Follow-up Study on the Use of Charcot Resistant Orthotic Walkers

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This poster will demonstrate the results of an IRB approved chart review, looking at clinic notes, radiographic images, and ordering information relative to 15 consecutive Charcot patients fitted with Charcot Resistant Orthotic Walkers (so-called, CROW boots) 3 years ago and how their course of care and Charcot foot/ankle deformity progressed following delivery of their CROW.

Of interest will be the nature of their foot health vis a vis amputations, radiographic documentation of the deformity, reference to patient use of the orthosis, including length of use of orthosis. Reference to previous published research on this subject (realities about CROW use, Charcot joint treatment options, classification systems for Charcot joints, etc.) will be touched on.

An Excel chart of the patients (with identification by consecutive letter reference), images of radiographs without identifying markers, and a bibliography for the lit. review will be a part of this poster. My conclusion will revolve around the life of this complex, custom AFO. The expectation that the high expense of this item compared to off-the-shelf walker boots, will mean a long usage window (> 6 months) for the patient is not supported by the review.