

Contents

A. Introduction	7
1. The Formation of the Normal Femur Shape	7
2. The Functional Structure of the Femur Corticalis.	9
3. Forces Acting on Human Femur Cross-sections	13
4. The Aim of the Present Investigation	17
B. Materials and Methods	17
C. Results	18
1. The Variation in Density of the Femur Shaft	21
a) Differences in Side of Body	23
b) Height of Cross-section and Position of Bone Sample	25
c) Age and Sex.	29
d) The Density Distribution of the Shaft	30
e) Summary	34
2. The Variation of Breaking Strength in the Femur Shaft	34
a) Differences in Side of Body	35
b) Height of Cross-section and Position of Bone Sample	36
c) Age and Sex, Height of Cross-section and Position of Bone Sample	39
d) The Distribution of Breaking Strength across the Shaft	42
e) Summary	42
3. The Variation of Structure Strength in the Shaft	43
a) The Correlation between Density and Breaking Strength	43
b) The Distribution of Structure Strength throughout the Shaft	47
4. Cross-sectional Area and Shape	50
5. Thickness of Compacta and Breaking Strength	54
6. Factor Analysis of the Variation Structure of Human Femur Cross-sections	55
a) Introduction.	55
b) The Correlation Matrix, the Estimation of Communalities and the Number of Factors to be Determined	57
c) Results	58
D. Discussion	61
1. The Problem of Lack of Bone Resorption in the Vicinity of the Neutral Surface.	61
2. The Adaptation of Femur Cross-sections to Fluctuating Bending Stresses on the Assumption that Bone is an Isotropic Material	63
3. The Adaptation of the Femur Compacta to Fluctuating Bending Stresses by Means of Specific Distribution of Anisotropic Bone Material	68
4. The Factors Affecting the Variation of Size, Shape, and Structure of the Femur Diaphysis	73
Summary	77
Zusammenfassung	79
Bibliography	81
Subject-Index	88