

Abstract of Progress

THE ELMSLIE-TRILLAT PROCEDURE FOR MANAGEMENT OF
DISLOCATIONS AND SUBLUXATIONS OF THE PATELLA.

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An operation for correction of patellofemoral malalignment in acute and recurrent dislocations and subluxations of the patella was devised by Elmslie in England and popularized by Albert Trillat in France. The operation involves a lateral retinacular release, medial capsular reefing, and medial displacement of the anterior tibial tubercle hinged on a distal periosteal flap. The realignment of the patellofemoral mechanism can be evaluated adequately and adjusted easily at the time of surgery. An evaluation of 30 of the first 32 procedures performed at the Naval Regional Medical Center, Oakland, California, has been performed. The range of time between surgery and evaluation was a minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 22 months. In this series, 83% were rated as good or excellent and only 17% as fair or poor. This corresponds almost exactly to Trillat's early results. An additional 19 cases from the U. S. Naval Academy are being evaluated for a current total of 52 cases with a 6-month followup. Results are very encouraging. A larger series and longer-term followup is necessary.

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