Grip and Polymer Cable Fixation for Inter-Trochanteric Fracture

Vincent A. Fowble, M.D., Palm Beach Orthopaedic Institute, Jupiter, Florida, USA

A 77 year old female with end-stage osteoarthritis of her left hip fell and sustained a 3-part inter-trochanteric femur fracture (Figure 1). She underwent a primary cementless THA with ORIF utilizing a 2-hole locking trochanteric grip-plate, fixed with 3 uni-cortical locking screws and 4 polymer SuperCables (Figure 2). At ten months post-op (Figure 3), she was well-healed and was having soft tissue irritation over the hardware, secondary to her thin body habitus (BMI < 19). She underwent uneventful removal of the hardware (Figure 4), which relieved her symptoms.

Figure 1: Pre-op AP radiograph showing end-stage osteoarthritis of the left hip with a 3-part inter-trochanteric femur fracture.

Figure 2: Post-op AP radiograph showing cementless THA and the SuperCable 2-hole trochanteric grip-plate.

Figure 3: Ten month post-op (a) AP and (b) lateral radiographs showing a well-healed greater trochanter.

Figure 4: AP radiograph following removal of the trochanteric grip-plate.