



The Hips Don't Lie:

*Assessment and
Treatment of Pelvic
Injuries*

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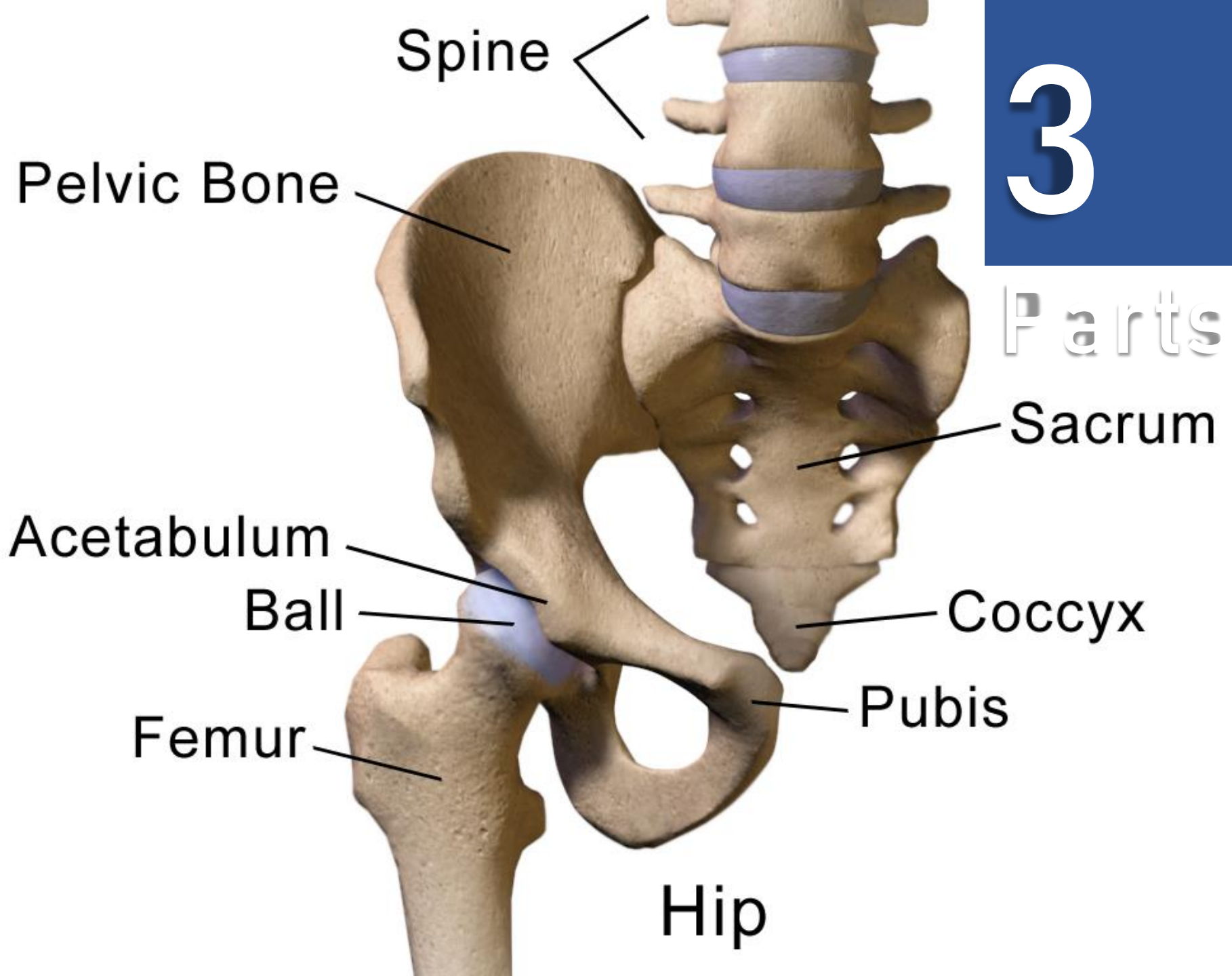
The pelvis is a ring



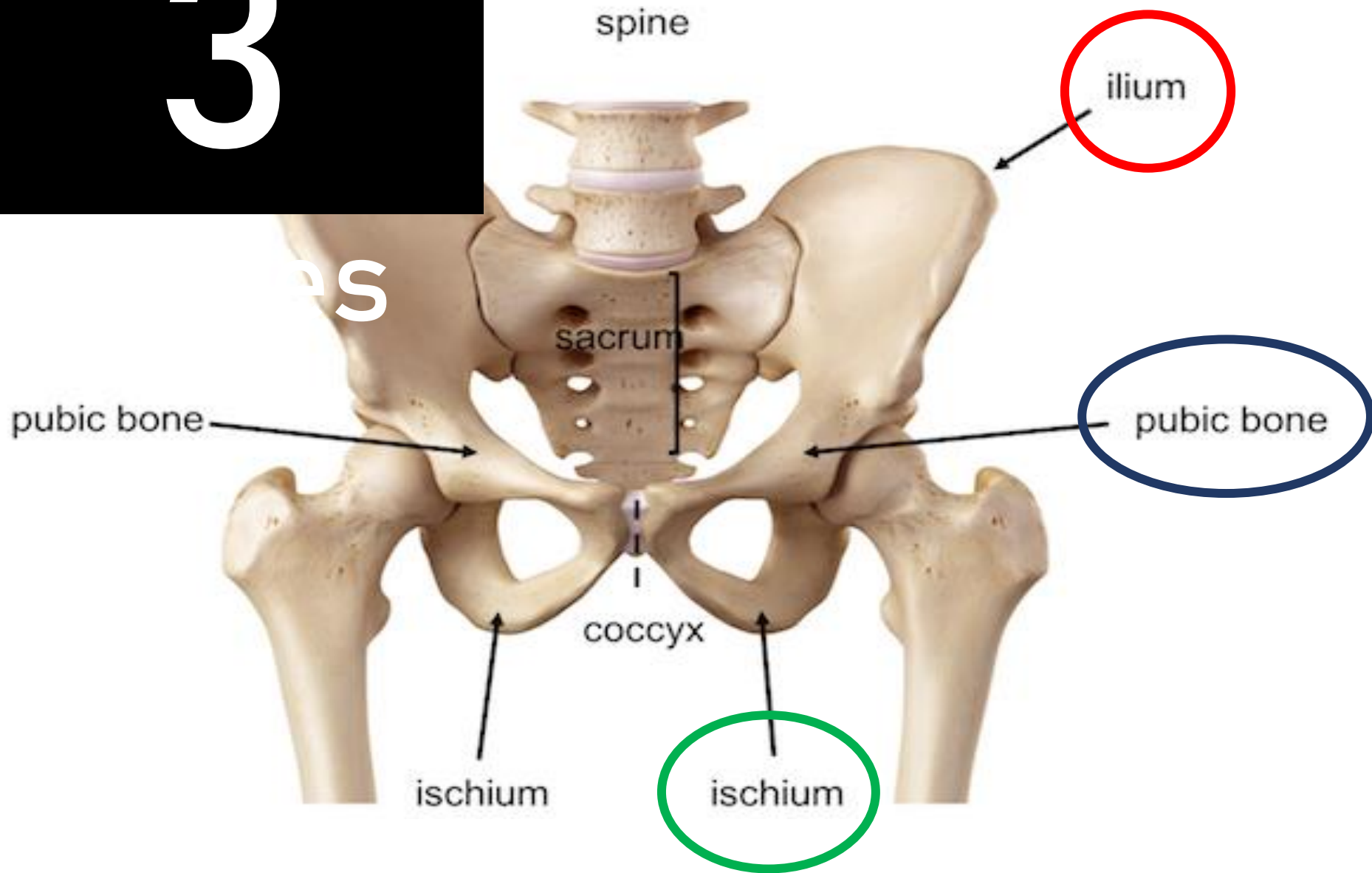
amphiarthrotic

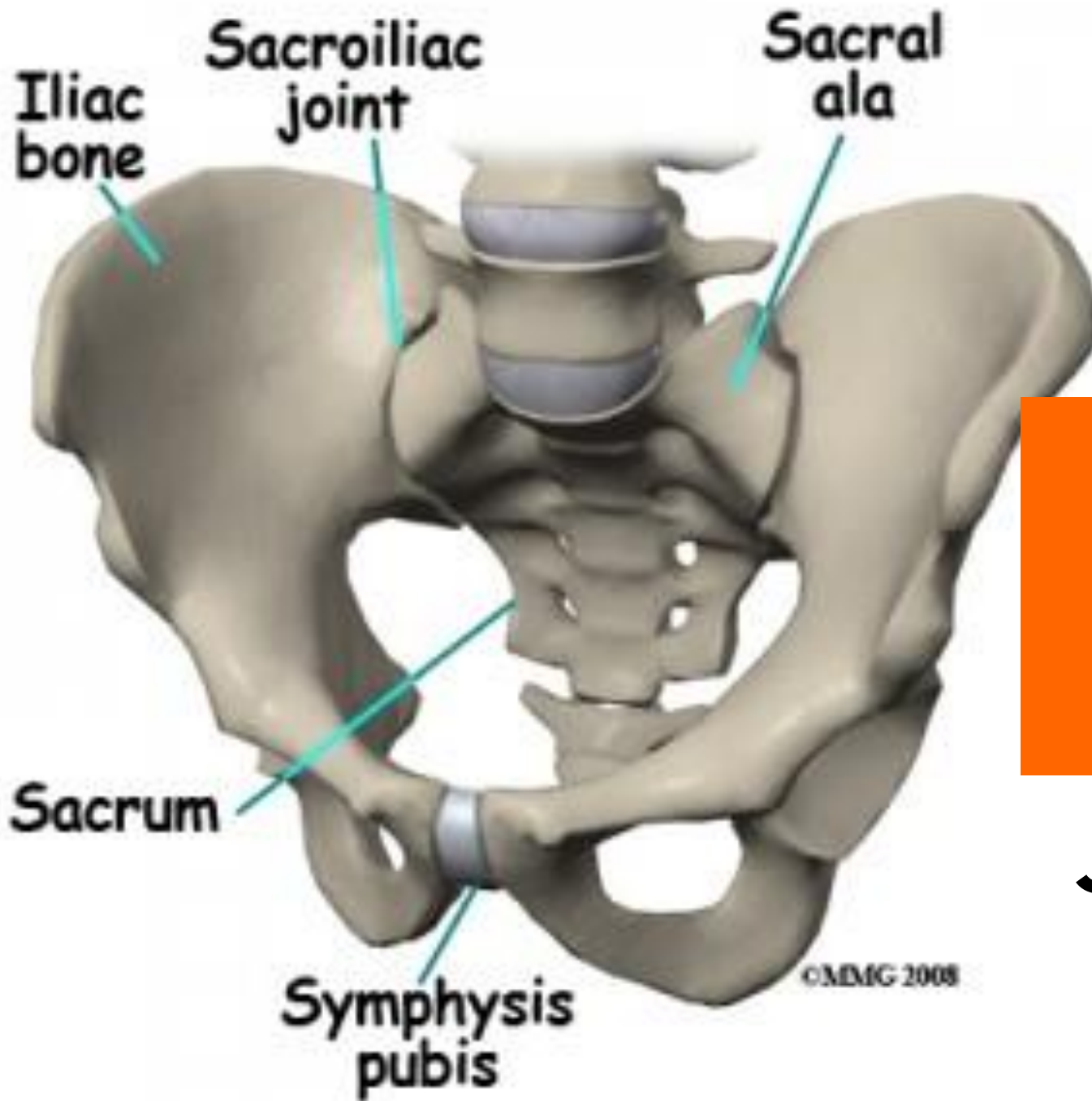
3

Parts



3



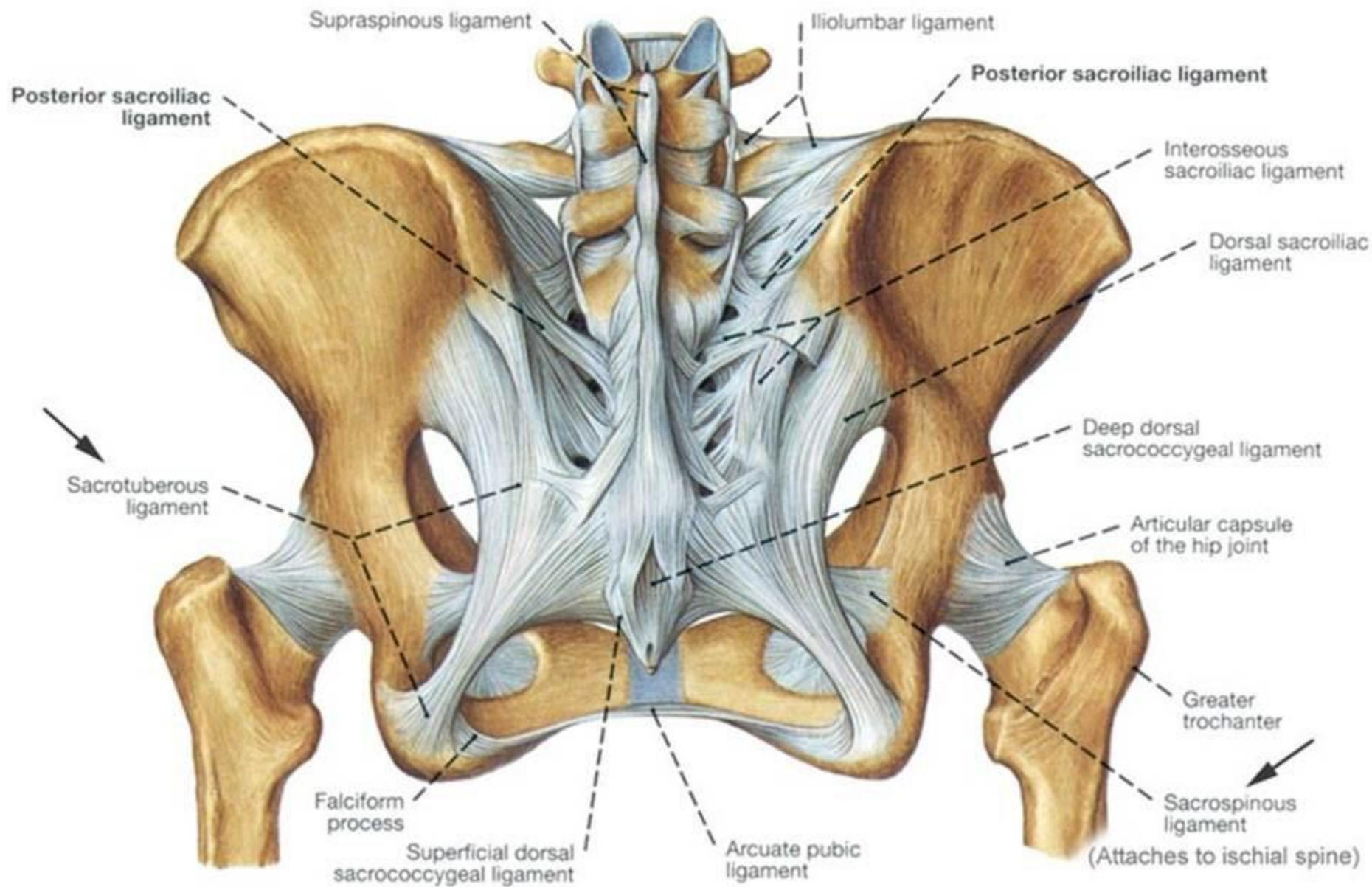


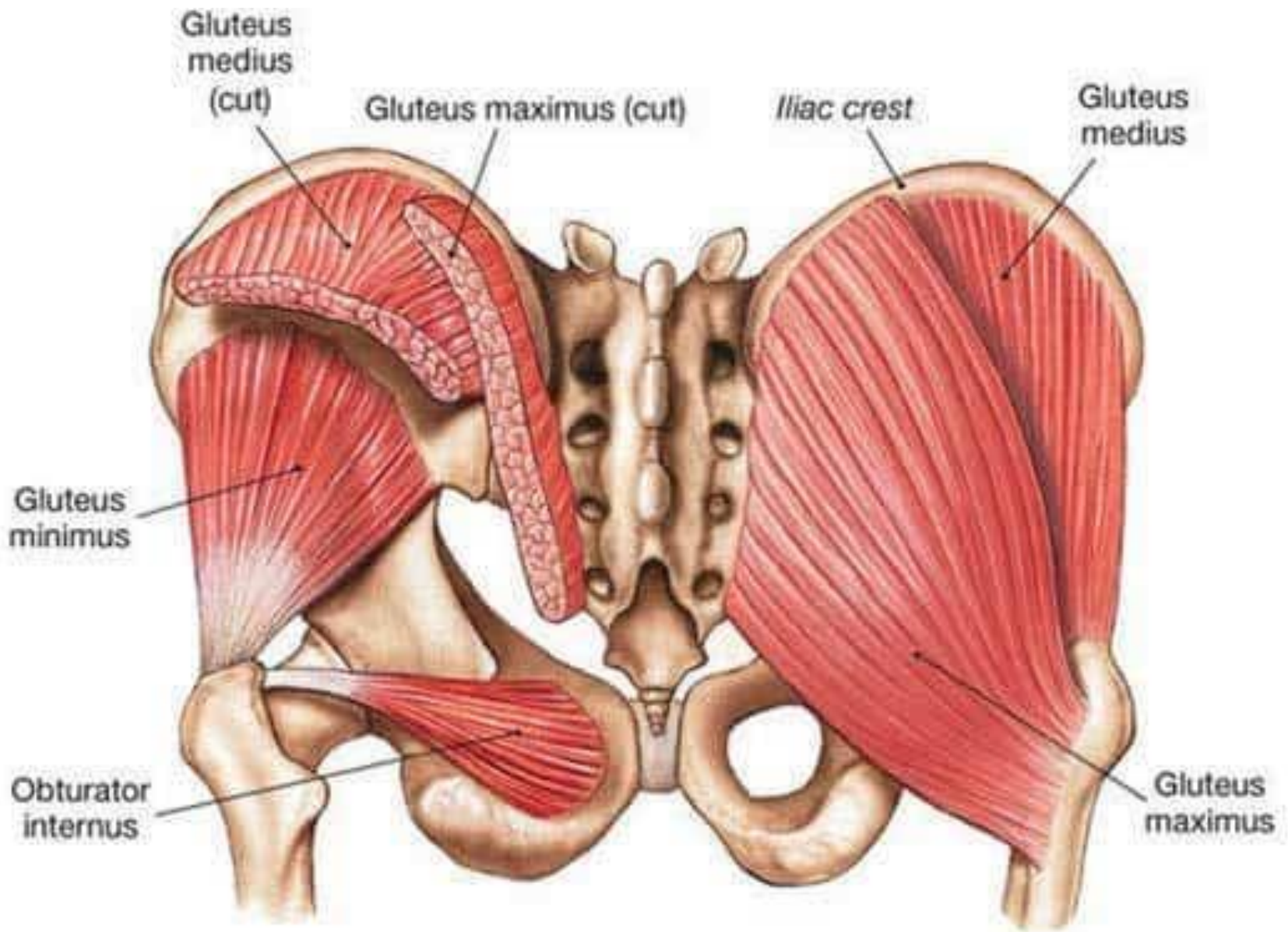
3

Joints

ESPN MNF





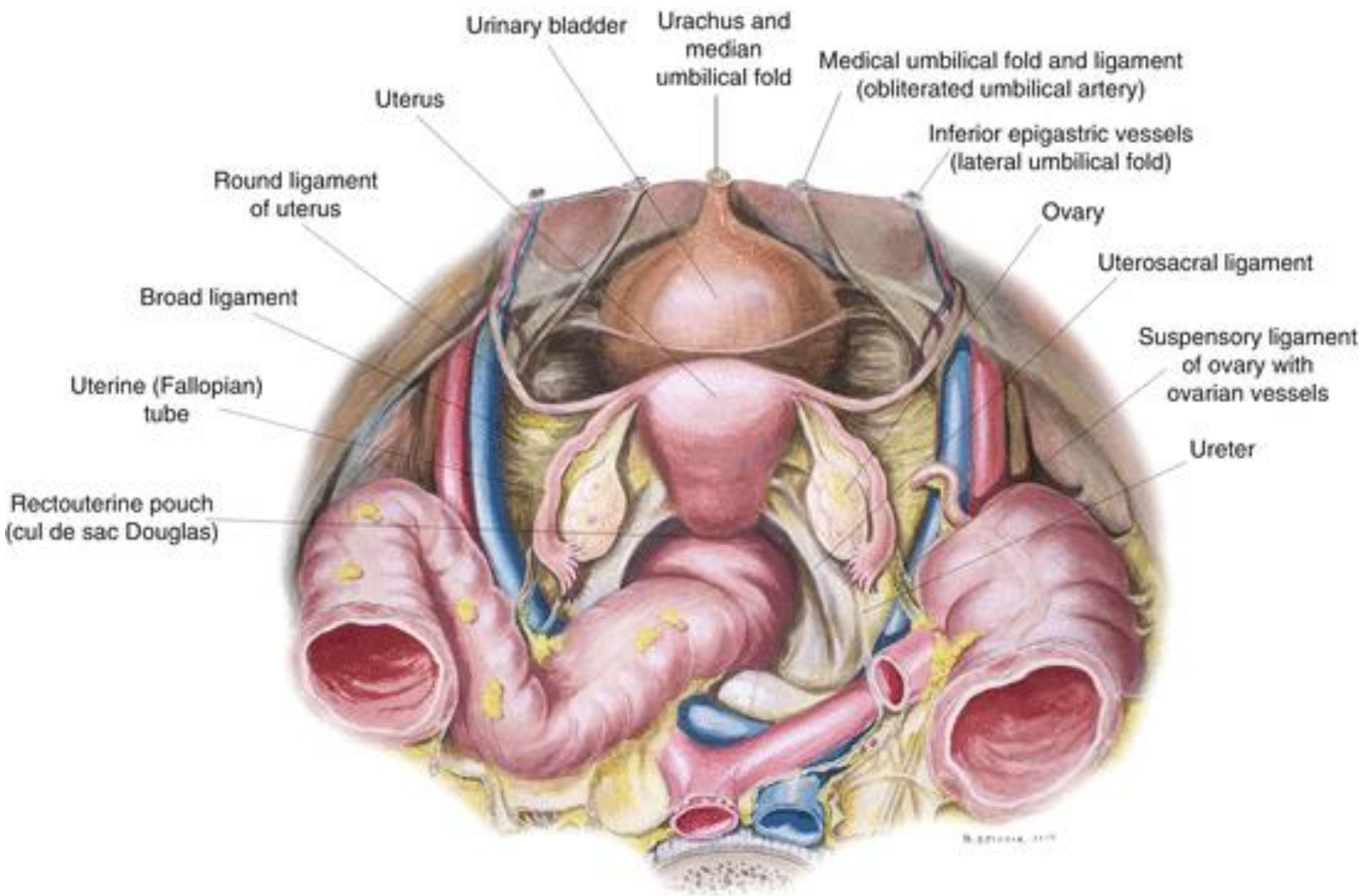


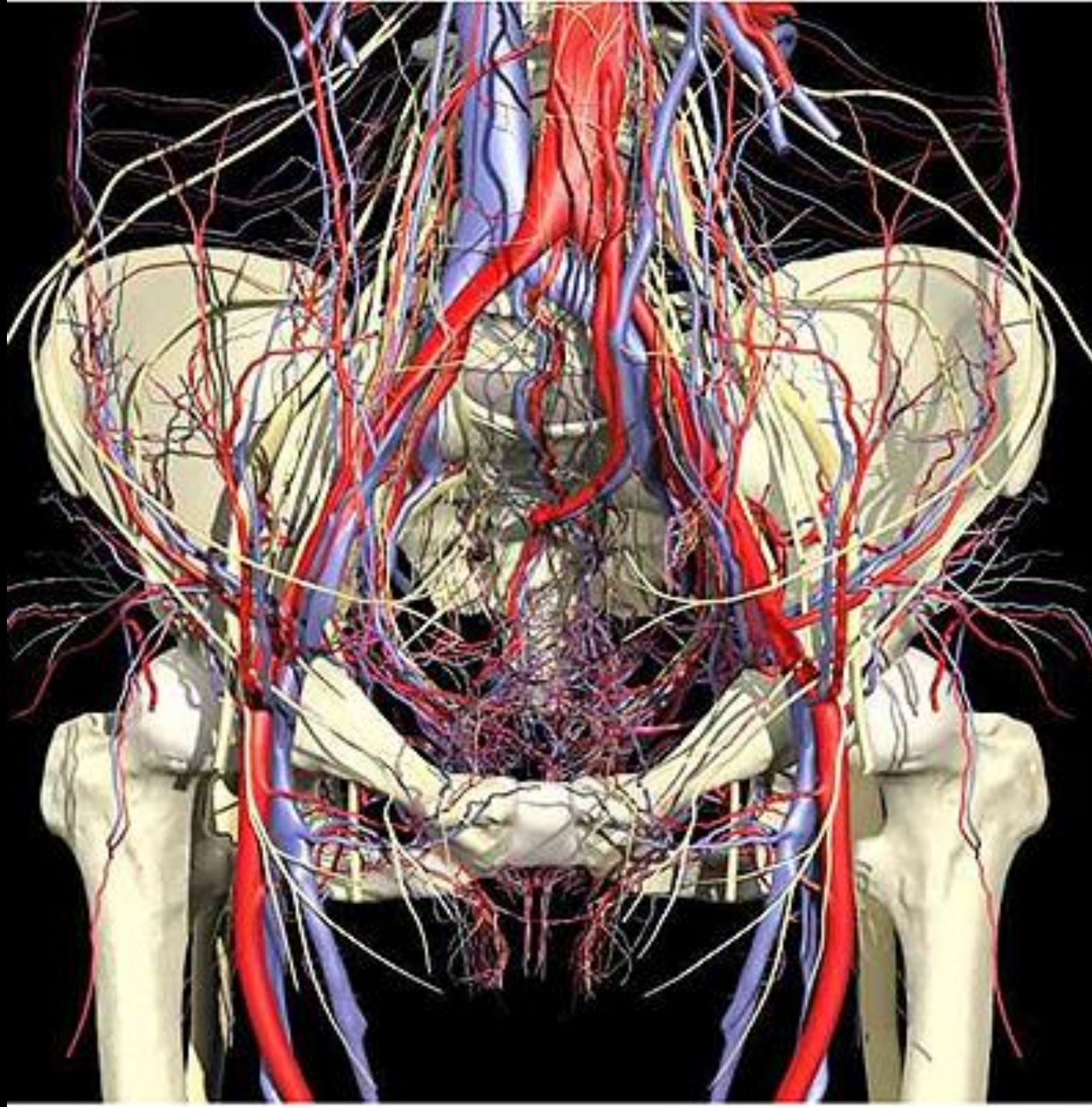
Gluteal and lateral rotators, posterior view



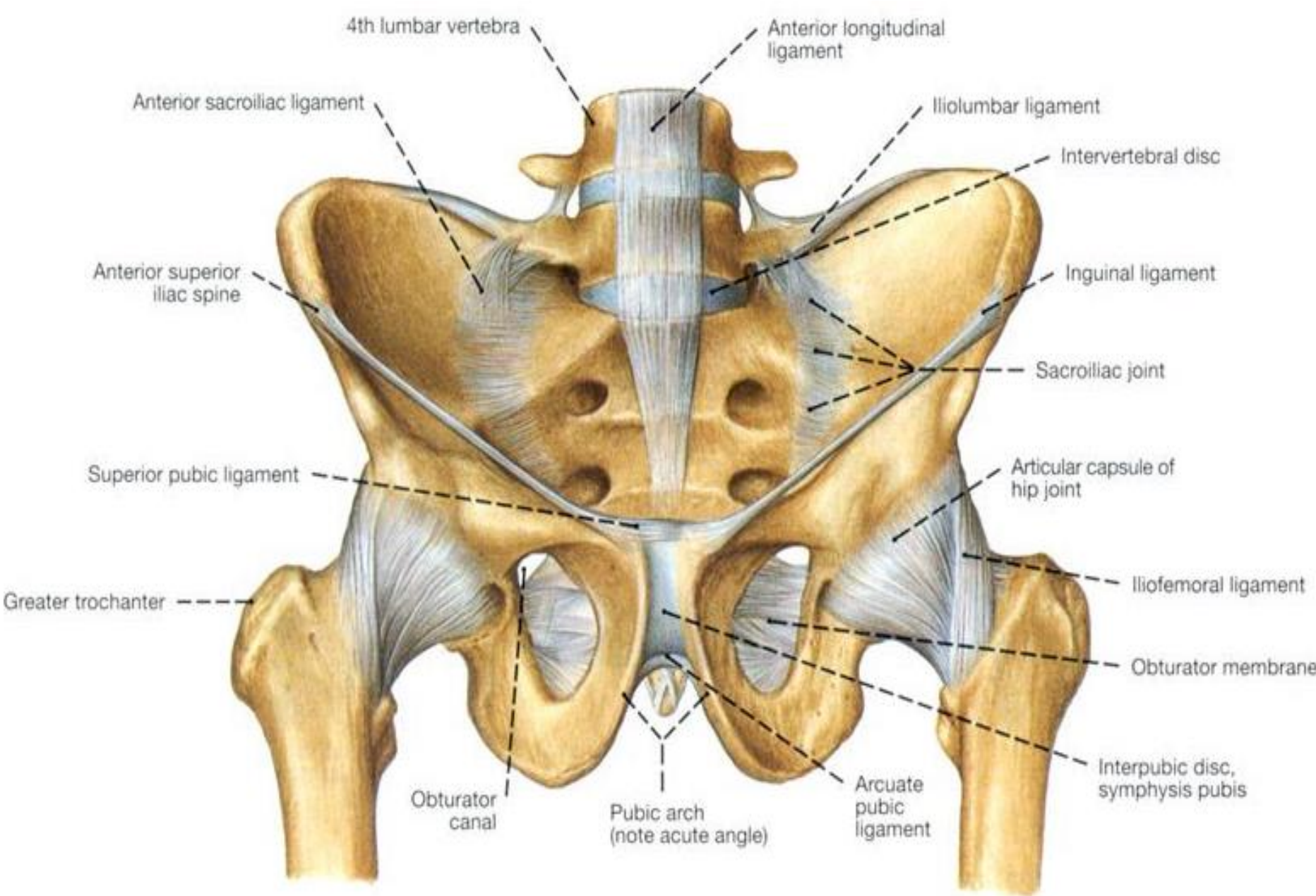


So?

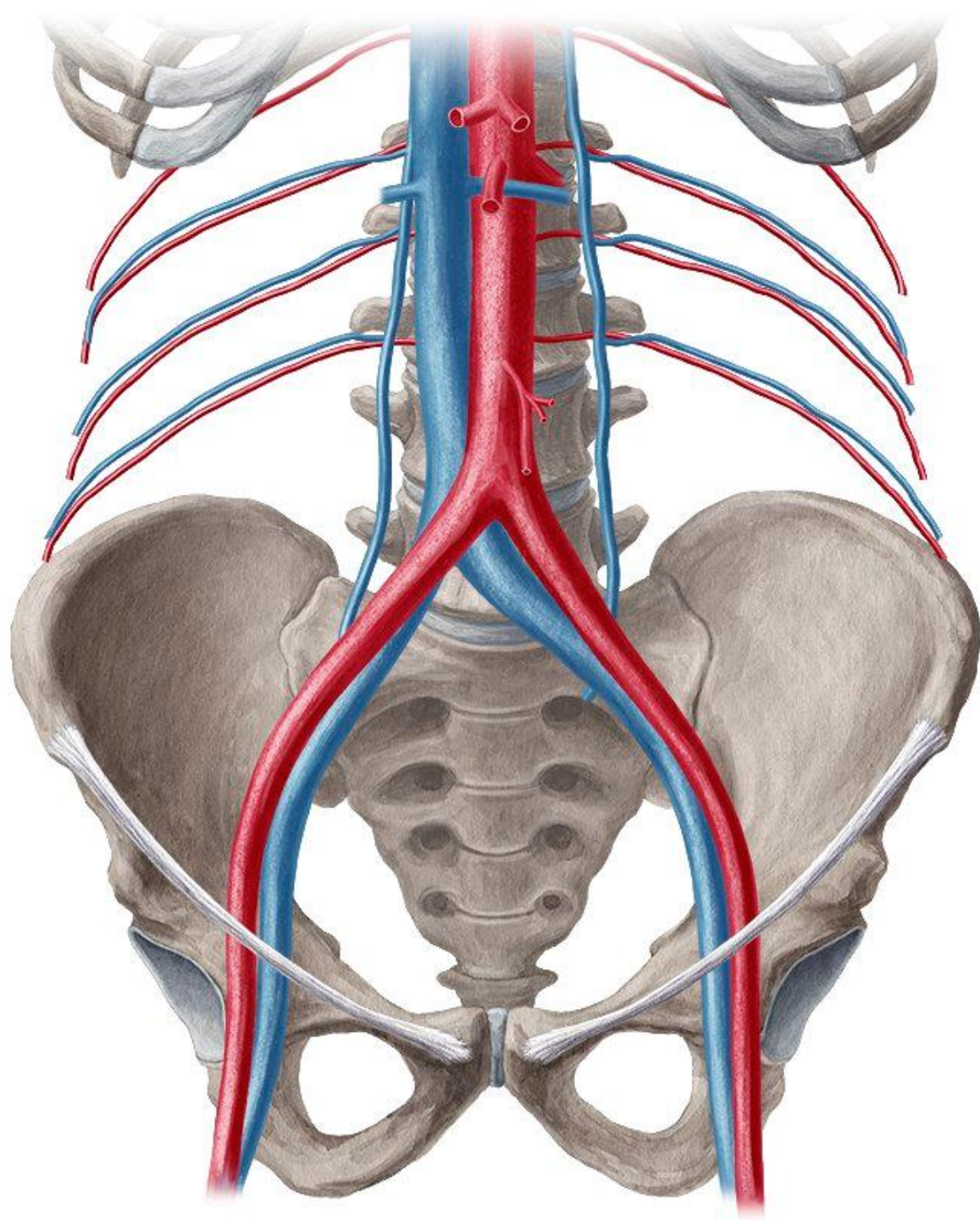




Iliac
Gluteal
Obturator
Vesical



inguinal



20% result in hemodynamic instability
33% of will require blood transfusions

Dente C, Feliciano D, Rozycki G, et al. (2005). The outcome of open pelvic fractures in the modern era. *Am J Surg.* 190(6):830–835.

Fiechti J, Gibbs M. (2010). An evidence-based approach to managing injuries of the pelvis and hip in the emergency department. *Em. Med. Practice.* 12(12):1–24.

Young and Burgess classification scheme

Lateral
compression
injuries

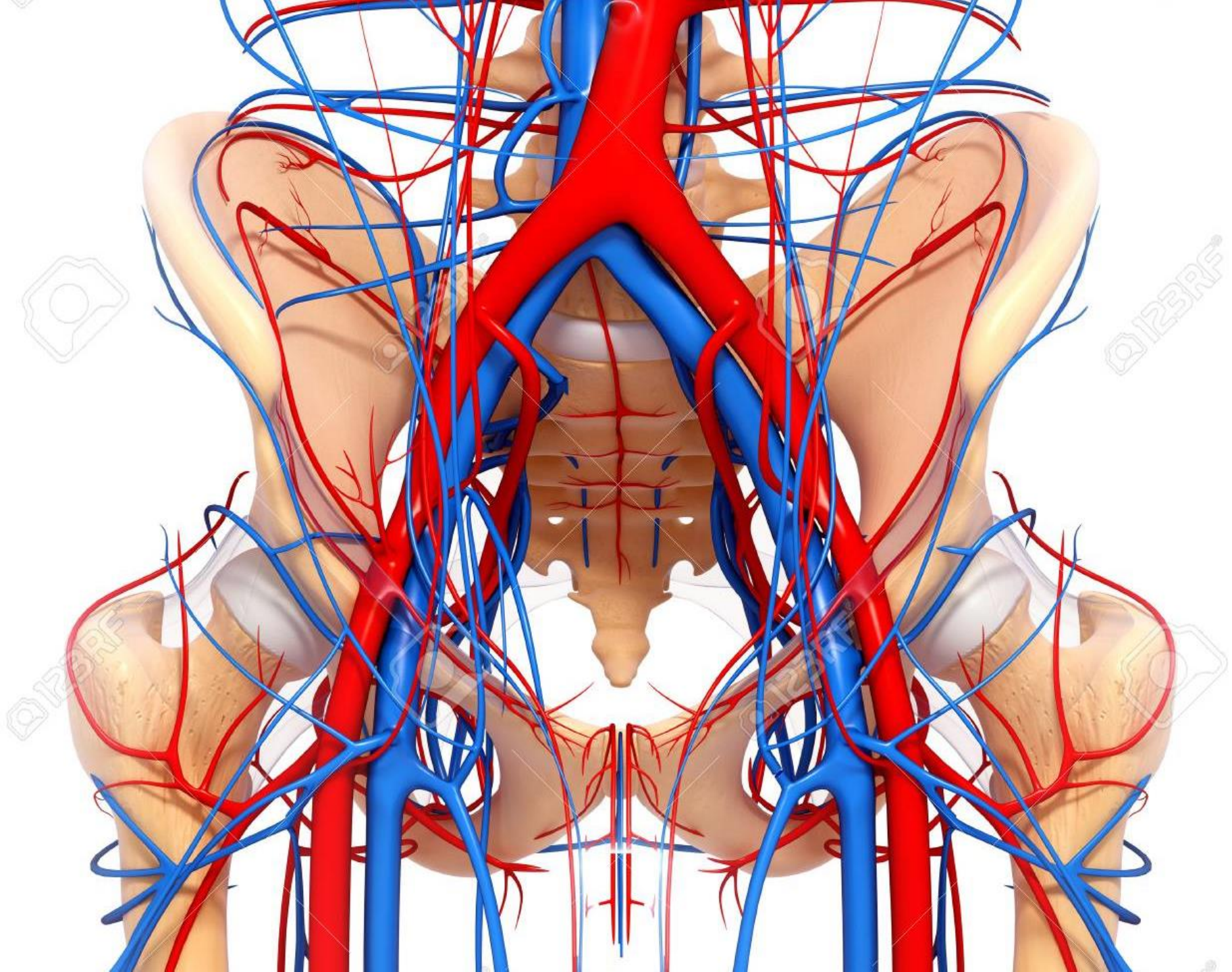
Anteroposterior
compression
injuries

Vertical shear
injuries

SUPINE

R
76





So how do you know?

Abdomen/pelvis**

-Inspects and palpates abdomen (1 point)

-Assesses pelvis (1 point)

-Verbalizes assessment of genitalia/perineum as needed (1 point)



Stop Rocking!




**IT DOESN'T
WORK.**

This technique has proved to be very unreliable, detecting only the most severe pelvic disruptions.

IT WORSENS THE INJURY.

This maneuver may be dangerous to the patient by further displacing fracture fragments and dislodging formed blood clots, resulting in worsening hemorrhage.

- White C, Hsu J, Holcomb J. (2009). Haemodynamically unstable pelvic fractures. *Injury*. 40(10):1023–1030.
- Shlamovitz G, Mower W, Bergman J, et al. (2009). How (un)useful is the pelvic ring stability examination in diagnosing mechanically unstable pelvic fractures in blunt trauma patients? *J Trauma*. 66(3):815–820.

An anteroposterior (AP) radiograph of a human pelvis and femurs. The image shows the bony structures of the pelvis, including the iliac crests, pubis, ischium, and acetabula, as well as the proximal femurs. The text "Pain is the most common finding" is overlaid in the center in a yellow, bold font with a drop shadow. In the bottom right corner, there is a small, partially visible stamp that reads "FBI" and "2011".

**Pain is the most
common finding**



Three significant indicators of bleeding from stable pelvic fractures:

- Admission hematocrit < 30%
- Pelvic hematoma on CT
- Any systolic blood pressure < 90 mm Hg

Other assessment findings:

- Incontinence
- Bruising over the flank, bony prominences of the pelvis, pubis, perineum or scrotum
- Rectal and or vaginal bleeding

What to do about it?



- Rapid, appropriate transport
- Treat for shock
- ALS

Stop Rolling!





The additional weight and lateral compression of log rolling on an unstable pelvic ring injury may cause fracture fragment movement, disrupt internal blood clots, and worsen further bleeding.



Lee C, Porter K. The prehospital management of pelvic fractures. *Emerg Med J.* 2007;24(2):130–133.

Scott I, Porter K, Laird C, et al. (2013). The prehospital management of pelvic fractures: Initial consensus statement. *Emerg Med J.* 30(12):1070–1072.

What about pelvic binding?



This technique is often difficult to consistently reproduce, requires multiple providers to accomplish, and frequently doesn't achieve or maintain the necessary reduction force.



A



B

Which one is better?




Spanjersberg W, Knops S, Schep N, et al. (2009). Effectiveness and complications of pelvic circumferential compression devices in patients with unstable pelvic fractures: A systematic review of literature. *Int. J Care Injured*.40(10):1031–1035.

Knops S, Schep N, Spoor C. (2011). Comparison of three different pelvic circumferential compression devices: a biomechanical cadaver study. *J Bone Joint Surg Am*. 93(3):230-40.



Knops, S, Van Lieshout, E, Spanjersberg W, et al. (2011). Randomised clinical trial comparing pressure characteristics of pelvic circumferential compression devices in healthy volunteers. *Injury*. 42(10):1020-6.



Case series and some clinical studies report improved hemodynamics after pelvic binding along with a decreased need for blood transfusions, but no high-quality study has demonstrated a clear, statistically significant decrease in patient mortality

- Stewart M. (2013). Towards evidence-based emergency medicine: Best BETs from the Manchester Royal Infirmary. BET3: Pelvic circumferential compression devices for hemorrhage control: Panacea or myth? *Emerg Med J*. 30(5):425–426.
- Cullinane D, Schiller H, Zielinski M, et al. (2001). Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma practice management guidelines for hemorrhage in pelvic fracture—update and systematic review. *J Trauma*. 71(6):1850–1868.

Goal is to stabilize jagged bone ends
and decrease pelvic volume.
(tamponade bleeding)

White C, Hsu J, Holcomb J. (2009). Haemodynamically unstable pelvic fractures. *Injury*. 40(10):1023–1030.

Scott I, Porter K, Laird C, et al. (2013). The prehospital management of pelvic fractures: Initial consensus statement. *Emerg Med J*. 30(12):1070–1072.

Binding is
treatment,
not
packaging



White C, Hsu J, Holcomb J. (2009). Haemodynamically unstable pelvic fractures. *Injury*. 40(10):1023–1030.

Scott I, Porter K, Laird C, et al. (2013). The prehospital management of pelvic fractures: Initial consensus statement. *Emerg Med J*. 30(12):1070–1072.

But should we bind everyone?

Bind them all and let God sort them out...

Lee C, Porter K. (2007). The prehospital management of pelvic fractures. *Emerg Med J.* 24(2):130–133.

Mackersie R, Shackford S, Garfin S, et al. (1988). Major skeletal injuries in the obtunded trauma patient: A case for routine radiological survey. *J Trauma.* 28(10):1450–1454.

Hemodynamically stable

No signs of pelvic fracture

Alert and oriented

No distracting injury

**No Pelvic
Binder**

Lee C, Porter K. (2007). The prehospital management of pelvic fractures. *Emerg Med J.* 24(2):130–133.

Civil I, Ross S, Botelho G, et al. (1988). Routine pelvic radiography in severe blunt trauma: Is it necessary? *Ann Emerg Med.* 17(5):488–490.

Obvious signs
injury/instability

Signs of shock and pelvic
or low back
pain/tenderness (even if
the pelvis seems stable)

Signs of shock and AMS
(regardless of presence or
absence of pain or
instability)



Yes Pelvic
Binder

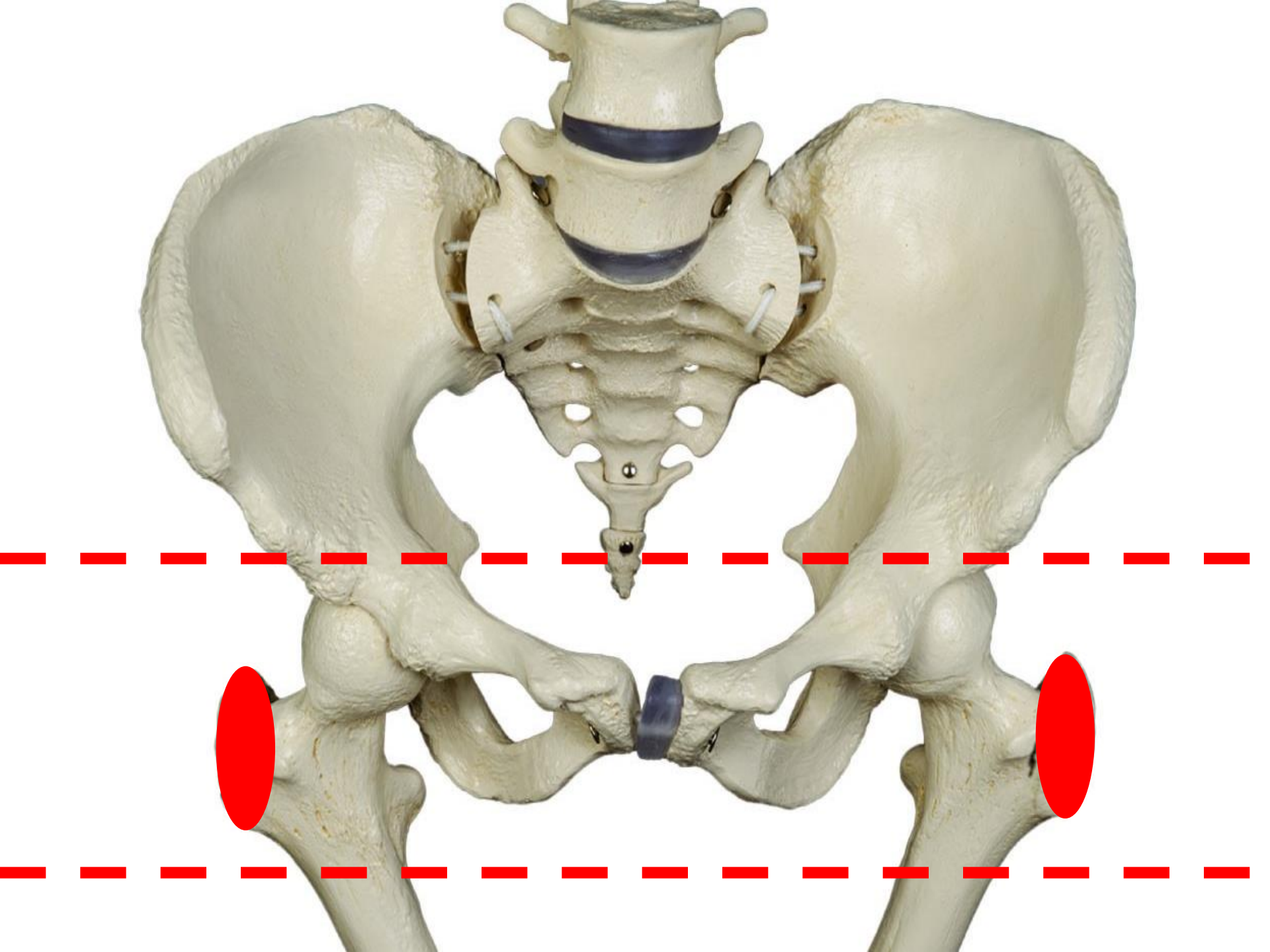
Cullinane D, Schiller H, Zielinski M, et al. (2001). Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma practice management guidelines for hemorrhage in pelvic fracture—update and systematic review. *J Trauma*. 71(6):1850–1868.

Gerecht, R, Larrimore, A, Steuerwald, M. (2014). Critical Management of Deadly Pelvic Injuries. *J of EMS*. <https://www.jems.com/articles/print/volume-39/issue-12/features/critical-management-deadly-pelvic-injuri.html>. Accessed Oct 2018.

Place them
correctly



Bonner T, Eardley W, Newell N, et al. (2011). Accurate placement of a pelvic binder improves reduction of unstable fractures of the pelvic ring. *J Bone Joint Surg Br.* 93(11):1524–1528.



A photograph of a person's feet in a hospital bed, viewed from the bottom. The feet are positioned on a white sheet. The background is a blurred orange wall. Three white text boxes with black borders are overlaid on the image. The first box is in the upper left, the second is in the middle, and the third is in the lower middle.

Don't over
tighten

Goal = Normal anatomic position of the pelvis

Performance Measure: Lower legs should be symmetric after stabilization



Place pelvic binder prior to extrication and movement.

Other Treatment Considerations:

- Manage associated femur fractures
- Treat for shock.
- Pain management (early and often)



So what have we learned here?



Questions?

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