# The Modules: Foot and Ankle

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The **Foot and Ankle Module** was developed late 2011. The first users will no doubt find things missing and maybe some fields that don't fit where they are, or need modification. Please let us know. We welcome suggestions and can make changes which we will introduce in subsequent updates.

Don't be daunted by what you may consider as too much data to collect when you first look through the various screens. You can select from a lot of options, from the very brief to the very detailed.

It's hard to find a balance and provide a system that gives everyone what they want. Some of you will want to record detailed information about all of your procedures if your focus is collecting data for publication. Others of you will throw your arms up in horror at this level of detail, and will just want to use the program to track what you've done by diagnosis and procedure name; maybe record any complications and a patient score to make sure that the patient was happy.

Also, since Socrates will be with you for your entire practice, what you use it for now will change over time: you may decide to follow different surgeries and patients in varying levels of detail.

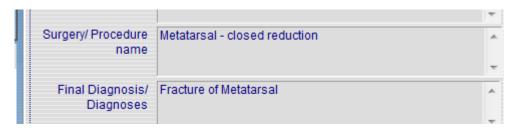
Regulatory and reimbursement changes are ever-present, and it may become mandatory to follow some of the new procedures and implants in a different level of detail over time. Socrates will let you adapt your needs to cover all the possible scenarios. It's like a one-size-fits-all program, even if you do get a bit lighter or heavier over the years. There is quite a bit of *customisation* possible also, and we regularly add new fields and scores as they become necessary due to changes in technology and technique.

You can set up "Favourites" for some of the screens so that almost all the fields that you might routinely check for some procedures would be populated with one tick for those surgeries. Some procedures such as trauma and chondral lesions aren't set up for these features, they are not as common and there's not a lot that's routine about them. For those that are you would then just change the details in the cases that are different from the Favourite, add anything non-standard (such as the tear or lesion sizes), and Save. This takes less than a minute. Some surgeons have as many as 15 operations saved, one click, 30 seconds making any changes, and they have a huge amount of data captured, and an op report can be generated.

Take a bit of time to look around and decide what screen you are going to use for what procedures.

Let us show you an example of the various levels of detail that you could collect for a procedure.

You can go "Lite" and just record the Diagnosis and Procedure Name, with or without a Patient Score. This minimal approach still enables you to track what you did, and what happened. You can also use the diagnosis or procedure codes lists such as CPT and ICD codes as well or instead of the clinically descriptive ones.



-- OR --

Use the surgical details screen screen, which allows you to record a lot more detail in the relevant tabs. The procedures covered are on the tabs below. See more details later in this chapter.



Hopefully by the time you've got this far, you've realised that you have choices over how much detail the level of data you enter, and it won't have to take you as long to enter the data as it did to do the operation....

## **HISTORY SCREEN**

The first section of this screen records **General Details**: Surgeon, Hospital, Assistants, Referring Dr and Insurance companies. Any **studies** the patient may be enrolled in are entered in the next window (these are created in the Set-Up screen).

Note: Any notes that may have been entered on the other screens are also displayed on the front screen.



On the right of this screen are 3 tabs.

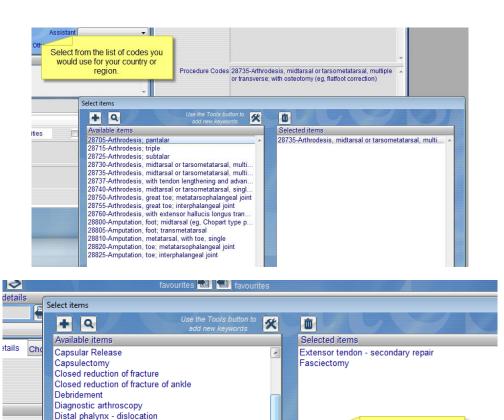


## Surgery or procedure details

The first captures the date of the surgery or beginning of the treatment to be added. We usually refer to a surgery but Socrates can be used for any procedure, or non-operative treatment as well. It just needs a date to be entered as a baseline so follow up delays can be calculated, i.e. 3 month, 1 year, 5 year follow up.

The diagnosis and procedure name can be entered in one of two ways – using a clinically descriptive term and or the codes that you might use – CPT, ICD etc.

Why are there two? Codes used for billing might not be descriptive enough for research, nor are they always what's done since they often don't keep up with technology. Plus you might want to use your own descriptive terms for the different surgeries you do. You can add, remove or import your own lists of these at any time. So you have the option of choosing which you want to use, or both. You will need to import your own codes lists, there are too many in the world for us to import them all, and often surgeons only use a small number of the codes in their own practice. It's easy to import them in one list, or just add them in as you go - see the chapter on Set Up.



## **Patient information**

Implant

Procedu

Procedure

Excision of calcaneal spur

Extensor tendon - tenolysis

Flexor tendon - primary repair

Extensor tendon - primary repair

Extensor tendon - secondary repair

Excision of spur

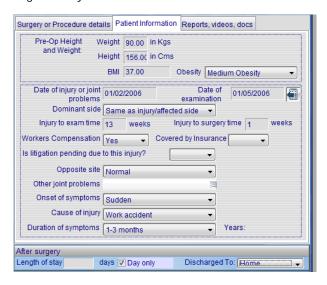
Fasciectomy Fasciotomy

The next captures some information about the history of the patient's weight and height, BMI (calculated by the program) some details of their injury, workers comp, insurance status, litigation pending, how it occurred, the duration of symptoms, and length of stay.

Or use your own terms

instead of, or as well as the

codes.



# **Reports, Videos and Documents**



**Videos** and any type of **electronic document** (PDF, Word, Excel, etc.) can be imported and stored with the surgery record for viewing. Simply click on the **Add icon** to attach a document or video relevant to this surgery. See the chapter on X-rays and videos for more information.



**Reports**, such as **Surgery Reports** and **Examination Reports** can be generated from the fields you entered into the program. They are generated and stored in Socrates, exported as word or pdf documents or printed from this window. They work like a word processing document with a macro set up. As long as the data is entered into Socrates you can generate a report from it. Here's an example of a Rotator Cuff Repair operation report from the Shouler module.



At the bottom of the history screen are two rows of tabs. The bottom are all the scores/surveys that have been selected to display – more about this later.



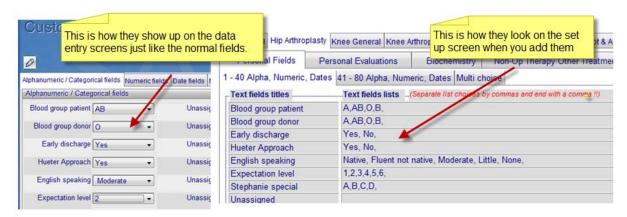
The top row has the following.

#### **Custom fields**

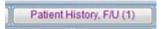
Custom Fields (1)

You can create your own Custom Fields and Evaluations (these are on the bottom row with the scores) to capture recurring Events. These can be new exclusive lists, multi boxes, numeric values, or dates. See the chapter on Set-Up and Customisation for details

on how to add these fields. Once you have added them your new list will show up in these tabs just like all the fields in the program. Below is an example of some custom fields set up to capture details that are not on the regular screens. It's only limited by your imagination.



## Patient History and Follow-Up Screen



You probably won't want to collect these data from everyone but if you treat high-level sports patients, or if returning to work is an important aspect of a surgery outcome, it can be useful data. The dreaded insurance companies sometime want

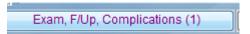
to know this data, so it's there if you need it.

This screen tracks the patient's work, functional and sport history over the period of their follow-up until they are discharged from follow-up *for this surgery*. Questions relating to the patient's work, sporting and general function are recorded **pre-operatively** and **at subsequent visits**. Some of the questions are only relevant post-operatively: return-to-work and sports questions, for example. The **Main Sport window** can be added, modified or deleted through the **Adaptable Fields** option on the **Set-Up Screen**. This form is scannable for both pre- and post-op follow-up. The pre-op version includes the questions from the first screen, about the history of the injury, workers' comp, duration of symptoms, etc.

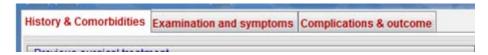
This is also a web based score, and both the pre- and post-op versions and can be filled in by the patient online just like all the web based scores.



## **Surgeon Examination and Follow-Up Screen**



This screen has 3 sections.



## **Previous Surgery Details**

Previous Surgery details field allows you to record if there have been previous surgeries, the number and what they were. If you want more detail, record these in the Notes.



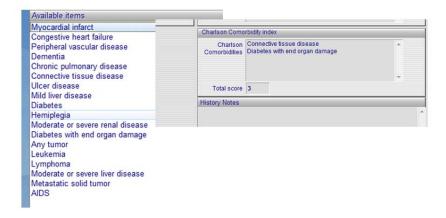
## **Comorbidities**

It's up to you about how much detail you want to collect here but it's obviously a good idea to at least record if the patient had significant comorbidities. It's becoming more important to record this sort of information, patients can now go on-line and score themselves using a number of patient-related outcome scores and compare themselves to others. But we all know that all patients are not the same, if you collect some data to demonstrate this it helps to explain results that may differ between patients, and between surgeons. The list can be added to at any time, and more than one can be added to the record, and over time this may change. There is a check box to record this also.



#### Charlson Comorbidity Index

This is a validated list of comorbidities which, when selected and totalled, will give a score which can be used to classify patients according to risk, and subsequent cost to care for.



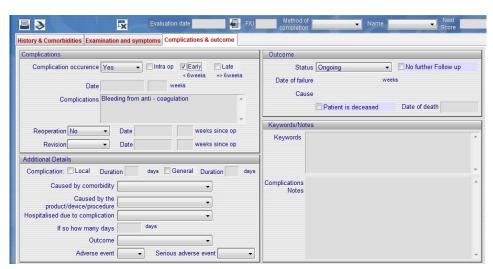
# **Examination and Symptoms**

This screen to record ROM and other clinical examination details has not yet been developed for this module. Only the blood and biochemistry test fields are active at this stage.



#### Complications and Outcome Status

The second tab of the **History screen** allows you to record details about any complications, from the very basic, to a lot more detail. You may need to collect more extensive detail if you are involved in a study, or following a new procedure or implant where complications are a key endpoint. In most cases, surgeons find it sufficient to just record a "Yes" in the Complications drop-down menu, click on the **modify icon**, and then double-click into the Complications window to record what it was. You can also collect details of failures, reoperations or revisions here.



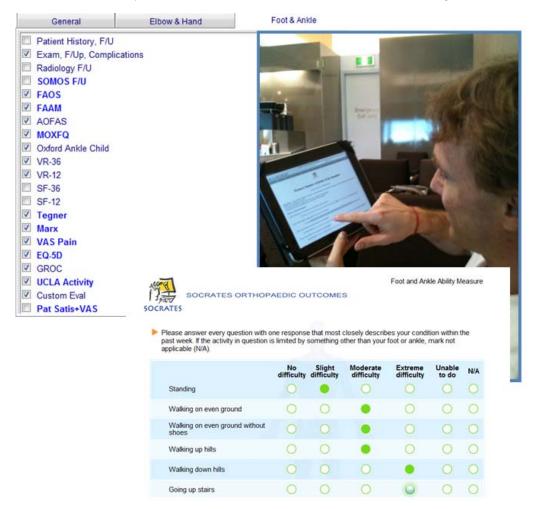
## Radiology Follow-Up Screen

This screen has not yet been developed for this module.

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## **SCORES**

The following scores have been included. If you want others added contact us. Choose which scores you want displayed on the screen from the Set Up screen as seen above. The complete list of scores and forms is at the end of this document. All the patient based scores are available for web based data entry.



Example of a section of a scan form for the AFOAS screen.





Score results can be displayed by clicking on the results icon (next to the trash bin) and then a graph can be viewed, printed or exported for the individual result.



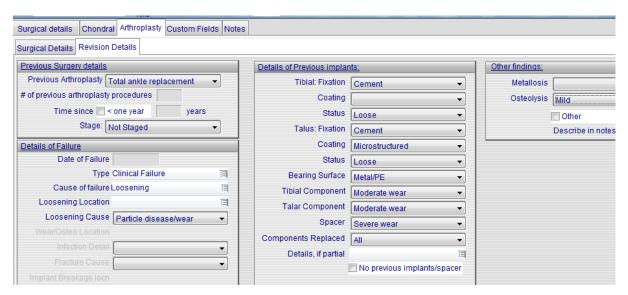
# **Surgery Screens**

#### **Arthroplasty**

There are 2 screens, one for the surgical procedure, implants used, any keywords and details of bone grafting.

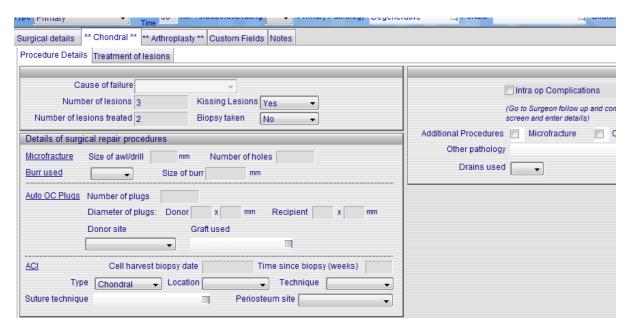


The next records revision details.

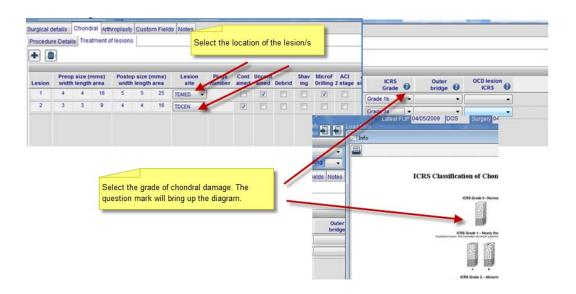


#### Chondral procedures

For those who are using the knee module you will see that this screen is essentially the same with changes made to record the different anatomical locations for the ankle.

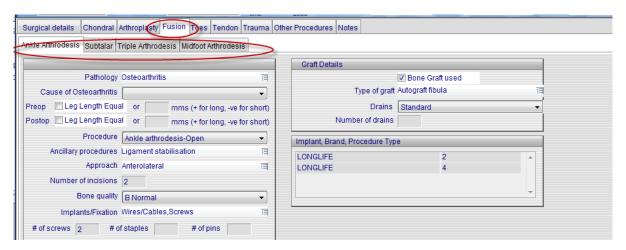


A second screen allows users to record individual lesion sizes, treatment and the degree of damage using either ICRS or Outerbridge. We know this is a lot of detail but remember that you can always just select a procedure name – ACI, Chondroplasty, Microfracture and bypass these screens altogether.



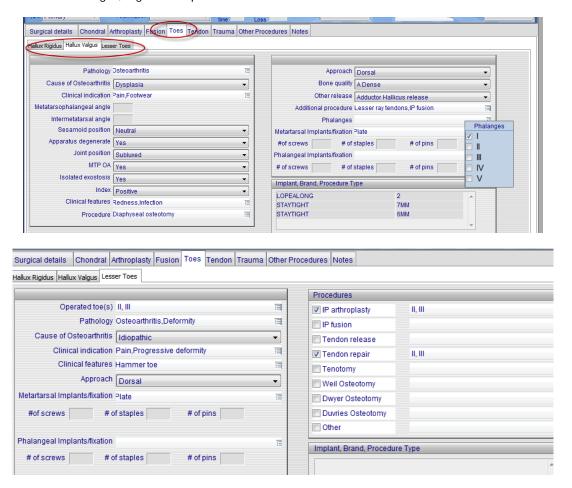
#### **Fusion**

The Fusion tab covers Ankle, Subtalar, Triple and Midfoot arthrodesis procedures. Each screen enables you to record details of the procedure, approach, graft used and implants.

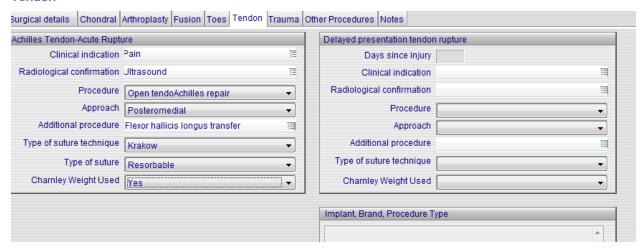


#### **Toes**

Options are Hallux Valgus, Rigidus and procedures to the lesser toes.

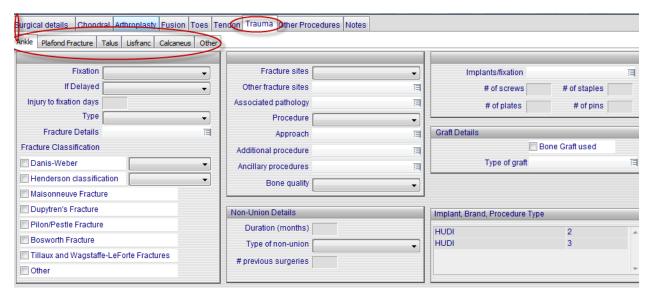


#### **Tendon**

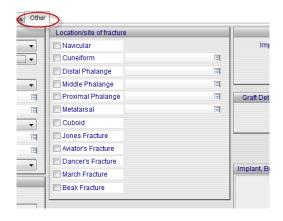


#### **Trauma**

Details on trauma procedure to the Ankle, Plafond, Talus, Lisfranc, Calcaneus, and Other.



#### Other



## Post-Op and Rehab Screen

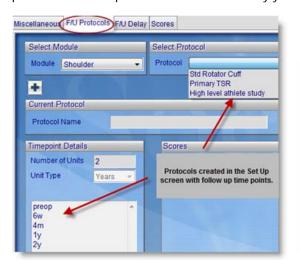
This is a window common to all modules, and is accessed by clicking on the **Rehab icon** at the top right of the **Shoulder History screen**.





# **Follow-Up Protocols**

Don't lose your patients (unless you want to!). You can choose a **Follow-Up Protocol** so the program knows when the patients are due back for their next follow-up and then can remind you. These are essential for the web scores as this is how the program knows what scores to send out at what time points. The different protocols in the drop-down menu are created by you in the **Set-Up screen** (tools icon).





# **IMAGES (XRAYS, VIDEOS, CT SCANS, MRIs, ETC.)**

Images can be stored, searched for, printed, and exported from the **Hip** and **Knee Arthroplasty Surgery screens**, by clicking on the **X-ray icon** on the right of the screens. See the chapter on **Images** for more details, including how to give the images **Keywords** for easy searching and selection at a later date.



## **Reports**

There are several reports built into the program which make it easy to track your patients progress, when they are due back, who has missed their time points, which have deteriorated since their last visit, and how the group are doing overall. Most of these require a protocol so the data can be grouped so it's really a good idea to spend some time setting these up.



#### **SEARCH**

A specialised search function in Socrates' **Surgery screens** allows you to search for any field or combination of fields in the program. The example below shows the window that sets up a search for all surgeries with Dr Burwood with moderate synovitis and rotator cuff tear. See the chapter on Searching for details on setting up your own Searches.



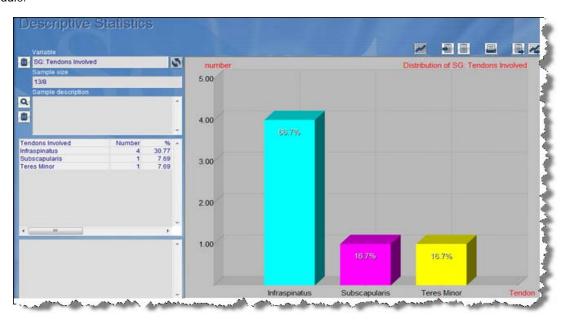
There's no limit to the number of parameters you can add to your search.



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## **STATISTICS**

Socrates provides you with basic Descriptive Statistics functions to enable you to calculate and demonstrate your own basic statistics without the help of a statistician. However, if you do find you want to do more sophisticated statistical analysis, all of the fields in Socrates can be exported to Excel for transfer to a dedicated stats package. See the chapter on Statistics and Export for more information. Here are a couple of examples using the shoulder module.

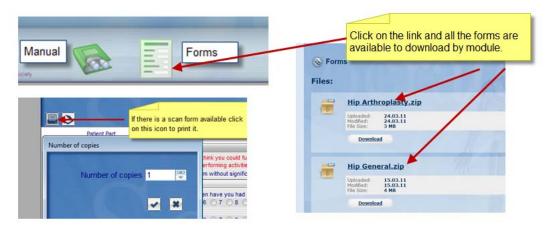




By the time you have read this you wil have an understanding of the features of the foot and ankle module. If you are the person setting up your database you will now need to go to the Set Up chapter and start getting your database ready for your own use.

## **FORMS**

All the screens in Socrates have forms to match. There are also scannable forms inside the all the forms folders in their individual modules folders but these can be printed out from each screen where you see a print icon. There are also scannable forms for the surgical details. On the home page there is also a link to the Socrates web site which will access the up-to-date forms.



#### **List of Forms**

There are forms available for all scores, as shown on the list below.

#### LEGEND

Y: these forms are available in the format of the column heading.

**ALG missing:** Y indicates that an algorithm is built in to the score so that if some questions are missing, a score is still possible. See chapter on scores for individual scores information.

Scan forms: forms available as a scannable PDF to capture data via a Scanner

**Type:** QS = patient questionnaire; SU = surgeon form; SC = Score

Patient/Surg: P indicates the patient completes the form; S is a surgeon completed form; C is combined

FOOT & ANKLE	FA	WORD FORM	WEB SCORE	SCAN FORM	ALG MISSG	Туре	Patient /Surg
GROC Global Rating of Change		Υ		Υ		QS	Р
Patient History Work & Sport PreOp	SG1a	Υ	Υ	Υ		QS	Р
Patient Satisfaction, Normal, and Pain VAS Postop	S8	Υ	Υ	Y		QS	Р
Patient Satisfaction, Normal, and Pain VAS Preop	S8	Υ	Υ	Y		QS	Р
Patient Work & Sport PostOp	SG1b	Υ	Υ	Υ		QS	Р
SOMOS - US Military Patient History	NEW	Υ	Υ	Y		QS	Р
AFAS - American Foot and Ankle Scale		Υ		Υ		SC	Р
Euroqol EQ5D		Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
FAAM - Foot and Ankle Ability Measure		Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
FAOS - Foot and Ankle Outcome Score		Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
Marx Activity Score		Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
MOX Foot	NEW	Υ	Υ	у		SC	Р
Oxford Childrens Foot	NEW	Υ	Υ	У		SC	Р

FOOT & ANKLE	FA	WORD FORM	WEB SCORE	SCAN FORM	ALG MISSG	Туре	Patient /Surg
Oxford Childrens Foot - Parents	NEW	Υ	Y	у		SC	P
Tegner Activity Score		Υ	Υ	•		SC	Р
UCLA Activity		Υ	Υ			SC	Р
VAS Pain			Υ	Υ		SC	Р
Veteran Rand-12 General Health Survey	NEW	Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
Veteran Rand-36 General Health Survey	NEW	Υ	Υ	Υ		SC	Р
Ankle Chondral Surgical Details	FA1	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Arthroplasty Revision Details	FA3	Υ		Υ		SU	S
Arthroplasty Surgical Details	FA2	Υ		Υ		SU	S
Complications		Υ		Υ		SU	S
Fusion Ankle Arthrodesis Details	FA4	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Fusion Midfoot Arthrodesis Details	FA7	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Fusion Subtalar Details	FA5	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Fusion Triple Arthrodesis Details	FA6	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Other Procedures	FA18	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Patient Demographics and Surgery Details	NEW	Y		n/a		SU	S
Rehab and PostOp	S9	Υ				SU	S
Tendon	FA11	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Toes - Hallux Rigidis	FA8	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Toes - Hallux Valgus	FA9	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Toes - Lesser Toes	FA10	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Ankle	FA12	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Calcaneus	FA16	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Lisfranc	FA15	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Other	FA17	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Plafond Fracture	FA13	Υ		n/a		SU	S
Trauma - Talus	FA14	Υ		n/a		SU	S