

**CLINICAL RESEARCH** 

e-ISSN 1643-3750 © Med Sci Monit, 2020; 26: e926239 DOI: 10.12659/MSM.926239

Received: 202 Accepted: 202 Available online: 202 Published: 202	0.08.10 0.09.03	Model to Predict Need f Shortening Osteotomy Arthroplasty for Crowe Dysplasia	During Total Hip			
Authors' Contrib Study Des Data Collect Statistical Analy Data Interpretat Manuscript Preparat Literature Sea Funds Collect	sign A BE   ion B F   ion D BF   tion E EF   arch F E	Hai-yang Ma* Jing-yang Sun* Yin-qiao Du Zhi-sen Gao Jun-min Shen Tie-jian Li Yong-gang Zhou	The Medical School of Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA); Department of Orthopedics, The First Medical Center, Chinese PLA General Hospital, Beijing, P.R. China			
Corresponding Author: Source of support:		* Hai-yang Ma and Jing-yang Sun contributed equally Yong-gang Zhou, e-mail: ygzhou301@163.com Departmental sources				
Background: Material/Methods: Results:		Indications for subtrochanteric shortening osteotomy (SSOT) during Crowe type IV developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH) are unclear. The aim of this retrospective study was to create a model to predict the need for performing SSOT. One hundred forty-nine patients (186 hips) with Crowe Type IV DDH who underwent total hip arthroplasty (THA) with S-ROM implants from January 2010 to November 2018 were included in the study. The acetabu- lar components were placed at the true acetabulum and the trial femoral component was inserted. Reduction then was attempted and if it could not be achieved, SSOT was performed. Using multivariable Cox regression				
		analysis, a model was constructed that included age, sex, surgical history, use of a cone- or triangle-shaped sleeve, secondary acetabulum formation, and percentage of dislocation as predictive factors for SSOT. SSOTs were performed on 140 of 186 hips. Secondary acetabulum formation was present in 27 hips (58.70%) in which SSOT was not performed 7 (5.00%) in which it was performed. Cone-shaped sleeves were used in 17 hips (36.96%) in which SSOT was not performed versus 15 (10.71%) hips in which it was performed. Dislocation occurred in 31.30±5.80% hips in which SSOT was performed versus 24.05±4.39% of those in which it was not performed.				
Conclusions:		Percentage of dislocation was associated with an increased likelihood of SSOT (odds ratio [OR] 1.24, 95% con- fidence interval 1.11–1.38), whereas secondary acetabulum formation (OR 0.10, 0.03–0.33) and use of a cone- shaped sleeve (0.18, 0.06–0.53) were associated with decreased likelihood of SSOT. We established a model for prediction of SSOT with a nanogram and the discriminative ability (C statistic) of it was 0.918 (0.79–0.92). Factors that significantly affect likelihood of performing an SSOT were identified and a model with significant ability to predict the need for SSOT in patients with Crowe Type IV DDH was created.				
MeSH Keywords:		Arthroplasty • Decision Support Techniques • Hip Dislocation, Congenital • Osteotomy				
Abbreviations:		DDH – developmental dysplasia of the hip; SSOT – subtrochanteric shortening osteotomy; THA – total hip arthroplasty; HHS – Harris Hip score; ROC – receiver operating characteristic curve; BMI – body mass index; AP – anteroposterior				
Full-text PDF:		https://www.medscimonit.com/abstract/index/idArt/926239				
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# Background

Developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH) is a common cause of secondary osteoarthritis in young adults for which total hip arthroplasty (THA) eventually is required [1–4]. Crowe Type IV DDH, which generally is recognized as the most complicated form, is characterized by lateral and anterior acetabular deficiency and abnormality in anteversion, significant dislocation of the proximal femur, narrowing of the femoral canal, and contraction of soft tissue [5,6]. Therefore, in patients with Crowe Type IV DDH, THA is technically demanding and poses challenges to the surgeon on both the acetabular and femoral sides of the hip [7,8].

It is widely accepted by surgeons that placing the cup at the anatomical hip center is biomechanically optimal because it decreases the joint reaction force, increases the lever arm of the abductor musculature, and improves the longevity of the implant [9–11].

However, restoration of the anatomical hip center in patients may lead to unacceptable lengthening of the limb, which can result in complications such as sciatic nerve palsy and injury to arteries [12]. Thus, a femoral shortening osteotomy may be required [13]. To date, proximal, subtrochanteric, and distal osteotomies have been described. Of those techniques, subtrochanteric shortening osteotomy (SSOT) is preferred in our hospital. Although performing an easy and safe reduction is advantageous, it is also technically demanding and can increase blood loss and prolong procedure time, especially in the hands of inexperienced surgeons. Thus, an unnecessary SSOT should be avoided. It is crucial to identify factors that could predispose patients to need for SSOT, but to the best of our knowledge, no study has focused on those issues.

The aims of the present study were to identify factors that affect SSOT and establish a clinical predictive model that can be used to help inexperienced surgeons with preoperative planning.

# **Material and Methods**

Patients were included in the study if they were adults diagnosed with Crowe Type IV DDH undergoing THA with a modular S-ROM stem performed by a surgeon in our hospital. Outcome measures were pelvic width, dislocation height, and Harris scores. Exclusion criteria were lack of standard X-rays, loss to follow-up, and having a deformed pelvis, neuromuscular disease, or septic hip sequela. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of our hospital.

## Patients

Our database included 156 patients (193 hips) with Crowe Type IV DDH who were managed with THA in our department from January 2010 to November 2018. Seven patients with THA for Crowe Type IV DDH were excluded: 2 had no preoperative X-rays, 3 were lost to follow-up, and 2 patients had septic hip sequelae. Therefore, 149 consecutive patients with Crowe Type IV DDH and 186 hips were included in our study.

The prostheses used in the patients were modular S-ROM stems (Depuy, Warsaw, Indiana, U.S.A.) and cementless ace-tabular cups. Duraloc Option cups (Depuy, Warsaw, Indiana, U.S.A.) were used in 33 hips, while Pinnacle cups (Depuy) were used in 153 hips. A 28-mm ceramic head was used in all procedures (Forte ceramic head, N=33; Delta ceramic head, N=53).

Leg length discrepancy (LLD) was measured during clinical examination. Leg length was defined as the distance between the anterior superior iliac spine and the medial malleolus of the leg and the differences in leg lengths calculated were the LLD. We measured and analyzed LLD in patients with unilateral and bilateral Crowe Type IV DDH. The average preoperative LLD in the 119 patients who were diagnosed with unilateral Crowe Type IV DDH was  $4.96 \pm 1.24$  cm (range 3.0-9.0), whereas there was no LLD before THA in the 37 patients who had bilateral Crowe Type IV DDH. At final follow-up, the average LLD in all patients was  $0.94 \pm 0.45$  cm (range 0.3-2.5).

The study participants were divided into SSOT (140 hips; 16 men, 124 women) and non-SSOT groups (46 hips; 1 man, 45 women). No differences were detected between the 2 groups in distribution of age or sex.

Each patient's medical records were checked and radiographs reviewed to determine the extent of proximal displacement of the femur, the presence of secondary acetabulum, and the type of proximal sleeve of the femoral component: cone or triangle. We defined H1 as dislocation height and H0 as pelvic width. The ratio of H1 to H0 represented the severity of dislocation (Figure 1). If the femoral head was free-floating within the gluteal musculature, we defined it as "without secondary acetabulum" (Figure 1). If the femoral head articulated with the ilium, we defined it as "with secondary acetabulum" (Figure 2). The distance between the inter-teardrop line (A line) and the center of the 28-mm ceramic femoral head was measured, using calibration.

## Surgical technique

All procedures were performed by the same senior surgeon, using a posterolateral approach, as described in our previous studies [14,15]. All the acetabular components were placed in their anatomical positions. Adipose tissue and transverse ligaments were used as markers to locate the true acetabulum. The acetabular components were introduced as close as possible to the true acetabulum level. The abnormal anteversion and straight narrow femoral canal seen in Crowe IV DDH were

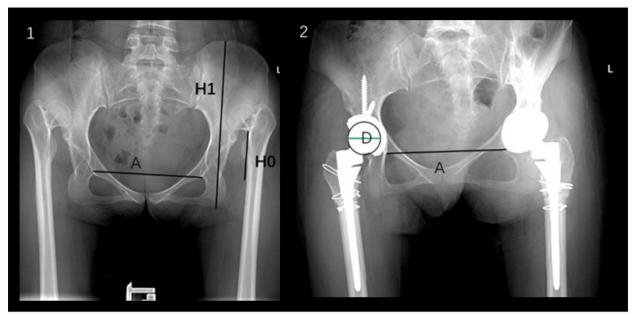


Figure 1. Measurement of dislocation height on anteroposterior radiographs. A: Inter-teardrop line. HO: Dislocation height, defined as the vertical distance from the junction of the femoral head and neck to the inter-teardrop line. H1: Pelvic width, defined as the vertical distance between the horizontal line of the highest point of the pelvis and the horizontal line of the lowest point of the pelvis. D: Femoral head diameter (28 mm), as a calibration standard.

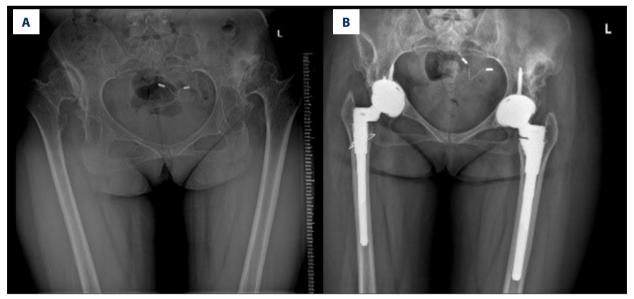


Figure 2. Total hip arthroplasty with S-ROM prosthesis in patients with bilateral Crowe Type IV DDH. (A) Preoperative radiograph: secondary acetabulum formation in bilateral hips; (B) Postoperative radiograph: S-ROM prosthesis with cone-shaped sleeve (right) and S-ROM prosthesis with triangle-shaped sleeve (left).

the main reasons for the choice of S-ROM. The modularity of the S-ROM stem facilitated correction of excess anteversion and abnormal offset and restoration of leg length. The shape of the proximal femur dictated the choice of a cone- or triangle-shaped sleeve (Figure 2) [14,16]. In almost all patients, it was possible to use a triangle-shaped sleeve, which is highly desirable because it allows for more rotational control of the proximal fragment. However, with a triangle-shaped sleeve, the prosthesis cannot be implanted deeply, which increases the height of the hip rotation center and inevitably increases the difficulty of performing a safe reduction. With a cone-shaped sleeve, the prosthesis can be implanted deeper and osteotomy avoided when dislocation is not significant. Thus, a coneshaped sleeve was chosen to reduce unnecessary osteotomy.

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In the non-SSOT group, the trial component was implanted and reduction attempted after the femur had been prepared. During a trial of reduction, it was necessary to control rotation of the proximal fragment with the S-ROM sleeve *in situ*. If reduction still could not be achieved, the strategy was changed and SSOT was performed.

In the SSOT group, during reduction, we used a caliper to measure the distance between the centers of the acetabular cup and the femoral head prosthesis. The osteotomy site was approximately 2 cm below the trochanter and as close to the sleeve as possible. Osteotomy length was determined with reference to the distance previously measured.

In both groups, reduction was performed as follows. The hip was flexed and internally rotated with persistent distal traction. During reduction, the surgeon applied pressure on the trial femoral head and an assistant firmly fixed the pelvis on the operating table. When the femoral head reached the acetabular rim, a second assistant deflexed and externally rotated the limb to reduce the hip. During the procedure, the level at which the patellar tendon was inserted was used as a marker to evaluate LLD.

When the trial reduction was complete and the patient's hip was stable and the limb length was acceptable, the prosthesis was implanted. During the procedure, the proximal sleeve was implanted and the femoral stem inserted with appropriate anteversion. Before osteotomy, the femur was marked with an electric knife. During stem implantation, the distal end of the femoral osteotomy was clamped with pliers to ensure good rotation alignment.

## Postoperative rehabilitation

During the first 2 weeks after surgery, patients were asked to flex their hip and knee no more than 30 degrees when in bed so as to protect the neurovascular tissue and avoid excessive stretching. They were encouraged to ambulate as soon as possible and carry out partial weight bearing with the aid of crutches, which were discarded at 6 to 7 weeks postoperatively.

## Follow-up

Detailed physical examinations were carried out and standard X-rays taken of each patient during follow-up, which lasted at least 3 months. The Harris Hip (HH) score, which rates pain, function, and mobility, was used to assess patient outcome. At each follow-up visit, detailed information was recorded on clinical outcomes and complications in patients.

## Statistical analysis

Statistics are presented as means±SD for continuous variables and percentages for categorical variables. A two-sided, paired *t* test was used to compare preoperative and postoperative HH scores. Cox regression analysis was used to test the relationship of no secondary acetabulum formation, triangle versus cone sleeve, and higher dislocation height with likelihood of SSOT implementation. A predictive model for SSOT with a nanogram was created. In addition, receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves were created to determine the predictive value of the model for SSOT. Empower (X&Y Solutions) and R (The R Foundation) software were used for statistical analysis.

# Results

During the follow-up period, mean HHS scores increased from  $52.9\pm12.1$  to  $93.2\pm3.0$  (P<0.001). All patients (184 THAs) had good or excellent results, with the exception of 1 patient who underwent 2 THAs and had a fair result. In all cases the acetabular components were introduced into the true acetabulum to restore the anatomical hip center. In all but 1 patient, who had bone nonunion at the osteotomy site, no radiolucent lines were seen. In 140 osteotomies, all but 1 hip were united without complications. The mean healing time was 5.2 months (range 3–9).

Nerve palsy occurred in 2 hips (1.1%) and the symptom disappeared within 1 year. Nonunion at the osteotomy site occurred in 1 hip (0.5%). Femur fracture occurred in 5 hips (2.7%). Deep venous thrombosis occurred in 1 hip (0.5%). Postoperative hip dislocation occurred in 9 hips (4.8%). An obvious LLD of 2.5 cm occurred in 1 patient and a revision was performed.

SSOT was performed on 140 of 186 hips. The mean length of the resected part of the proximal femur in patients who underwent SSOT was  $3.6\pm0.9$  cm (2.0–6.0).

The demographic and clinical characteristics of the 2 groups are shown in Table 1.

Surgery had previously been performed on 7 hips (15.22%) in patients in the non-SSOT group versus 8 hips (5.71%) in the SSOT group. Secondary acetabulum formation was present in 27 hips (58.70%) in the non-SSOT group versus 7 (5.00%) in the SSOT group. A cone-shaped sleeve was used in 17 hips (36.96%) in the SSOT group versus 15 hips (10.71%) in the non-SSOT group. The average dislocation height was  $5.56\pm1.16$  cm in the SSOT group versus  $4.15\pm0.97$  cm in the non-SSOT group. The mean H1/H0 ratio was  $31.30\pm5.80\%$  in the SSOT group versus  $24.05\pm4.39\%$  in the non-SSOT group.

	Non-SSOT (n=46)	SSOT (n=140)	P value	
Age (years)	42.02±10.44	40.64±12.42	0.499	
BMI (kg/m²)	23.10±3.51	22.95±3.82	0.819	
Sex			0.076	
Male	1 (2.17%)	16 (11.43%)		
Female	45 (97.83%)	124 (88.57%)		
History of hip surgery			0.040	
No	39 (84.78%)	132 (94.29%)		
Yes	7 (15.22%)	8 (5.71%)		
Secondary acetabulum			<0.001	
No	19 (41.30%)	133 (95.00%)		
Yes	27 (58.70%)	7 (5.00%)		
Sleeve type			<0.001	
Triangle-shaped	29 (63.04%)	125 (89.29%)		
Cone-shaped	17 (36.96%)	15 (10.71%)		
Height of dislocation (cm)	4.15±0.97	5.56±1.16	<0.001	
H0/H1 (%)	24.05±4.39	31.30±5.80	<0.001	

Table 1. Demographic and clinical characteristics of patients with Crowe Type IV DDH in the non-SSOT and SSOT groups.

BMI – body mass index; H1 – height of dislocation; H0 – height of pelvis; SSOT – subtrochanteric shortening osteotomy.

Table 2. Predictive factors for SSOT use in patients with Crowe Type IV DDH according to Cox proportional hazards regression models.

Exposure	Univari	Univariate		Multivariate		
Sex						
0	1.0			1.0		
1	5.81 (0.75,45.05	) 0.0924	1.62	(0.16,16.94)	0.6849	
Age	0.99 (0.96,1.02	) 0.4966	0.97	(0.92,1.01)	0.1568	
BMI	0.99 (0.91,1.08	) 0.8180	1.04	(0.90,1.20)	0.5597	
History of surgery						
0	1.0	1.0		1.0		
1	0.34 (0.12,0.99	) 0.0479	0.41	(0.10,1.65)	0.2106	
Use of cone-shaped sleeve						
0	1.0			1.0		
1	0.20 (0.09,0.46	) 0.0001	0.18	(0.06,0.53)	0.0018	
Secondary acetabulum						
0	1.0			1.0		
1	0.04 (0.01,0.10	) <0.0001	0.10	(0.03,0.33)	0.0001	
H0/H1	1.33 (1.21,1.46	) <0.0001	1.24	(1.11,1.38)	0.0002	

BMI – body mass index; DDH – developmental dysplasia of the hip; H1 – height of dislocation; H0 – height of pelvis; SSOT subtrochanteric shortening osteotomy.

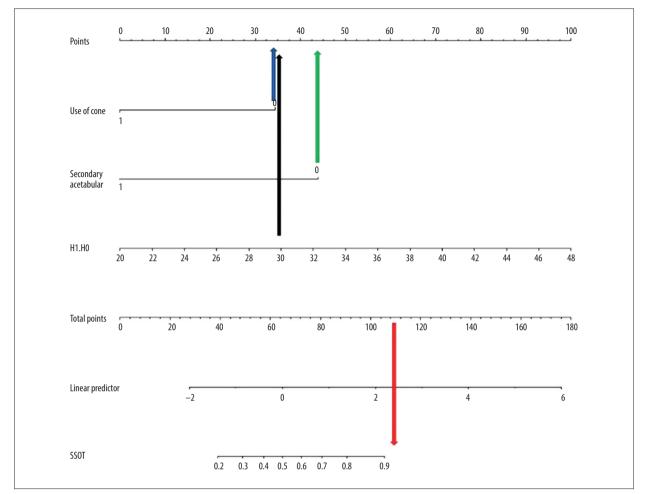


Figure 3. A clinical model with nomogram for predicting the likelihood of performing SSOT on patients with Crowe Type IV developmental dysplasia of the hip. Each factor corresponds to a specific point in a line on the axis. The likelihood of SSOT corresponds to the total of the points.

After multivariate regression analysis, presence of a secondary acetabulum, use of a cone-shaped sleeve, dislocation height, and H1/H0 ratio were significantly different between the 2 groups. A secondary acetabulum and use of a cone-shaped sleeve decreased the likelihood of SSOT whereas a higher H1/H0 ratio increased the likelihood of its performance (Table 2).

Using the previously described variables, a clinical predictive model for SSOT was created. The corresponding nomogram is shown in Figure 3. To establish the clinical prediction model, the H1/H10 ratio, which reflects location severity, was used as an indicator rather than the specific dislocation height. For example, in patients with 30% dislocation (score 35 points; black arrow), no secondary acetabulum (score 45 points; green arrow), and use of a triangle-shaped sleeve (35 points; blue arrow), the total score was 110 (red arrow) and the corresponding probability of osteotomy was greater than 90% (Figure 3). The C-index of the clinical prediction model was 0.918, which implies a high predictive value (Figure 4).

## Discussion

The present study is the first to investigate risk factors for performance of SSOT in high-riding DDH by analyzing a large-sample cohort with S-ROM prostheses. Clinical results after SSOT are promising, but it is not a complication-free method [17]. In our clinical practice, we have found that in some patients with Crowe Type IV DDH, it is possible to perform THA without SSOT, but in others it is necessary to perform femoral shortening.

Based on our data, the H1/H0 ratio increases the likelihood of using SSOT, while a secondary acetabulum and use of an intraoperative cone-shaped sleeve decrease the likelihood. In addition, we created a predictive model to help inexperienced surgeons develop preoperative plans that will support excellent clinical outcomes.

In the present study, patients had significant improvement in hip function. Rates of intraoperative fracture, postoperative

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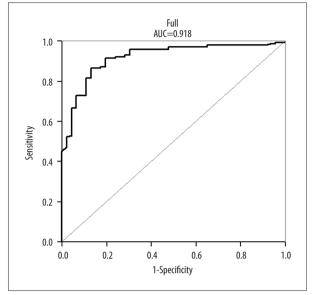


Figure 4. Receiver operating characteristic curve of the discriminatory ability of the model, as measured by the C-index, which was 0.831 (95% confidence interval, 0.784–0.878).

dislocation, and nerve injury were 2.7%, 4.8%, and 1.1%, respectively. Previous studies [18–22] have reported intraoperative fracture rates as high as 28%, postoperative dislocation rates ranging from 1% to 17%, and nerve injury rates of approximately 10%. These comparisons indicate that the decision-making in the present study was appropriate and can be used as the basis for establishing a predictive model.

Higuchi et al. reported that leg lengthening by >5 cm should be avoided to prevent sciatic nerve injury [23]. Kabata et al. found that lengthening the femoral shaft by more than 8.7% results in a high risk of neurologic or soft tissue complications following primary THA [24]. Placing the acetabular prosthesis at the anatomic level would inevitably lengthen the limb and increase the risk of neurovascular injury when THA is performed in patients with Crowe Type IV DDH. When the degree of dislocation is increased, subtrochanteric osteotomy is optimal for avoiding neurovascular injury caused by violent reduction. In the present study, we used the H1/H0 ratio rather than the height of dislocation as a factor in evaluating the likelihood of need for SSOT. The true degree of dislocation is influenced not only by the height of dislocation but also by the height of the pelvis. Therefore, a patient with a small pelvis may have a more severe condition even if the 2 heights are the same. The higher the dislocation, the more severe the soft tissue contracture and the more difficult the reduction. Sankar et al. suggested that previous superior displacement of the proximal femur >30% of pelvic width could be an indicator for SSOT [25]. In the present study, SSOT was required when the dislocation was greater than 30%, there

was no secondary acetabular formation, and a triangle-shaped sleeve was used.

Secondary acetabulum formation is a predictive factor that can decrease the likelihood of SSOT. Hartofilakidis [26] suggested that high hip dislocation could be divided into 2 subtypes according to the presence or absence of a secondary acetabulum. Zhou et al. [27] found that the 2 subtypes differed in morphology, and the proximal femur with a secondary acetabulum developed better. Xu et al. [28] demonstrated that the presence or absence of a secondary acetabulum in high hip dislocations is associated with different loading patterns, which can affect the development and shape of the proximal femur [26,28,29]. A secondary acetabulum can stimulate femur development, thus resulting in deep seating of the femoral prosthesis and restoration of the normal rotation center of the head.

Based on our data, cone use also was a predictive factor. That may be because it can encourage deep seating of the sleeve and a lower center of rotation, decreasing the probability of needing to perform SSOT. The indication for use of a cone sleeve is

narrowing at the distal end of the proximal femoral medullary cavity, which reduces the available space such that a triangle sleeve cannot be implanted. In addition, for some patients with Crowe Type IV DDH, use of a cone to achieve prosthetic sinking can avert the need for SSOT, even if the proximal femur is relatively well developed.

We have provided a clear protocol for when an SSOT can be performed during a THA, especially by inexperience surgeons, and we also developed a nomogram that can predict the need for SSOT. With these tools, unnecessary repeated attempts at reduction or forced reduction can be avoided, reducing neurovascular damage. The preoperative planning process also can be improved, resulting in shorter operations and less blood loss.

For the nanogram, the C-index value of our predictive model was as high as 0.918 (95% confidence interval, 0.79 to 0.92), which means it was highly accurate for predicting the need for SSOT. In addition, the curve fit was good, indicating that the model is valid.

The present study has several limitations. First, it was singlecenter and retrospective. Second, only one type of S-ROM femoral component was used in all the SSOT procedures. Finally, the model we created does not take into account the effect of the contralateral side on the clinical decision to perform SSTO in patients with bilateral Crowe Type IV DDH. A future study with a large number of patients is required to validate the model.

# Conclusions

Clinical results with SSOT are promising, but the technique is not complication-free. In the present study, we demonstrated that 3 key factors can predict the likelihood of performing SSOT in patients undergoing THA for Crowe Type IV DDH. We created a protocol and developed a nomogram that can help inexperienced surgeons predict whether SSOT will be necessary. By using the nomogram, it may be possible to avoid unnecessary repeated attempts at reduction or forced reduction.

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#### Acknowledgments

This work was supported by a gift from Professor SBL. The authors thank him for his kind suggestion and guidance. Also the authors thank Dr. Shi-bi Lu for his contribution to study design and planning.

#### **Conflict of interests**

None.

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