

Reduction

- Your target : **Anatomical** vs. **functional**
- We restore only the function.
 - Anatomy is not restored
 - Anatomy isn't 100% restored / rather we restore **acceptable** : Length, Alignment and Rotation (Angulation)
 - called : The functional range.
→ "certain range" depending on the site and the age of the patient.
 - Not affecting the function.
- usually achieved by surgery → So risk of surgery + Compromise vascularity of the fracture → that's why we don't do it always only when needed → **Intra-articular fractures** + forearm in adults.
- How it's done : **open** vs. **closed**, **Direct** vs. **indirect**
- to ↓ Risk of **2° OA**
- in pediatrics
functional growth potential

Immobilization

= fixation

→ Casts / splints / nails / screws / plates / wires -----

→ **Absolute** vs. **Relative** → Allows some movement at the fracture site.

- needed in intra-articular fractures → in order to mobilize early and avoid joint stiffness
- Doesn't allow any movement on the fracture site or movement less than 1mm

Rehab.

- when to start ? depending on the degree of fracture healing and stability
- The aim is to start as early as possible.

→ What's needed for any fracture to heal ?

Blood supply + Contact + **Stability** → (Absolute / relative / instability)

No soft tissue
or space in between

The major factor that determines the type of healing

primary vs.
secondary vs.
none

* Secondary bone Healing / Healing by callus formation / Indirect bone healing :-

Fracture → bleeding and **hematoma formation** → inflammation → fibrous tissue formation → Remove fibrous tissue and lay some cartilage (soft callus / nth on x-ray)

From small blood vessels of periosteum and endosteum and small arteries inside the bone cavities

triggered by movement → **Relative Stability**.

consolidation of the fracture ← Replaced by **woven bone** ←

(woven bone is converted into **mature lamellar bone**)

(hard callus formation)

appears on X-ray

Clinically
? might feel like pain
- Pain resolves
+
- Fracture become relatively stable (moves as one piece)

MRI

Remodeling

(Re-shaping of the callus / may takes years / Dependant on stress applied to bone)

Wolff's Law

(Capacity of Remodeling is dependant on the age of the pt + site of the fracture)

According to this the **functional range** is determined.

the acceptable range of functional reduction

What you don't use you lose

Best younger and closer to growth plate.

* Resembles endochondral ossification.

* Notes :

Skeletally mature vs skeletally immature
both are skeletally mature ← 60 weeks 30 years old easier to call

- if the pt has fracture and assigned for surgery it's either done within the first 24 hrs (hematoma stage) or after ± 10 days (after the end of the inflammatory stage), As you won't be able to close the wound of edematous tissue.
- it's preferred not to give NSAIDs during the inflammatory phase → give paracetamol or narcotics.
- Orthopedic unit and its derivatives ⇒ till hard callus formation (time till healing)
 - Time needed for **Consolidation** is double the time needed for **healing**
- Hematoma and necrotic tissue causes the release of cytokines that causes attraction of macrophages
 - fracture edges become necrotic

• time needed for upper limb fracture to heal:
 6 wks.
 • time needed for consolidation (wt bearing): 12 wks.

* Primary bone healing / Direct bone healing / healing by cutting bone formation :-

↳ (Absolute stability or fractures with gap less than 2 mm)

- No hematoma, No minimal movement → Thus no inflammatory response
- necrotic fracture edges must be removed → This is done by osteoclast [cuts through the bone till reaching the fracture site] → And then osteoblasts builds new bone → (continuous process of coupled bone resorption and bone formation)
- No callus formation.
- So process is carried out by the **Metabolizing unit** →

- Bone metabolizing units, at the frontal end, contain **cutting cones**
- Lined by multicellular osteoclasts.
- Linear rate of bone resorption 50µm/day.
- Behind them, walls of osteons are lined by osteoblasts
- Oppose new osteoid at 1µm/day

* Methods of absolute stabilization : 1- lag screw or Compression screw

(only these 3)

2- Compression plate

3- tension band wiring.

Complications of fracture healing

1. Malunion:

Good healing but in an inappropriate position thus compromising function.

Treatment: osteotomy (surgically breaking the bone) and fixation in the correct position.

2. Nonunion:

2 types; hypertrophic where the problem lies in inadequate stability of the fracture site (gross mobility so the callus is formed but cannot hold the ends together),

And atrophic where the problem lies in inadequate vascularity at the fracture site causing necrosis at the fracture ends and minimal capacity for the fracture to heal.

→ compromised by: smoking / DM / open fractures / infections
Extensive surgical approaches ----

You keep removing dead bone (white bone) until
bone-bleeding → Paprika Sign: (small red dots on the
bone → = viable bone)

Hypertrophic Nonunion

Hypertrophic fracture ends on the radiographs (elephant foot or horse hoof appearance).



Treatment: surgical stabilization of the fracture.

Cuts about fracture 1/2 to 2/3 (pseudo joint) over to break by self

Atrophic Nonunion

No callus formation is seen, in long standing cases pencil like appearance of the fracture ends on the radiographs could be seen.



Treatment: debridement of the necrotic bone ends, bone grafting, and fixation.

* Types of Simple fractures according to shape : **Transverse** , **oblique** , **spiral**

The slowest. ↪

↪ fastest healing bcz of :

- 1- Higher surface area
- 2- mild soft tissue injury