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## **Original Citation**

Brown, L., Zhang, H. and Blunt, Liam (2009) Investigation of a possible wear mechanism at the cement head interface in hip resurfacing arthroplasty. In: International Conference on Bioengineering and Biomaterials, 18 - 20 March 2009, ENSAM, Meknes, Morocco. (Submitted)

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Investigation of a possible wear mechanism at the cement head interface in hip resurfacing arthroplasty

Leigh T Brown\*, Hongyu Zhang, Liam A Blunt

<sup>1</sup> Centre for Precision Technologies, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate, Huddersfield, HD1 3DH, UK

\* Corresponding author: Centre for Precision Technologies, University of Huddersfield, Queensgate, Huddersfield,

HD1 3DH, UK. Fax: +44 (0)1484 473917; Email: Lt.brown@hud.ac.uk

ABSTRACT

Hip resurfacing arthroplasty is the latest development in the use of prosthetic joints in treating

disorders such as osteo-arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and necrosis of the hip. The third generation of

resurfacing components requires only initial shaping of the femoral head, removing minimal

cortical bone, thus preserving bone stock, the rationale being, the ability to offer the procedure at an

earlier stage in life, as the possibility of primary traditional THR is retained. The hard on hard

bearing combinations employing low friction metal alloys serve to minimise wear at the head cup

bearing interface. There have been reports of aseptic loosening of the femoral component (Nishii et

al 2007) and with the minimal wear generated at the bearing interface. In this study the back side of

the component which typically interfaces with PMMA bone cement has been investigated using

techniques developed when investigating fretting wear of femoral stems used in the more traditional

total hip replacement procedures through simulation.

Key words: Wear, femoral stem, simulation, resurfacing

Topic: Biometrology