

Apollonius of Citium 78.25-80.14 K-K = Hegetor fr. 3 vS
trans. Berrey

For in *On Causes* [Hegetor] speaks thus about the dislocation of the thigh bone making clear the subject at hand: “And why do they not try to seek some other setting of the head of the thigh bone besides those I’ve rejected, so that whenever it dislocates it remains set in place? Those who only employ experience itself perceive by an analogy <joints> that are set in and remain in place, [I mean] the lower jawbone and the head of the arm and moreover the elbow and knee and each of the fingers and nearly the majority of joints which usually dislocate. For they can’t explain to themselves why this joint alone, when dislocated and again set, cannot remain in place. And when they apply that-which-has-happened-frequently in the case of the remaining joints, they will come to think it reasonable that there will not be a better setting so that the joint will remain in place, because they hold to what happens for the most part in the remaining joints. But [they would know] if they considered the cause from anatomy, that the ligament happens to process out of the head of the thigh bone which is inserted into the middle of the joint socket. When it remains, it is impossible for the thigh bone to dislocate; but when it is sundered it cannot be fused. And since a fusion has not happened, it is again impossible for the joint to remain in place. Therefore, once the cause is clear, avoid in general setting a dislocated thigh and do not proceed in impossible attempts.”