

# Early failure with Boneloc<sup>®</sup> bone cement

## 4/8 femoral stems loose within 3 years

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I performed 8 hybrid total hip replacement using Boneloc<sup>®</sup> bone cement. After 32 (28–36) months, 2 reoperations were performed for femoral component loosening and in another 2 cases, the femoral

components were loose, as shown on radiographs. The cement was fragmented in the proximal femur and easily removed.

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### Patients and methods

In 1991, I made 10 hybrid hip replacements with Protek cementless cups and Lubinus SP stems. For fixation of the femoral component, Boneloc<sup>®</sup> bone cement (Allotech, Denmark) was used. The distal femoral canal was sealed with a bone plug from the

femoral head. The cement was mixed according to the instructions and introduced in a retrograde fashion. 8 patients (6 women) aged 71 (63–81) years were re-examined after 32 (28–36) months. 2 patients felt that a re-examination was unnecessary.



Postoperative radiograph in a 78-year-old woman.



36 months postoperatively, the cement mantle is broken in zone 2. During walking the patient has slight thigh pain.

### Results

2 patients were revised because of loosening of the femoral component. At revision, the proximal cement was fragmented and easily removed. In another 2 patients the femoral component had subsided 3 and 10 mm and they were waiting for revision.

### Discussion

My patient material is small, but the early failure in 4 of the 10 patients is remarkable. The fragmentation of the cement observed during revision may be caused by inferior mechanical properties.