OBJECTIVE
To describe the functionality in patients undergoing cupulectomy versus radial dome arthroplasty.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:
A descriptive, comparative study was carried out. We reviewed 17 clinical records between January 2013 and December 2016. We were able to contact 14 patients, of whom 7 underwent a cupulectomy, and 7 patients with radial dome arthroplasty (image 1). The procedures were performed by 5 different surgeons of the upper extremity team of our center. They were evaluated clinically and radiologically. For the classification of fractures the Mason classification was used, and the DASH and Broberg - Morrey scales were used for the functional evaluation.

RESULTS:
No significant differences were found in relation to wrist pain, ulna valgus, instability or in the sensation of loss of strength (image 2). Patients submitted to cupulectomy, compared to those who underwent arthroplasty, had a higher frequency of arthritis of the elbow 100% vs 71% respectively. Patients undergoing arthroplasty had a higher incidence of functional limitations in their daily lives (85% of cases) versus 57% undergoing cupulectomy. Regarding the DASH assessment (image 3), the patients of this last group presented a lower average of disability (19.17 points vs. 25.58 average points in arthroplasty), as well as a greater presence of good results in terms of the Broberg - Morrey scale (57% of cupulectomies Vs. 42% of arthroplasties)(image 4).

CONCLUSION:
We can conclude that cupulectomy turns out to be a better surgical option, in stable lesions, due to the lower incidence of functional limitations. Faced with an unstable lesion, arthroplasty remains a good therapeutic option.

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