Proximal Humeral Fractures: Selecting the Right Approach

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Approach

Nonoperative

- Operative
 - Plate
 - Deltopectoral
 - Deltoid splitting
 - Nail
- Arthroplasty





- 78 yr old female, retired
- Lives by self, stable medical conditions

How would you treat this patient?





- 10 weeks post injury
- 130 degrees flexion



Delto-Pectoral Approach



41M, proximal humerus fracture-dislocation

- Associated axillary nerve injury
- Biceps tendon laceration
- No significant past medical history
- Non-dominant side
- Mountain biking fall (3 hours prior to arrival at ER)





OR on 12/30/19







Outcomes – 7/22/20



Deltoid Split Approach



Valgus Impacted Fracture

34 yr old polytrauma patient

- Bilateral open femur fractures: IM nails
- Open L tibial shaft fracture: IM nail
- L tibial plateau fracture: ORIF
- L proximal humeral fracture: ?

PMH – prior clavicle ORIF, ETOH abuse

Radiographs

PORTABLE

Valgus impacted four part proximal humeral fracture



Anterior view

Lateral view

Surgical Approach

- Majority of pathology is posterior
- Anterior (delto-pectoral) approach would not reveal the main fracture lines well

 Ideal case for deltoid split approach, or "lateral" approach which allows for better posterior exposure

Intra-operative view



Intra-operative view

Impacted humeral head

Axillary nerve



Greater tuberosity

Intra-operative view post reduction and plate application









 Randomized Controlled Trial
 > J Shoulder Elbow Surg. 2020 Nov;29(11):2190-2199.

 doi: 10.1016/j.jse.2020.06.020. Epub 2020 Jul 7.

Deltopectoral vs. deltoid split approach for proximal HUmerus fracture fixation with locking plate: a prospective RAndomized study (HURA)

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- 85 patients, mean age 62
- DP 41, DS 45
- Q-DASH 12 versus 26 (DP better)
- Constant 56 versus 51 (DP better)
- More complications in DS group

Proximal Humeral Nailing

Proximal Humeral Fx: IM Nail Indications Fx with Diaphyseal Extension

Fx with <u>Metaphyseal</u> Comminution Fx with <u>Ipsilateral Diaphyseal</u> Fx



Approach



Rotator Cuff Incision Preparation



Rotator Cuff Incision

Through cuff, not insertion









Ream Centrally

Proximal Interlocking Screws

Rotator Cuff Repair



Proximal Humeral Fx With Metaphyseal Extension

