The painful total ankle replacement: a diagnostic and treatment algorithm
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Introduction/Purpose: The last decade has seen a considerable increase in the use of in total ankle arthroplasty (TAA) to treat patients with end-stage arthritis of the knee. However, the longevity of the implants is still far from that of total knee and hip arthroplasties.

Methods: To introduce a systematic approach to the painful TAA based on the literature and on the senior author’s experience.

Results: See algorithm attached.

Conclusion: This new diagnostic and treatment algorithm may be useful to guide less experienced surgeons navigate through the possible causes and treatments of a painful TAA.

Fig. 1

Diagnostic algorithm for the painful total ankle arthroplasty. *Lidocaine diagnostic injection: suspect posterior tibial tendon in neutral or flatfoot, peroneal tendons in evan foot, and FHL if posterior impingement.

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