Orthopaedic Fracture Management

Orthopaedic Fracture Management
MSK Galaxy Course

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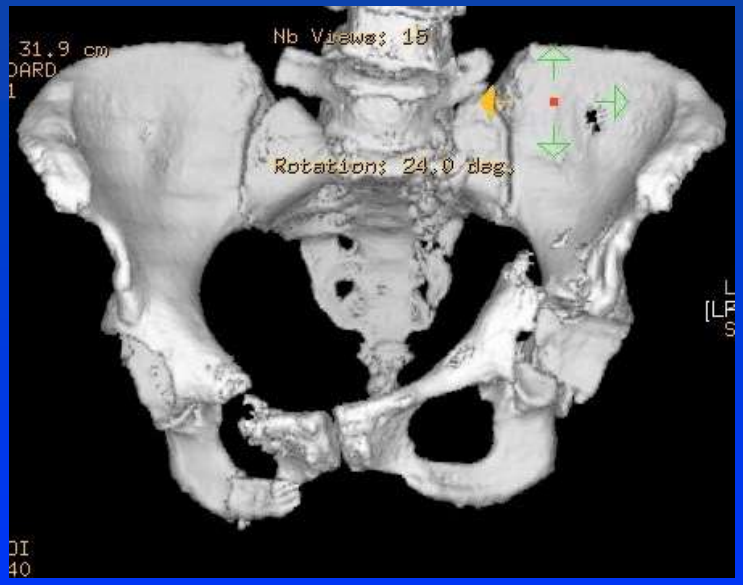
*All of the relevant financial relationships listed for these individuals have been mitigated

Learning Objectives

At the end of this lecture attendees will be able to :

- Describe fractures based on location, angulation, displacement & soft tissue injuries
- Recognize and describe factors associated with acute fractures
- Describe exam maneuvers essential for acute fractures
- Describe essential immobilization techniques for acute fractures
- Recognize and describe differences in fractures that require emergent treatment vs those that can be sent home and follow up in the office
- Recognize and treat Fractures of the Upper Extremity (UE)
- Recognize and Treat Fractures of the Lower Extremity (LE)



Goals of Fracture Treatment

- Restore the patient to optimal functional state
- Prevent fracture and soft-tissue complications
- Get the fracture to heal and in position which will produce optimal functional recovery
- Rehabilitate the patient as early as possible

Challenges in fracture management

- Knowledge of anatomy
- Interpretation of x-ray
- Determining which patient needs referral for possible further treatment and which you can manage
- Timeframe for follow-up

Fracture Description

Fracture Description

- Fx location, anatomical site (bone and location on bone)
- Configuration Displacement
  - three planes of angulation
  - translation
  - shortening
- Articular involvement/epiphyseal injuries
  - fracture involving joint
  - dislocation
  - ligamentous avulsion
- Open v. Closed:
  - Gustilio-Anderson classification
- Neurovascular status

Photos courtesy TGocke PA-C

Fracture Pain

Fracture Pain

There currently is a lack of effective treatment options for fracture pain that reliably relieve pain without potentially interfering with bone healing.

Current treatment options for management of fracture pain are insufficient.

Current recommendations conclude that NSAID use is warranted in fracture pain, as benefits outweigh the risk.

- The use of NSAIDs should be done at the lowest dose and may help to avoid use of narcotics
- There is a celling effect with Ibuprofen at 600mg, there is no difference between 600mg and 800mg regarding increased analgesic or anti-inflammatory effect.
- There is also good literature showing 600mg of Ibuprofen with 1000mg of tylenol produces better analgesic effect at 2 hours then narcotic medication.

Mechanism of Injury

Mechanism of Injury

Low energy vs High energy

- Stress fracture, fragility fracture, etc

Trauma starts with the transfer of energy to the body from an outside force. You must spend time to have the patient describe the specific MOI

- This should match up with the patient symptoms and area of pain.

Palpation

Palpation

Palpation is the process of using one's hands or fingers to physically examine part of the body by feel.

Fractures do no typically have referred pain, there is commonly palpable tenderness over the area of the fracture.

- Always palpate joint above and joint below to not miss anything.
- Start with palpation away from the area of pain, then palpate area of pain last
- Re-examine X-rays after palpation to look for subtle fracture findings
- If patient has change on x-ray with no palpable tenderness over this area, unlikely this is acute fracture

Soft Tissue Injury

Soft Tissue Injury

Skin
- Open fractures, degolving injuries and ischemic necrosis

Muscles
- Crush and compartment syndrome

Blood Vessels
- Vasospasm and arterial laceration

Nerves
- Neurapraxias, axonotmesis, neurotmesis

Ligaments
- Joint instability and dislocation

IMMOBILIZATION

IMMOBILIZATION

Importance of Immobilization

- **Reduce Blood Loss**
  - Femur Fx up to 1500 ml blood loss
  - Tibial Fx up to 1000ml blood loss
- **Pain reduction**
- **Reduce damage to soft tissues**
- **Reduce or minimize compartment syndrome**
- **Reduce spread if infection**
- **Reduce Fx to minimize tissue injury**

IMMOBILIZATION

Fracture Blisters

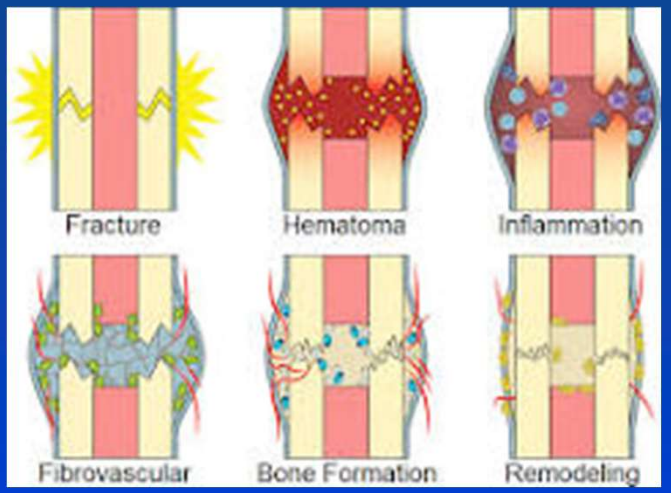
- Occur 2nd to higher energy fx
- Skin adheres to bone and little subQ fat
- **Resembles 2º burn (clear v. bloody)**
- Develop 6-48 hrs
- **Staph/Strep colonization**
- Impacts treatment options
- **No consensus on Treatment**
  - **Dry dressing-Xeroform-Silvadene**
- **Delays Surgery average 7 days**
- Infection complication

Healing

Healing

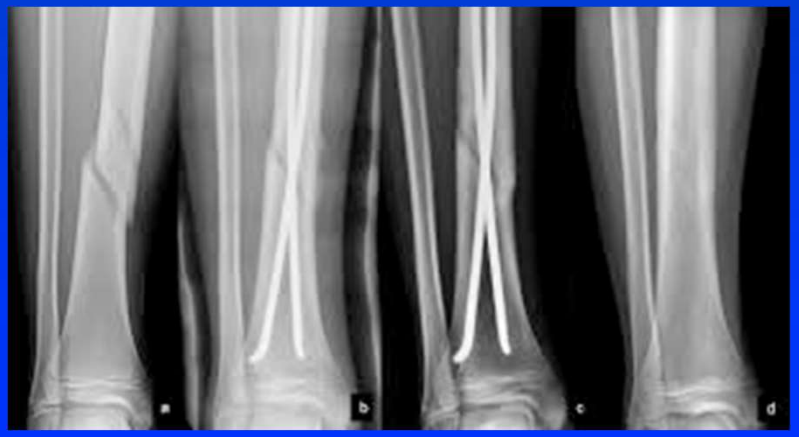
When is the Fracture healed?

	Upper Limb	Lower Limb
Adult	6-8 weeks	12-16 weeks
Child	3-4 weeks	6-8 weeks



Radiologically
- Bridging callus formation
- Remodeling

Biomechanically stable



Occult Fracture

Occult Fracture

Occult means hidden.

- An occult fracture does not appear well on an X-ray. A possible occult fracture is **a suspected fracture that needs to be confirmed with other imaging tests**.
- Prevalence of Occult fracture can be as high as 10%
  - Have been documented as high as 25% in children
- Can get further imagining CT scan or MRI
- Can immobilize for 5-10 days, have follow up with repeat imagining looking for new changes.

Following a fracture, a hematoma forms which provides the building blocks for healing.

- Subsequently, **reabsorption occurs of the 1 to 2 mm of bone at the fracture edges that have lost their blood supply**.
- It is this bone reabsorption that makes fracture lines become radiographically distinct 5 to 10 days after injury.

Upper Extremity Fractures

Clavicle Fx

Clavicle Fracture

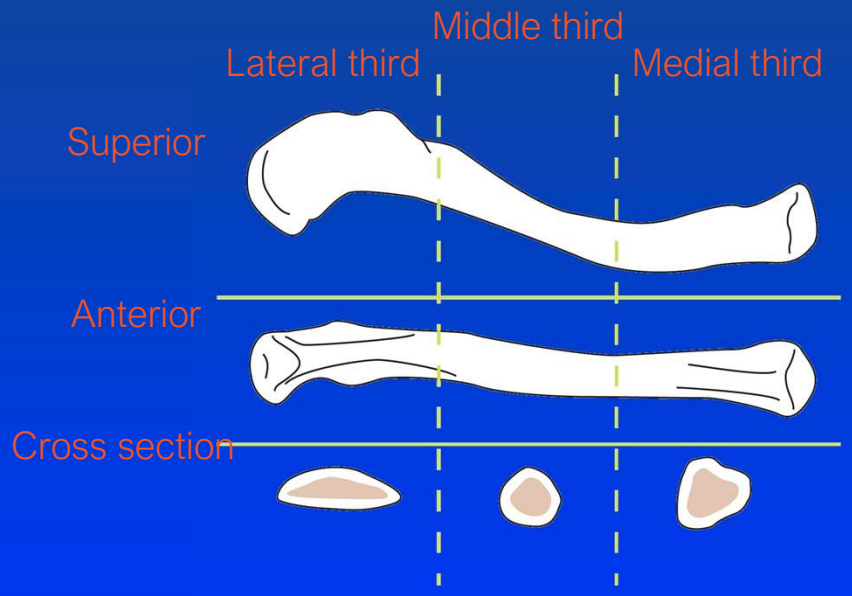
Bone –

- Triangular shaped- medial 1/3
- Tubular shaped- middle 1/3
  Flat shaped – lateral 1/3

- Most fractures occur junction of middle and distal 1/3 clavicle

- Occurs due to change in geometry of bone
- Thinnest part of bone

- No muscle and ligament coverage in this area



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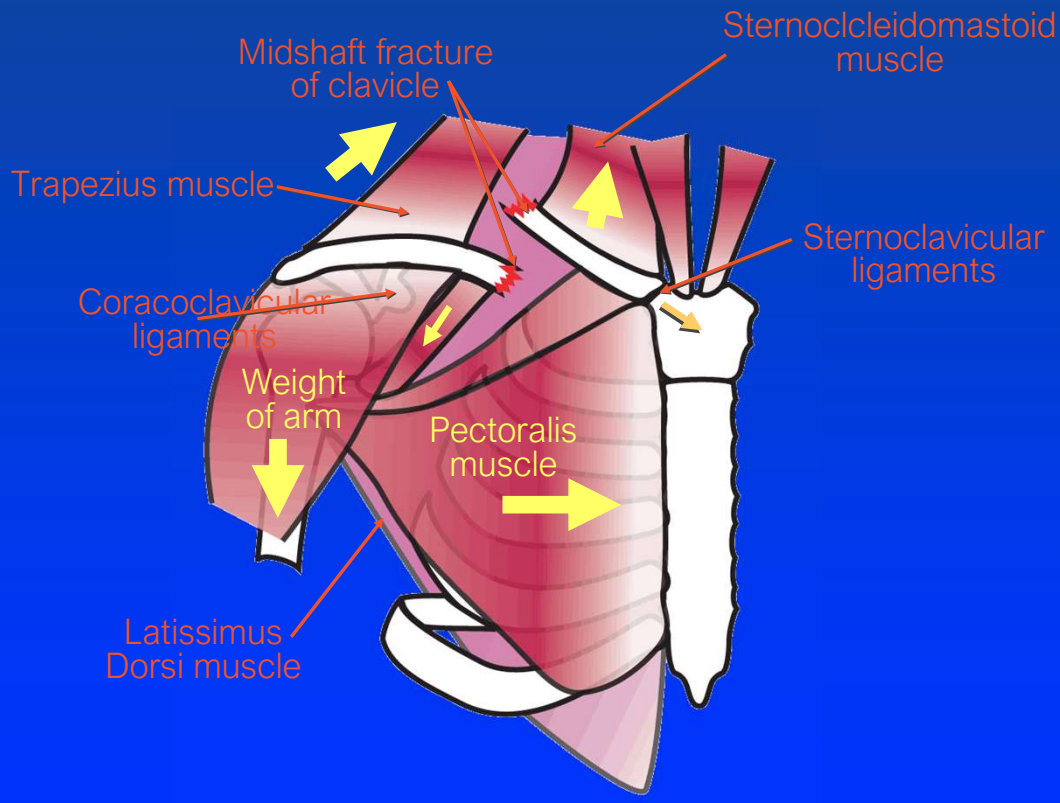
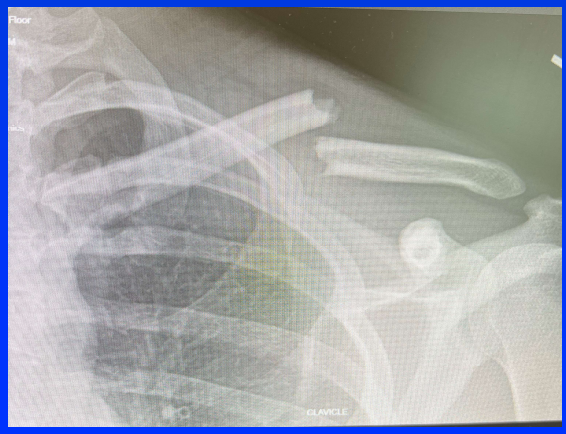
Midshaft Clavicle Fracture



Mid-shaft clavicle Fracture

Factors in surgical management

- Open or closed fracture
- Pain
- Displaced fractures (>1.5 cm)/comminuted fx
- Shoulder girdle shortening (>2 cm)
- Skin impairment
- Neuro or vascular injury
- Loss Abduction strength
- Greater cosmetic deformity/failed conservative management
- Greater demand for overhead activity



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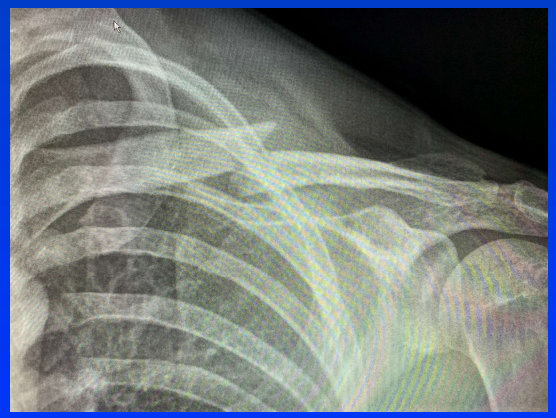
Mid-shaft Clavicle Fracture

Treatment Options:

- **Indications Non-op care**
  - Minimally displaced, < 1.5cm shortening, medically unfit for surgery
- Non-surgical management
  - **Sling vs. Figure 8**
    - Compliance issues
    - Less discomfort with sling
  - **Pain medication**
  - **Activity Limitations**
  - **F/U 1-2 weeks**



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Humerus Fx

Proximal Humerus Fractures

Epidemiology

- Common fx in older adults >65 yr. old
- 2-part fx most common (Surgical neck & Greater Tubercle)
- Blood supply key to overall healing process
- High-rate osteonecrosis w/ 4-part Fx
- Female > male

Factors contributing to Proximal Humerus fractures:

- Age/sex
- Bone quality - osteoporosis
- Fracture displacement
- Diabetes

Attum B, Thompson JH. Humerus Fractures Overview. [Updated 2020 Aug 10]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2020 Jan-. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK482281/

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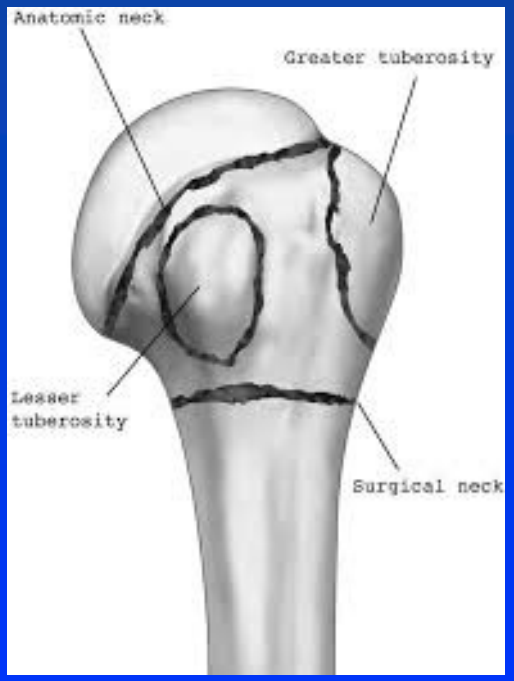
Proximal Humerus Fractures

Neer Classification

Anatomic Segments

- Shaft-Articular Head-Greater Tubercle-Lesser Tubercle
- Parts considered: >1 cm displaced, 45 degrees angulation
  - **2-part**
    - **Articular component- Fx** line thru anatomic neck
    - **Shaft Component -** Fx line thru surgical neck – most common
  - **3-Part**
    - Articular surface, thru anatomic neck, Humeral shaft & greater tubercle
    - Articular surface, thru anatomic neck, Humeral shaft & lesser tubercle
  - **4-Part**
    - Variation anatomic/surgical neck, great/lesser tubercle
    - Fracture / Dislocation



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Proximal Humerus fx

Humerus Fx

Proximal Humerus

- Treatment considerations-
  - Multifactorial
  - Age
  - Fracture type
  - Pt expectations
- Treatment options
  - Non-op
  - ORIF
  - Hemiarthroplasty
  - Reverse TSA

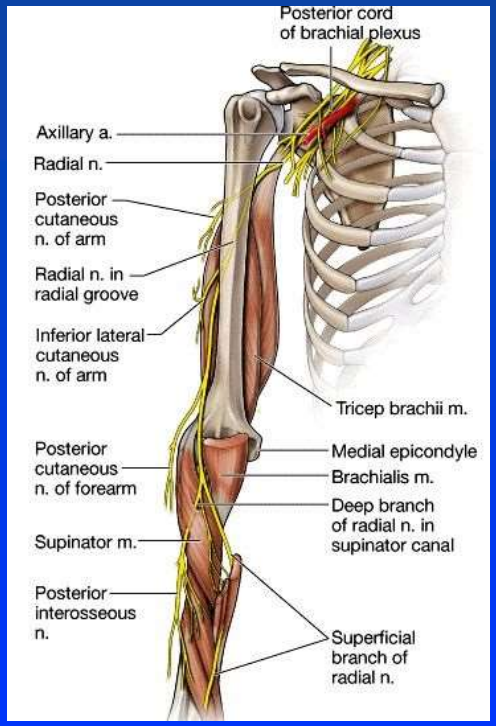
Proximal Humerus Fracture

Conservative Treatment

- Majority treatment “hanging sling”
- Pain management
- Sleeping postures
- Early motion-elbow/Shoulder

Humeral Shaft Fracture

- Epidemiology
  - Usual treatment is non-operative
  - High Energy mechanism
  - Low Energy: high suspicion for pathology fx
  - Primary Mechanism of injury
    - Direct blow – transverse or comminuted fracture
      - MVA
    - Indirect blow – spiral or oblique fracture
      - Fall – elderly more common
      - Throwing motion– less common
  - Concern for Radial Nerve injury



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Humeral Shaft Fracture

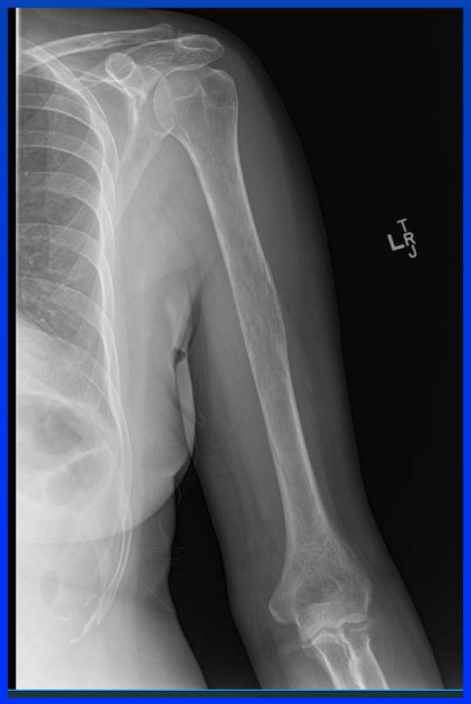
Picture courtesy T Gocke, PA-C

Humeral Shaft Fracture

- **Treatment options- Closed Fracture**
  - Frequent follow up and adjustment of hanging arm cast/brace/splint
  - Xray weekly x 3 weeks
  - Begin early wrist/hand ROM
  - **Acceptable post reduction alignment**
    - **<20◦ anterior angulation**
    - **<30◦ varus**
    - **<15◦ malrotation**
    - **3cm shortening**
- Surgical indications
  - Open Fx\Polytrauma
  - Vascular injury
  - Floating Elbow
  - Obesity – immobilization difficulty

Question #1

59 y/o F presents to clinic with left arm pain. States picked up her purse and felt a crack in the left arm. 2 days of pain, limited motion. No significant PMH



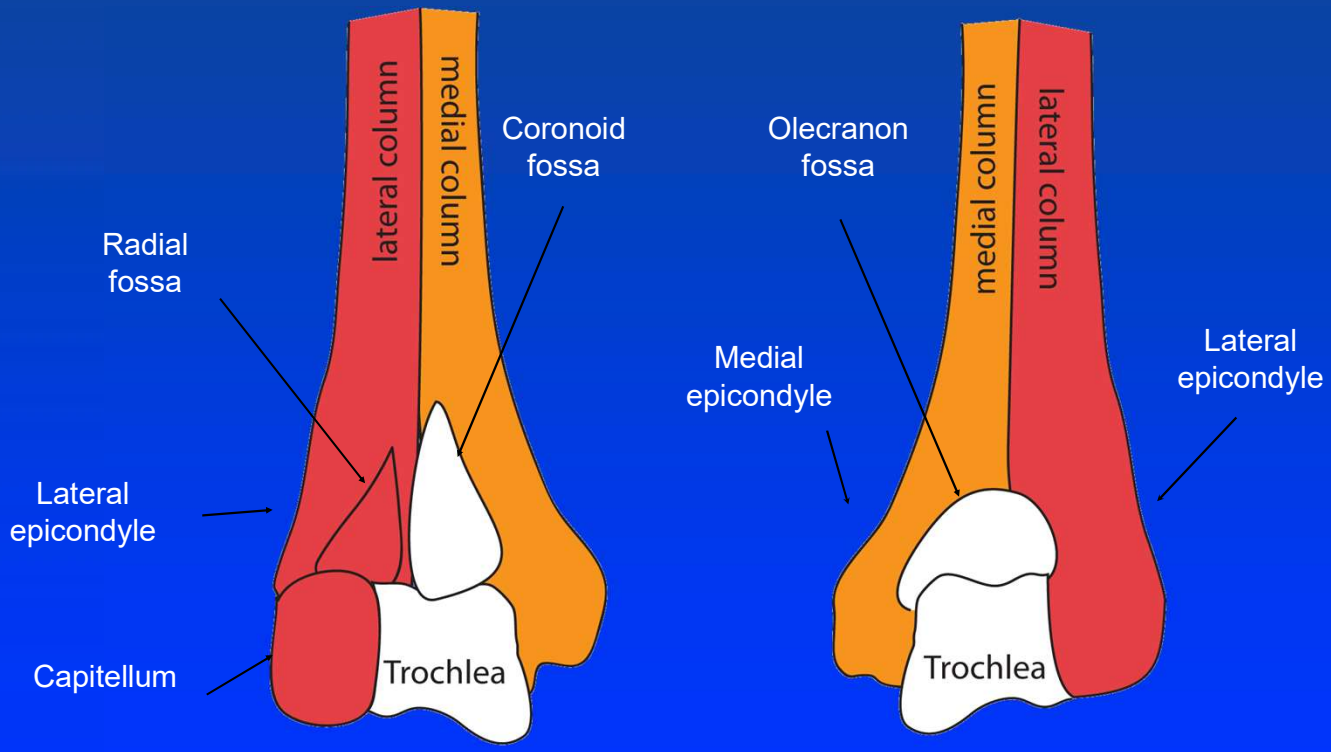
Question #1

What is the next step?

A. Place in coaptation splint and schedule follow up in 5-7 days
B. No fracture allow movement as tolerated
C. Send for further imaging MRI/CT scan
D. Start in PT for progressive ROM

Supracondylar Humerus FX

Bony Landmarks



Supracondylar Humerus Fx

Epidemiology

- **30% all Elbow fx**
  - Supracondylar
  - Single Column fx- Lateral
  - Bi-column fx- heavy damage
  - Young men & older female
  - Falls from standing height/high energy

- Assoc Injuries
  - Elbow dislocation
  - Terrible Triad
  - Floating Elbow
  - Volkmann Contracture - missed forearm compartment syndrome

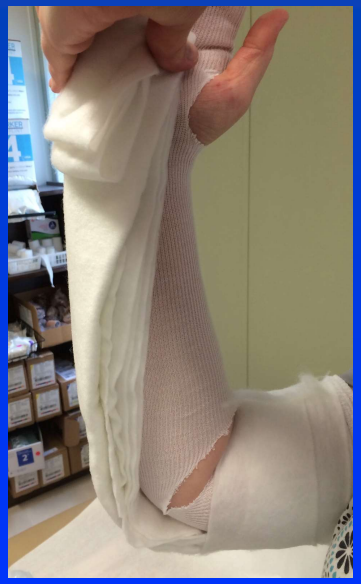
Supracondylar Humerus Fx

Exam

- Neurovascular- assess frequently
  - High suspicion for vascular injury
- Grossly unstable fx – limit motion

Acute treatment

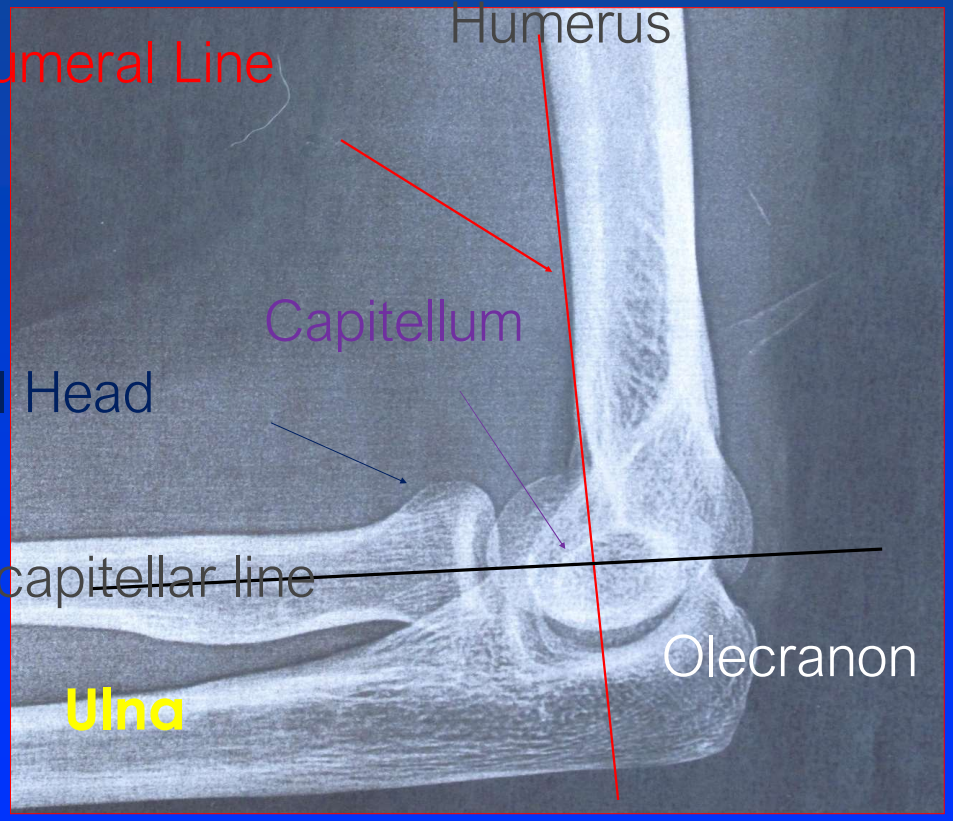
- Compromised Neurovascular
  - Emergent vascular consult/CTA
  - Concern for forearm compartment syndrome
  - Admit
- Long-arm posterior splint vs Dbl Sugar-tong
  - <90º flexion
- Sling
- Pain management
- Follow up 3-5 days
- **Most all elbow Fx require surgery**



Elbow Fx

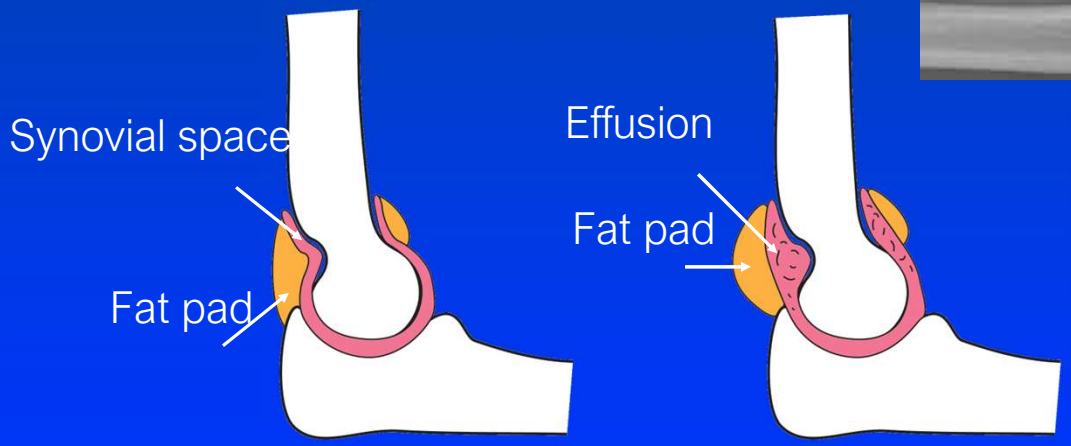
--Radial head

--Olecranon



Radiology

Fat Pad Sign



Radial Head Fx

Radial Head Fx

Epidemiology

- Most common elbow fx
- Injury mechanism- FOOSH, elbow extended & forearm pronated
- **35% assoc. injuries**
  - **LCL sprain (80%)**
  - **Essex-Lopresti injury**
  - **Fx Coronoid/Olecranon- ELBOW DISLOCATION**

Exam

- Swollen & tender lateral elbow
- Pain with Pronation/Supination

Radial Head Fracture

Treatment

- Sling vs Sugar-tong splint
  - **Sling - low demand patient/ elderly**
  - **Sugar-ting – High demand**
    - **Athletes, laborers, non-compliant, failed sling**
    - **Sugar-tong gets a sling**
  - Pain management
  - Limit Activity
  - Follow up 1 week
    - May begin ROM exercises
  - Will need serial x-rays till healed

- All displaced comminuted Fx will require surgical stabilization or Radial head replacement

Olecranon Fx

Olecranon Fx

Epidemiology

- **Bimodal injury distribution**
  - **Young- High energy**
  - **Elderly fall standing height**

- Injury mechanism-
  - Direct blow leads to comminuted fx
  - FOOSHE Transverse fx

- 35% assoc. injuries
  - LCL sprain (80%)
  - Essex-Lopresti injury
  - Fx Coronoid/Olecranon

Exam

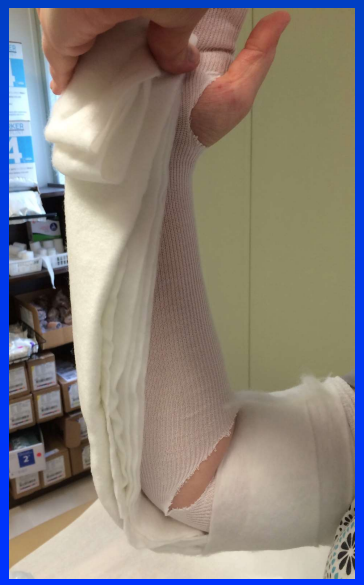
- Swollen & tender lateral elbow

- Pain with Pronation/Supination

Olecranon Fx

Treatment

- **Most Olecranon fx will need surgical stabilization**
  - **Stabilization allows for earlier ROM**
- **Immobilize in Long-arm posterior splint**
  - **Elbow flexed to 45-90º**
- **Sling**
- Pain management
- Follow up 1 week



Forearm Fx

Forearm Fractures

Etiology

- Injury Mechanism:
  - Direct blow- High energy vs. ground fall
  - **FOOSH w/ pronated hand/forearm** =- axial load
  - Car accident
  - Gunshot wounds/Farm-Industrial
    - Significant soft-tissue injury
    - Open Fx with nerve – vascular injury
    - Refer to Gustilo classification (classification of open fractures)
- Delays in surgery lead to increased risk of proximal radioulnar synostosis

Radius and Ulna Shaft Fractures

- Symptoms
  - gross deformity, pain, swelling
  - loss of forearm and hand function

- Physical exam
  - Check forearm compartments
    - High suspicion compartment syndrome
      - Pain with passive stretch of digits
      - Pain out of proportion
  - Assess radial and ulnar pulses
  - Check Median, Radial, and Ulnar nerve function

- Neurovascular
  - Median nerve: finger flex/Make a fist
    - AIN- “OK” sign (Flexor Pollicis Longus)
  - Radial nerve: Wrist/Finger extension
    - PIN: “Thumbs up” sign (Extensor Pollicis Longus)
  - Ulnar Nerve: Finger ABD/ADD

- Assess elbow & wrist for associated injury

Radius & Ulna Shaft Fx

Radius and Ulna Shaft Fractures

Treatment – **ADULTS**

- **Sugar-tong splint & Sling**
- **Pain management**
- **Follow up 1 week**
- Operative – Open Reduction Internal Fixation (ORIF)
  - Displaced distal ulna & Proximal ulna fxs
  - **ALL** radial shaft fxs
  - **ALL** both bone fxs
  - **ALL** open fractures
  - Segmental bone loss
  - Comminuted fx >1/3 length of shaft
  - Forearm nonunion
  - Most important structure to restore: radial bow
  - External Fixation – temporary/open wounds

Question #2

5 y/o presents after fall on arm at daycare with deformity and pain in the forearm area.

Question #2

What is the next step?

A. Sugartong splint, refer to Ortho for closed reduction
B. Hematoma block and closed reduction
C. Call ortho for surgical fixation, sugar tong splint
D. Long arm cast and follow up with Ortho in 2 weeks.

Question #2

Unacceptable alignment

- Angulation >15°, rotation >45° in children <10y
- Angulation >10°, rotation >30° in children >10y
- Bayonet apposition in children older than 10 years
- Both bone forearm fractures in children >13y

Monteggia Fx
&
Gaeleazzi Fx

Monteggia & Galeazzi Fx – MU-GR

Monteggia FX

MU-Gr

- Ulna Fx with Radial head injury
  - Radial head FX
  - Radial head Dislocation

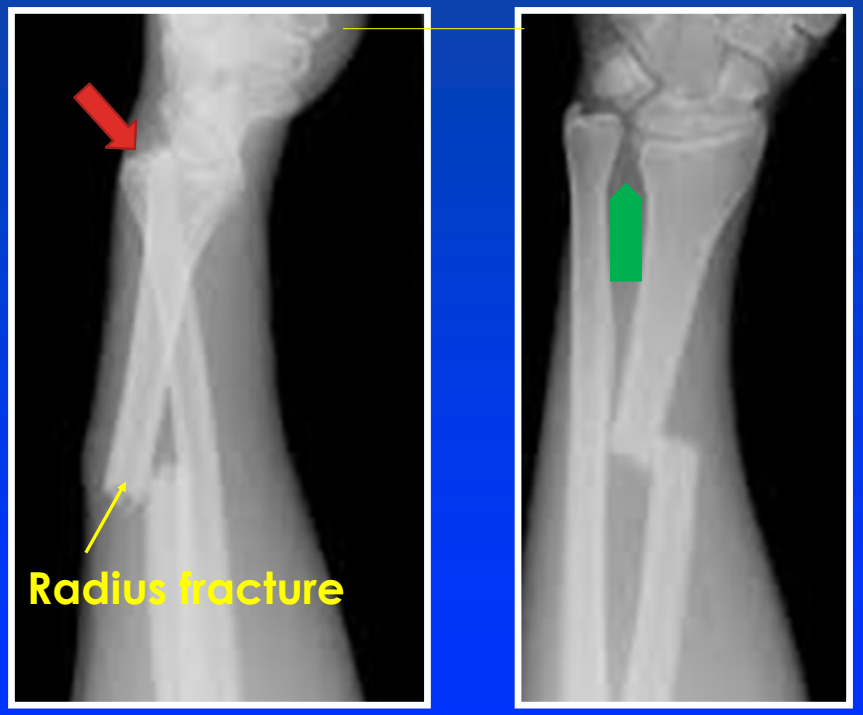
Galeazzi Fx

Mu-**GR**

- Radius Fx
- DRUJ instability/Injury

GALEAZZI FRACTURES

- Galeazzi Fracture
  - Radius fracture and DRUJ injury
    - Ulnar styloid fx
    - widening of DRUJ on AP view
    - dorsal or volar displacement ulna
      - Best seen lateral view
    - radial shortening (≥5mm)



Monteggia Fracture

Monteggia Fracture

- Defined as: Proximal 1/3 ulnar fracture with associated radial head dislocation

Etiology

- More common in children - peak incidence 4-10yo
- Rare in adults
- Delayed diagnosis >2-3 weeks = increased risk complication

Injury Mechanism

- Fall with blow to forearm, Elbow /forearm Hyperpronated
- Energy transmitted thru Interosseous ligament
- Causes rupture of proximal Quadratus & Annular Ligament

Monteggia Fracture

Radial Head dislocation

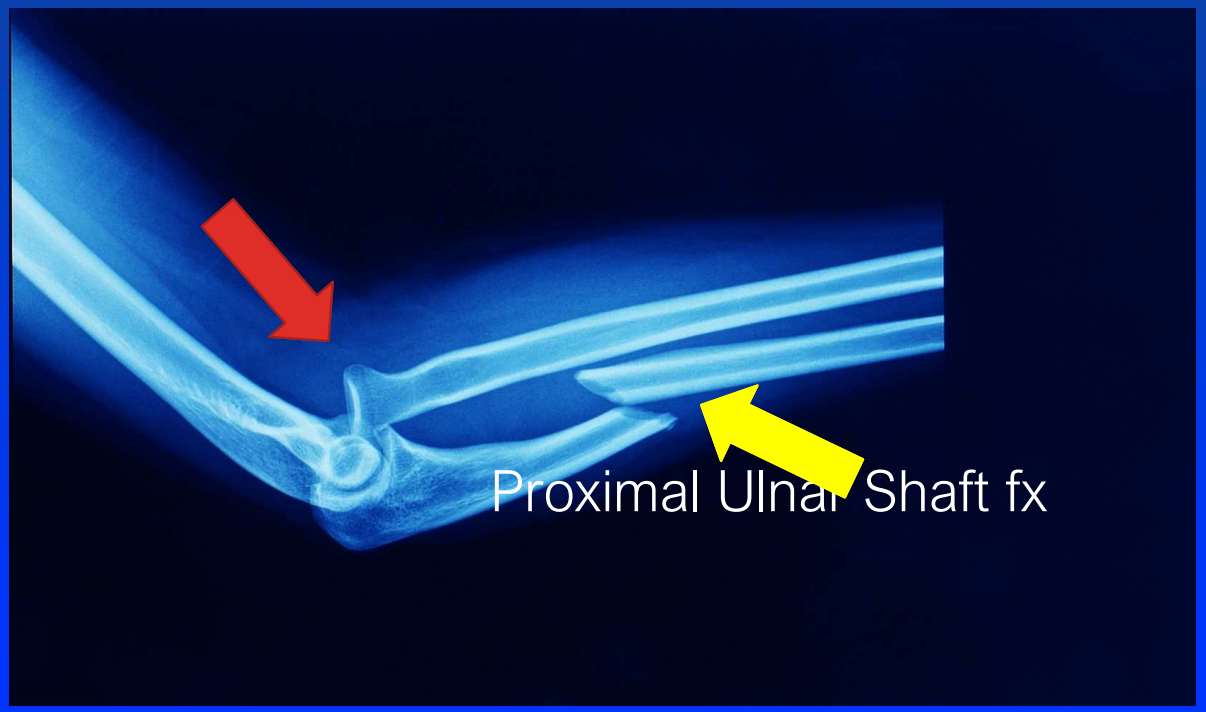


Photo courtesy TGocke, PA-C

Distal Radius Fx

Distal radius fractures

Epidemiology

- Distal Radius (DR) [& Ulna] fx account for 25% all UE fx
- Bimodal distribution: younger males and older females
  - Kids<18: Peak 12-14 yrs boys, 10-12 old girls
    - Decreased level skeletal mineralization & density w/ puberty
  - Adults > 50: Peak Caucasians >65 yrs old
    - Osteoporosis common risk factor
    - Prior fx > age 50
    - Steroid use
    - >75 yrs old w/ dementia
    - Intra-articular fx more common in females w/ DM
- Contributing Factors: Obesity, osteoporosis, DM, Tobacco use

Meaike JJ, Kakar S, management of Comminuted Distal Radius Fractures: A Critical Review, JBJS Reviews 2020;8(8)e20.00010

Porrino JA, Maloney E, Scherer K, et al Fracture of the Distal Radius: Epidemiology and Premanagement Radiographic Characterization, American Journal of Roentgenology 2014 203:3, 551-559

Corsino CB, Reeves RA, Sieg RN, Distal Radius Fractures, StatPearls, Treasure Island, FL, StatPearls Publishing Jan 2020

Colles' Fractures

Defined as: distal radius fx, dorsal comminution-angulation-displacement, radial shortening & Ulnar styloid fx

- Metaphyseal fx 1.5cm proximal to Carpal articulation
- Typically - non-articular w/ dorsal displacement
  - More severe fx considered with intra-articular comminuted appearance (dorsal)
- Dorsal displacement/angulation principle distal fx fragment
- Young- time of puberty 2nd to lower bone mineralization
    - Higher energy –sports
  - Elderly- Women > men
    - Falls
    - Osteoporosis

X-ray courtesy Tom Gocke, PA-C Library

Summers K, Fowles SM. Colles' Fracture. 2020 Aug 10. In: StatPearls Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2020 Jan

HEMATOMA BLOCK

- Inject Hematoma from dorsal aspect of wrist
  - 5ml 1% Lidocaine & 5ml 0.5% Bupivacaine
  - 10ml 1% Lidocaine
  - Sterile prep & technique
- Occ. need few ml's around ulnar styloid too
- No monitoring required
- Risks:
  - Infection & LA toxicity

- **Do not use once > 24hrs old as hematoma organized**

HEMATOMA BLOCK

Colles' Fracture

Treatment

- **Non-op**
  - Some Colles- type distal radius fx do not need surgical intervention
  - Displaced, extra-articular, non-comminuted fx are the best with Closed reduction.
  - Reduction maneuver
    - Traction of the hand
    - Counter-traction @ the elbow
    - Re-produce deforming force – "unlock" the fracture
    - Volar-medial force applied to distal Radius fragment
    - Pronated position overcomes deforming supination force
  - Immobilize in sugar-tong splint
  - Post-reduction x-ray
  - Post-reduction exam: neurovascular intact
  - Follow up in 1 week for re-imaging

Meaike JJ, Kakar S, Management of Comminuted Distal Radius Fractures: A Critical Review, JBJS Reviews 2020;8(8)e20.00010

Distal Radius Fractures

Smith's Fracture

- Epidemiology
  - Extra-articular distal Radius w/ volar displacement
    - Intra-articular Smith's III = Volar Barton
    - Hand /wrist follows Radius fragment
    - 5% all distal Radius fractures
    - Garden Spade deformity
  - Fall backward on of palmar flexed wrist or direct blow dorsal wrist
    - Volar displacement also seen fall on palmar hand
  - Highest incident young males/older females
    - High energy falls young
    - Osteoporotic bone elderly

Picture courtesy T Gocke, PA-C

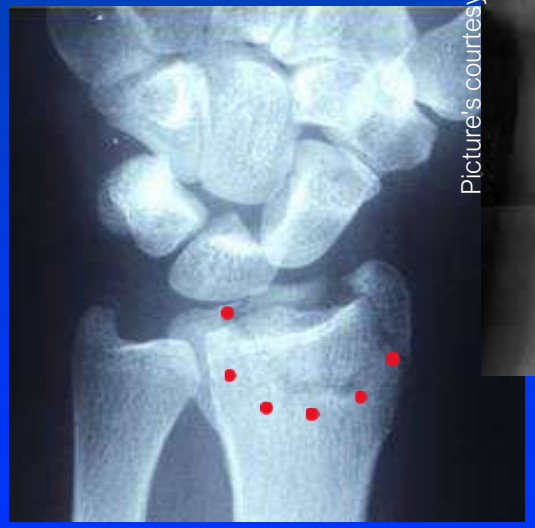
Schroeder JD, Varacallo M. Smith's Fracture Review. [Updated 2020 Aug 15]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2020 Jan-.

Smith Fractures

Distal Radius Fractures

Die-Punch Fracture

- Defined as
  - Intra-articular distal Radius fx w/ depression into Lunate fossa
- Injury Mechanism
  - Axial load distal Radius
- Radiology
  - Traditional X-ray views
  - CT scan for comminuted fx with > 2mm displacement
- Treatment
  - Surgical intervention, no non-op options
  - Elevation of articular surface w/ stabilization distal radius fx.



Picture's courtesy T Gocke, PA-C

Ahn L, Vitale M, Franko O, Distal Radius Fractures, Orthobullets, https://www.orthobullets.com/trauma/1027/distal-radius-fractures, updated 1/9/2021, retrieved 2/16/2021

Carpal Fx

Carpal Bone Injuries

Scaphoid Fx – navicular

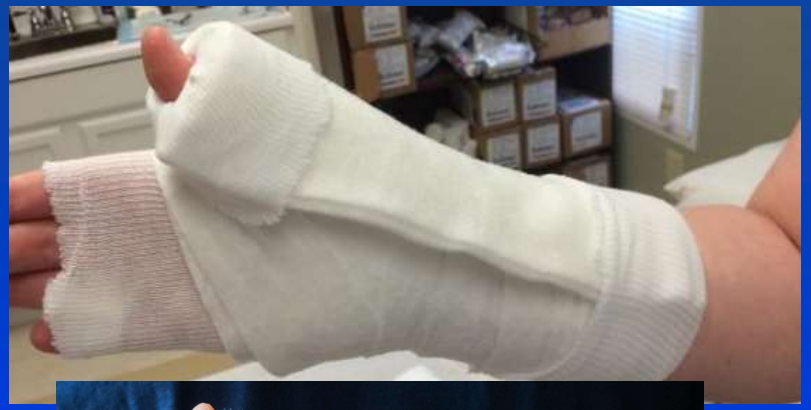
- **Epidemiology**
  - Most frequently fractured carpal bone
    - Approximately 15% of all acute wrist injuries
    - Transverse fx pattern considered more stable & best healing prognosis
  - Mechanism of Injury:
    - Fall on outstretched hand (FOOSH)
      - Axial load to wrist/carpal bones
      - Some radial deviation & Hyperpronation

Carpal Bone Fractures

Scaphoid Fx

Treatment:

- **<u>Important Initial treatment:</u>**
  - ***Suspect occult scaphoid fx***
  - Initial recognition of potential injury mechanism
  - Thorough physical examination
  - Comprehensive review of initial radiographs
    - Thumb spica splint vs. cast
    - Initial immobilization for 14-21 days
    - Repeat x-ray on follow up exam



Photos courtesy TGocke, PA-C

Question #3

62 y/o M presents with complaints of pain in the left wrist. Had a FOSH 5 days ago, presented to local UC had X-rays read as negative, was placed in volar splint due to pain. Has removed splint and purchase wrist brace.

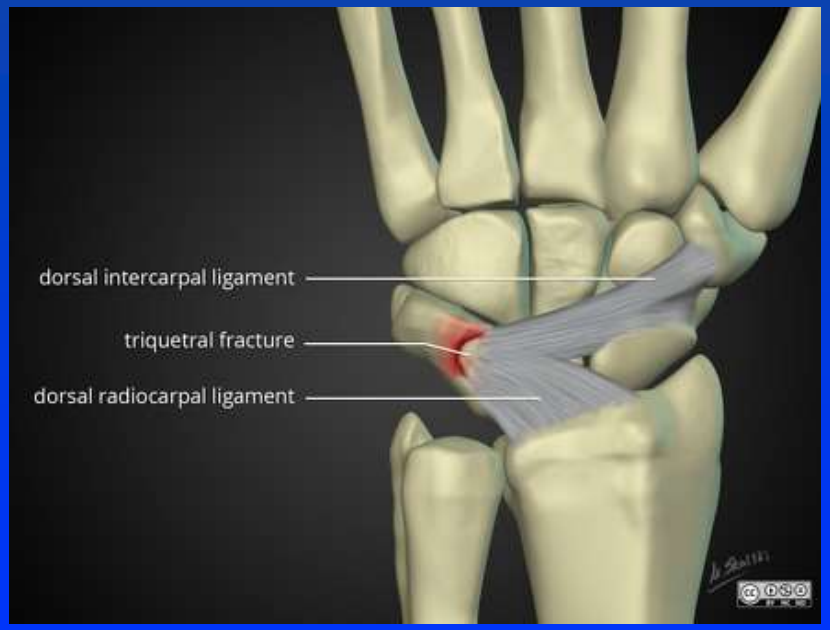
Question #3

What is the next step?

a. Leave in brace progress with motion as tolerate
b. Short arm cast and follow up in 2 weeks
c. Allow to progress with activities as comfortable no brace or cast
d. Injection in the wrist for pain

Question #3

Triquetral fractures are carpal bone fractures generally occurring on the dorsal surface of the triquetrum. The triquetral may be fractured by means of impingement from the ulnar styloid, shear forces, or avulsion from strong ligamentous attachments. They are the second commonest carpal bone fracture, after the scaphoid.

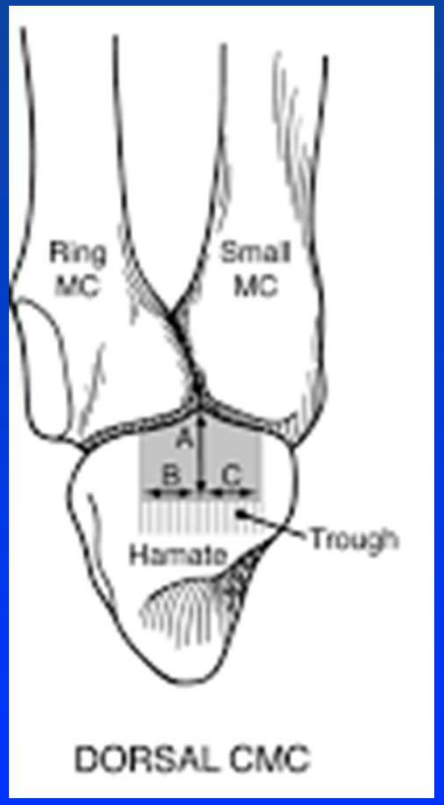


Hand- Metacarpal Fx

Metacarpal Fractures

Anatomy Review

- Index & Long (middle) fingers least mobile
- Ring & Small fingers more mobile & articulate with Hamate
- Thumb most mobile 2nd to articulation with carpus
- Palmar & Dorsal Interossi muscles originate for MC shafts
- Intrinsic Muscles
- Extrinsic Muscles



Metacarpal Fractures

Epidemiology

- Most fractures of the hand are to the metacarpal (MC)
  - Metacarpal neck most common injured & 5th metacarpal most often injured
  - 30% of all hand Fx are to the Shaft
- Men highest incidence of metacarpal injuries
- Average age injury 10-30 yrs
- Fx located by location: Head- Neck – Shaft - Base
- Treatment metacarpal fx based on finger and fx location
- Consider other injuries
  - Lacerations – open fx – compartment injuries- Infection

Borchers JR, Best TM, Common Finger Fractures and Dislocations, *Am Fam Physician 2012*, 85;(8):805-810

Wieschhoff GG, Sheehan SE, Wortman JR, et al, Traumatic Finger Injuries: What the Orthopaedic Surgeon Wants to Know, RNSA 2016;36(4):1106-1128

Metacarpal Fractures

Metacarpal Shaft FX

- Minimal displacement
- NO malrotation
- <5mm shortening
- 10 degrees coronal angulation any MC

Nelson, Wongworawat: Tolerances, 3rd edition 2009

Wieschhoff GG, Sheehan SE, Wortman JR, et al, Traumatic Finger Injuries: What the Orthopaedic Surgeon Wants to Know, RNSA 2016;36(4):1106-1128

X-rays courtesy Tom Gocke PA-C Library

Metacarpal shaft Fracture

Pictures courtesy T Gocke, PA-C

Cascade sign

- N

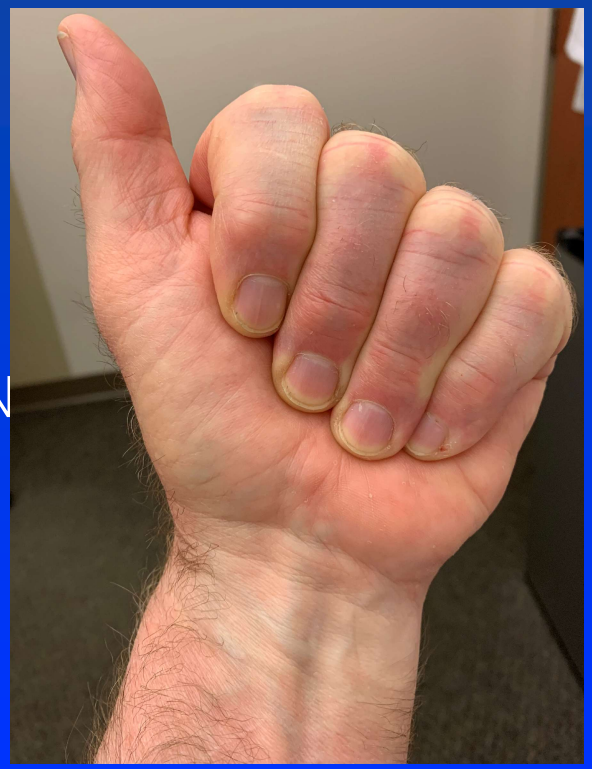


Photo courtesy TGocke, PA-C

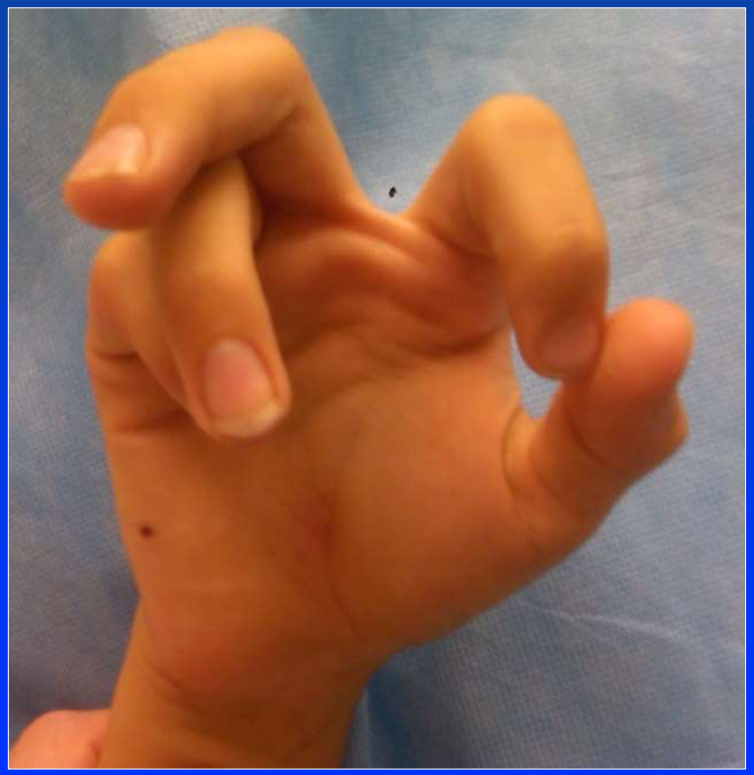


Photo courtesy TGocke, PA-C

Metacarpal base Fractures

Metacarpal Base fx –

- Extra-articular: Tx like MC Shaft
- Intra-articular: Tx based on malalignment
  - Malalignment Leads premature OA, weak grip & poor ROM
  - More Ulnar MC's allow for more ROM @ CMC jts. Leading to more noticeable malalignment
- Exam
  - Assess for Rotational deformities & weakness
  - Review X-ray studies
    - If Intra-articular or appear comminuted with ? Intra-articular extension need CT scan

X-ray Image courtesy Tom Gocke, PA-C Library

Oak N, Lawton JN, Intra-Articular Fractures of the Hand, Hand Clinic, 2013;29:535-549

Metacarpal Base Fracture

- Initial Treatment
  - Recognize injury seen on x-ray
  - Assessment for malrotation deformities & grip strength changes (hand dynamometer)
  - Application Ulnar/Radial gutter splint intrinsic plus position
  - Volar /dorsal blocking splint
  - Consider CT Scan hand
  - Ortho Hand/Plastics Hand follow up within <1 week of CT scan being done
  - Surgery vs. Thermoplastic splint/Cast immobilization
    - Needs close follow up if treated conservatively

Bernstein D, Metacarpal Base Fractures – Surgical vs. Conservative care, November 1, 2019 – Personal conversation

Oak N, Lawton JN, Intra-Articular Fractures of the Hand, Hand Clinic, 2013;29:535-549

Metacarpal Base Fracture

Finger Fx & Dislocations

Phalangeal Fractures

Epidemiology

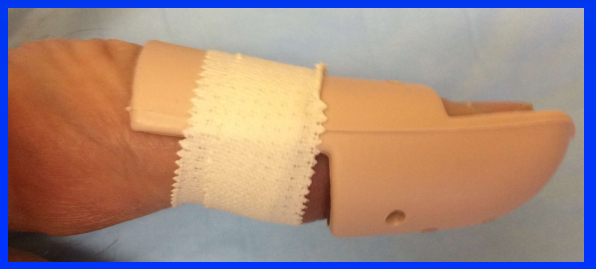
- Most common fracture to the hand – 50%
- Finger phalanx divided into:
  - Proximal (P1) – Middle (P2) – Distal (P3)
- Common Injury Mechanism: Axial load & Crush injury
- Injury involves Tuft-Shaft-Base
- Fx pattern: Transverse or Longitudinal
- Distal Fingertip anatomy
  - Numerous septa extend from periosteum to skin
  - Overlying nail bed
  - 50% nail Bed extends beyond P3
  - Less likely to dislocate DIP jt. due to fingertip anatomy

Wieschhoff GG, Sheehan SE, Wortman JR, Traumatic Finger Injuries: What the Orthopaedic Surgeon Wants to Know, RNSA 2016;36(4):1106-1128

Phalangeal Fractures

Treatment: Distal phalanx

- Non-operative
  - Extra-articular
  - < 10 degrees angulation
  - <2mm shortening
  - No Rotational deformity
    - Dorsal Finger splint DIP joint vs. Stack Splint
      - Swelling may limit stack splint use initially
      - Monitor for Nail matrix & nail bed laceration



Nelson S, Wongworawat M, Tolerances: an orthopaedic reference manual, 3rd edition, Loma Linda University Press, Loma Linda, CA. 2009

Wieschhoff GG, Sheehan SE, Wortman JR, Traumatic Finger Injuries: What the Orthopaedic Surgeon Wants to Know, RNSA 2016;36(4):1106-1128

Phalanx fx

Shaft Fractures

- Transverse w/o displacement considered to be stable fx can immobilize w/a splint
- Oblique & Spiral: often unstable fx patterns and require surgery
- Intra-articular fx: most displaced & require ORIF (same as P2 injury)

Base fractures

- Often need surgery 2nd to poor ability to maintain fx reduction if displaced

Immobilize in extension

Pain meds

F/U 1 week

Question #4

58 yo F presents today with complaints of pain in the left middle finger. Fall with injury to finger 3 days ago. Limited motion, pain, weakness and swelling of the DIP and PIP noted.

Question #4

What is the next step?

a. Volar plate injury, splint in 30 degrees of flexion
b. Capsular injury to finger, Buddy tape only
c. Splint and immediate follow up for Jersey finger
d. No fracture or injury, progress as tolerated

Question #4