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The Effective Quadriceps and Patellar Tendon Moment Arms

Relative to the Tibiofemoral Finite Helical Axis

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Abstract

The moment arm is a crucial parameter for understanding musculoskeletal dynamics as it defines

how linear muscle force is transformed into a moment. Yet, for the quadriceps tendon this

parameter cannot be directly calculated, as the patella creates a dynamic fulcrum. Thus, the

effective quadriceps moment arm (EQma) was developed to define the quadriceps force to tibial

moment relationship. In vivo data in regards to the EQma are lacking and the critical question of

how patellofemoral kinematics may influence the EQma remains unresolved. Therefore, the

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