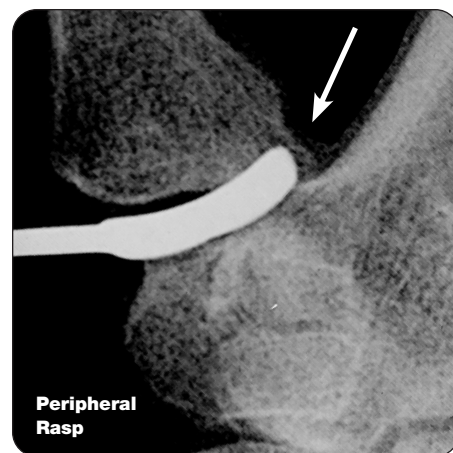
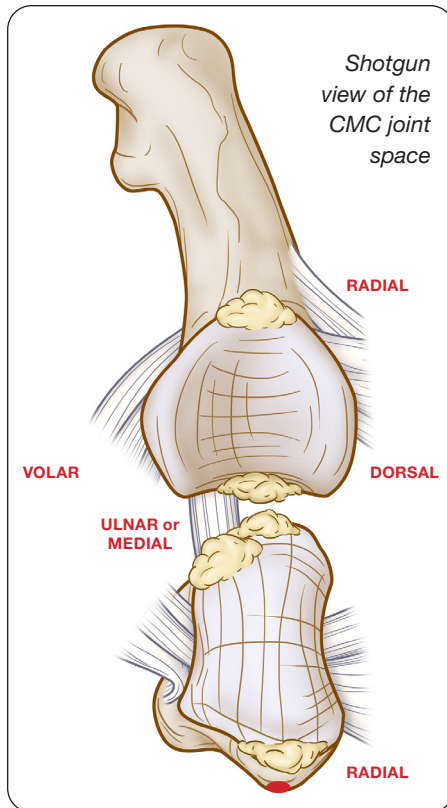


Obtain A/P and Lateral radiographic views of the trapezium to assess the level of basal thumb arthritis in the joint as well as the location and size of any osteophytes present.

The most common sites of osteophytes in the CMC joint are on the radial horn of the trapezium, the volar/ulnar (or medial) quadrant of the articular surface of the trapezium, and the ulnar side of the metacarpal base.



## Osteophytes can be removed in the recommended order:

- 1 Using a small rongeur, trim off 1-2 mm of the radial horn of the trapezium to open up the joint space for visualization and instrument insertion. *(You should be able to clearly see the medial osteophyte. If not, open joint space with arcing pull strokes of saddle rasp.)*
- 2 Trim off the ulnar (or medial) horn of the trapezium. If the peripheral rasp cannot cross the base of the metacarpal, assess the presence of any medial osteophytes. Remove using a rongeur, burr\*, or osteotome. Reinsert the peripheral rasp and assess whether the rasp can be moved across the entire width of the metacarpal and trapezium.

**\*Burring should be performed under fluoroscopy – recommended burr size 2.5 – 3.0.**

- 3 Assess the osteophyte presence in the volar/ulnar (or medial) portion of the metacarpal.

