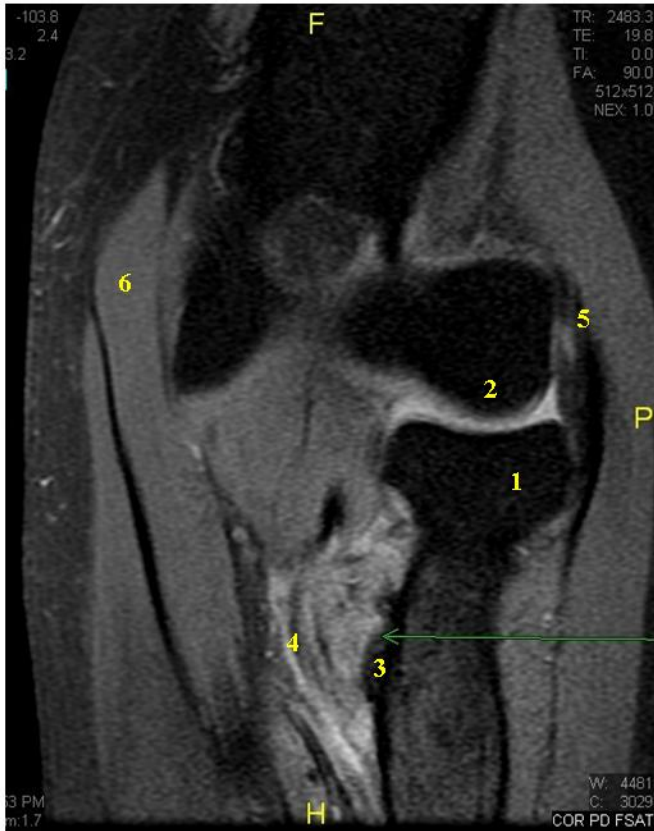
B: Sagittal



B: Sagittal (this image is fat suppressed, which is the reason for the dark image)

1. Distal triceps tendon
2. Distal humerus
3. Brachialis muscle
4. Distal bicep tendon
5. Torn distal bicep tendon
6. Proximal ulnar shaft
7. Olecranon
8. Hematoma and fluid
9. Capitellum

C: Coronal



C: Coronal

1. Radial head
2. Capitellum
3. Bicipital tubercle of proximal radius
4. Torn bicep tendon
5. Common extensor tendon
6. Flexor muscle

Diagnosis: Distal bicep tendon tear

Teaching Pont: Proximal biceps tendon tears are far more common than distal tears. Distal tears are not infrequently the late sequelae of repetitive injury or microtrauma. While a tear can be suspected clinically, MRI is very useful in determining the extent of a tear and degree of retraction of the tendon. This information is critical in deciding if surgical or conservative therapy is needed.



MAGNETIC IMAGING CENTER

When image is everything.SM

