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# Revision of the Failed Thumb Carpometacarpal Arthroplasty: A Review of 32 Patients

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**Objectives** To evaluate outcome of patients who underwent revision surgery for failed thumb CMC arthroplasty

**Methods** 32 pts F:24, M:8  
mean Age: 57.7 yrs (42 - 64yrs)  
mean interval time to revision: 41 m (6-133m)

**Revision surgery:**

- Distraction pinning: 32/32 pts
- Tendon / Allograft interposition: 32/32 pts
- Ligament reconstruction: 23/32 pts
- Partial trapezoid excision: 11/32 pts
- Metacarpal phalangeal joint fusion: 8/32 pts

**Results**

mean F-up: 57 mo  
(24-121mo)

- Functional results:  
27 good & 5 fair
- No significant difference in the functional outcome in regards to the method of revision surgery all in combination with distraction pinning

mean	pre-op	post-op
Pain (VAS score)	7.2	0.7
Grip Strength (Kg)	17	21.4
Pinch Strength (Kg)	3.2	4.6
Thumb radial Abduction (degrees)	61	67
Thumb palmar Abduction (degrees)	57	61

**Conclusions**

- For failed thumb CMC arthroplasty:  
Revision surgery with
- soft tissue interposition
  - +/- ligament reconstruction
  - & distraction pinning
- Provides pain relief
  - Improves grip & key pinch strength
  - Provides satisfactory functional results

Cas F 57y

