

# **Clavicle: The Top Tips and Tricks I Learned in My Career**



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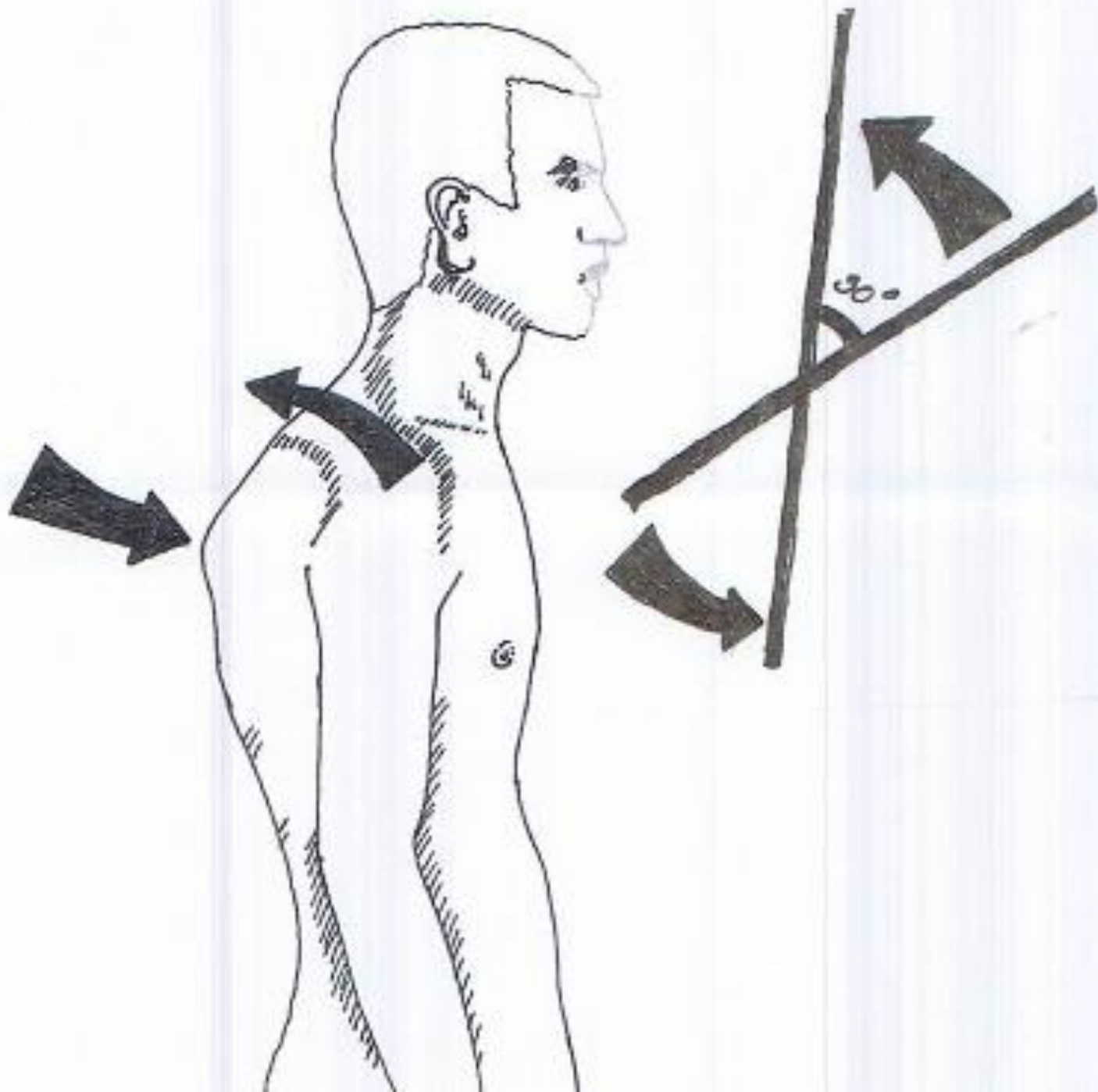
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# 1. Scapular malposition is a major determinant of outcome









ELSEVIER


# Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery

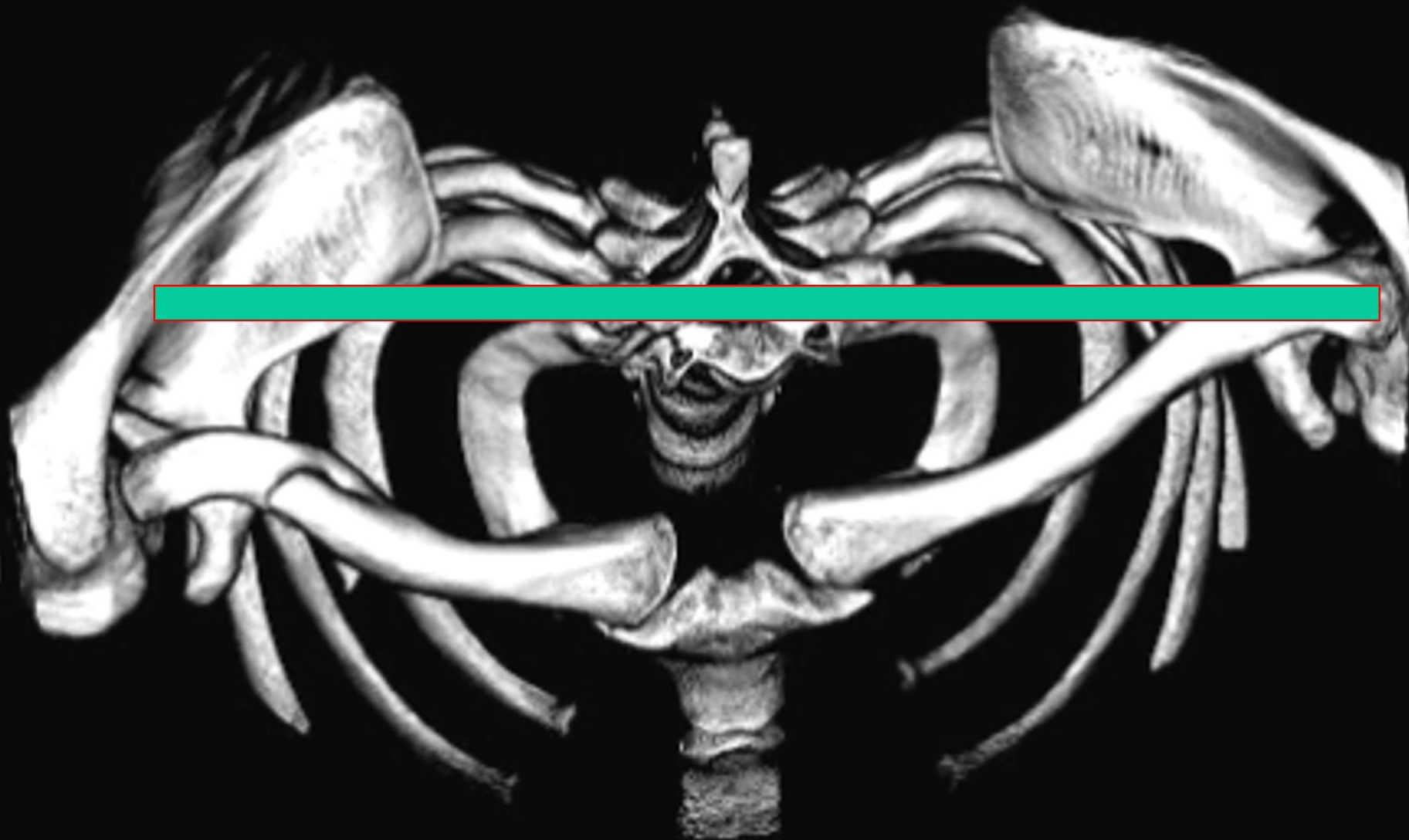
Volume 22, Issue 2, February 2013, Pages 240-246



Shoulder

## The radiographic quantification of scapular malalignment after malunion of displaced clavicular shaft fractures

Bill Ristevski MD, MSc, FRCSC(C)<sup>a</sup>, Jeremy A. Hall MD, MEd, FRCS(C)<sup>b</sup>, Dawn Pearce MD<sup>c</sup>,  
Jeff Potter MD<sup>d</sup>, Michael Farrugia MD<sup>e</sup>, Michael D. McKee MD, FRCS(C)<sup>b</sup>  

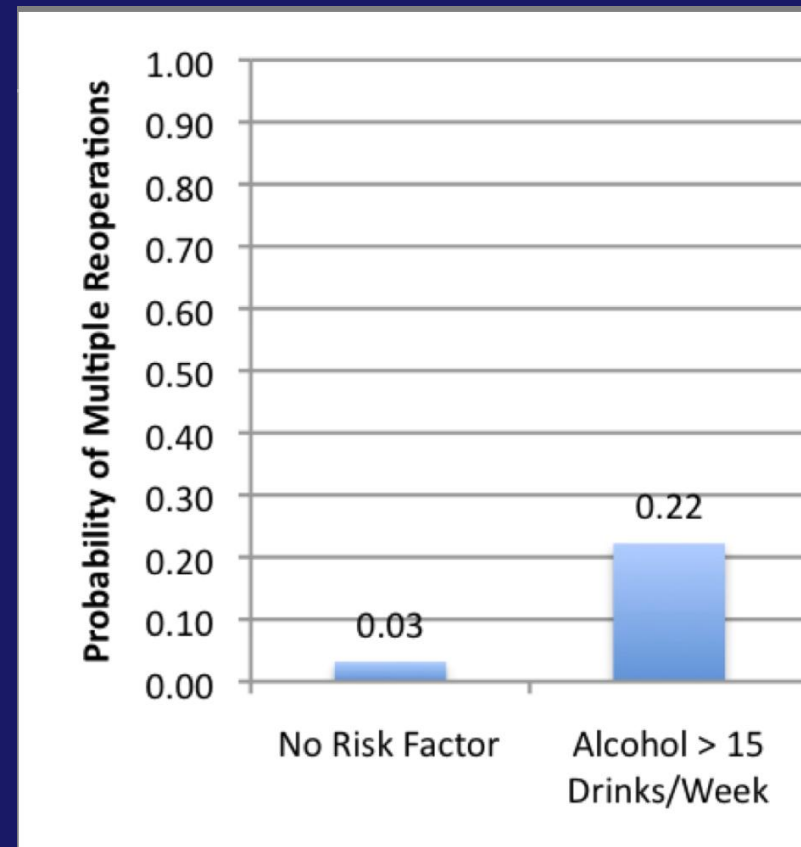


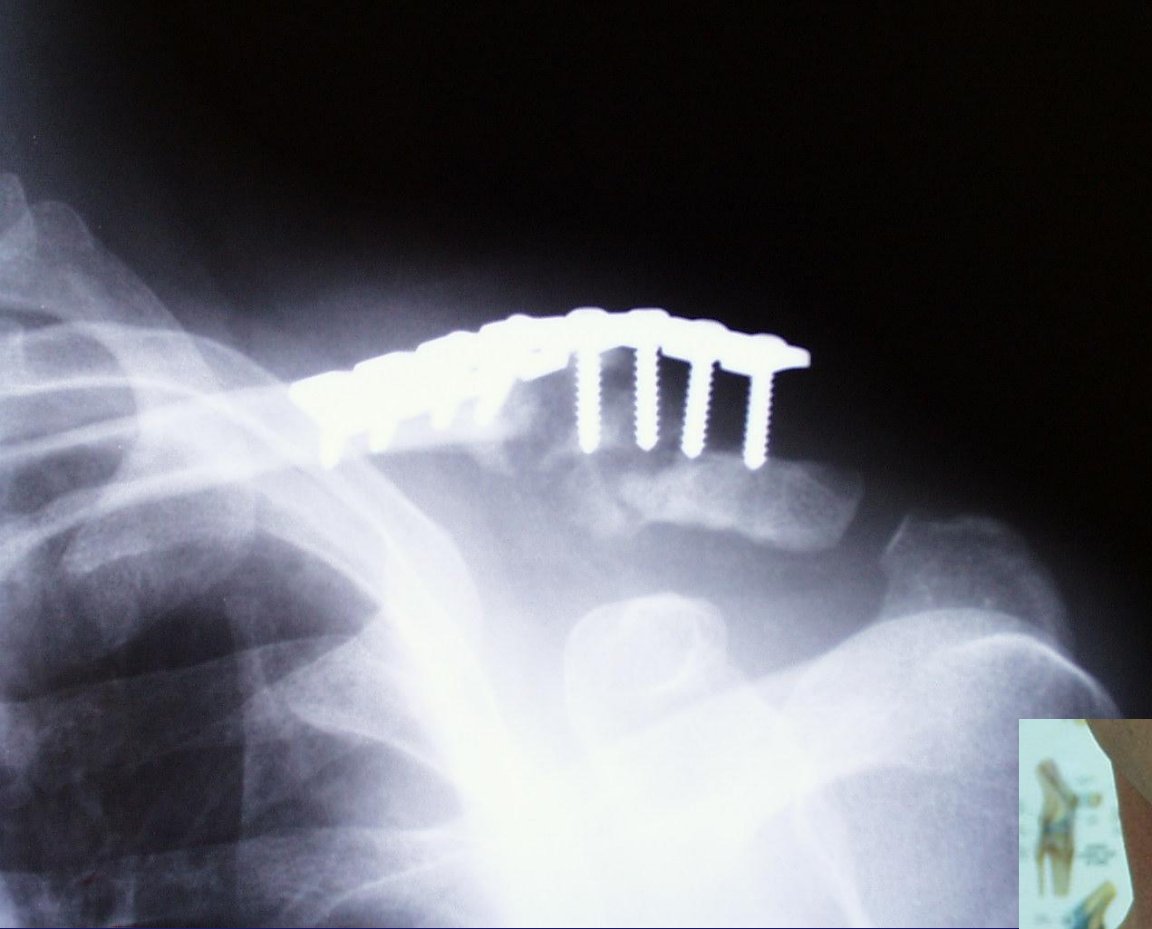
## 2. Beware operating on a substance abuser with a clavicle fracture



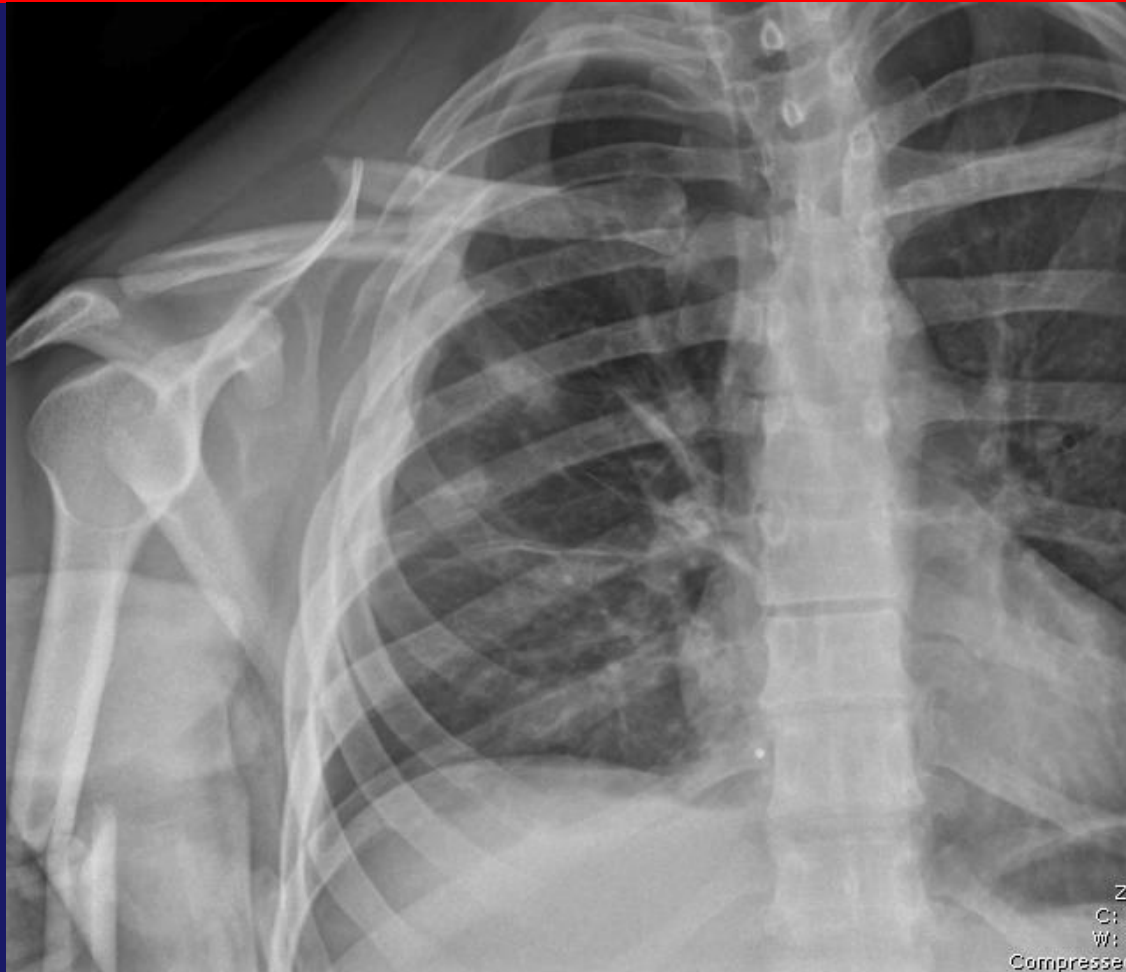
# Major Complication

- Schemitsch L. et al. JOT 2016
- 234 cases of clavicle fixation
- Normal: 3%
- Substance abuser: 22 %
- $p=0.001$





# 3. It is safe to allow immediate weight bearing following ORIF of clavicle fractures

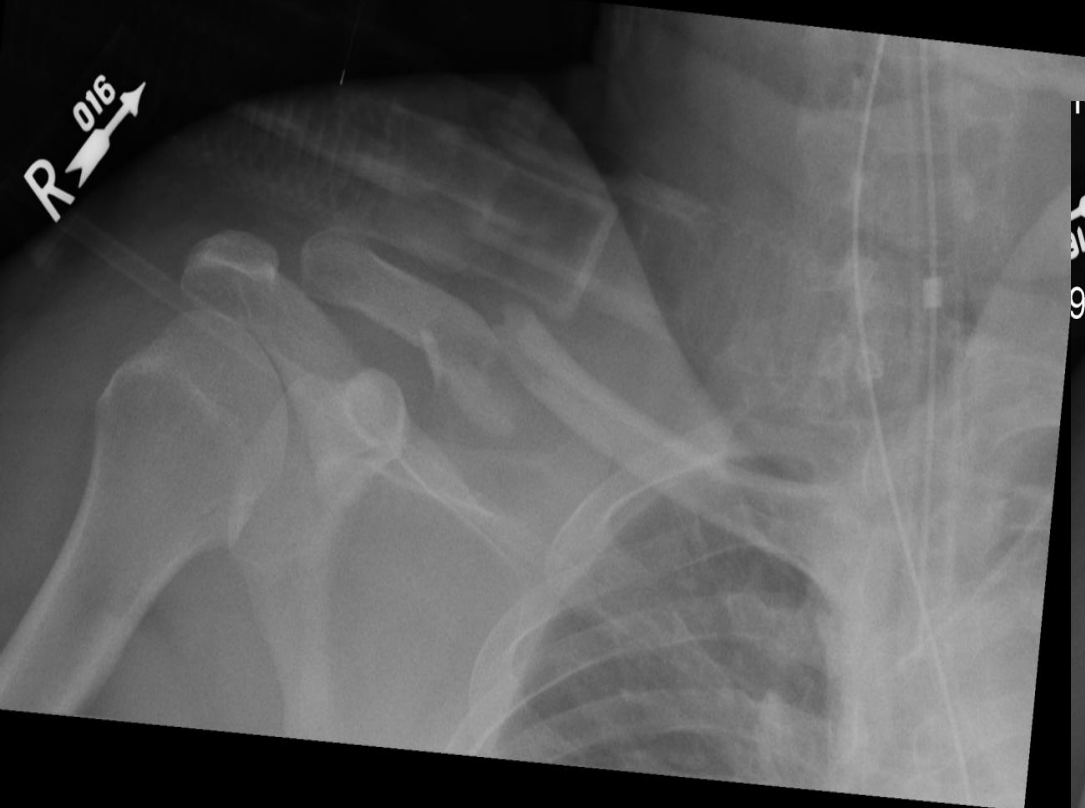


# Initial Supine Trauma Films

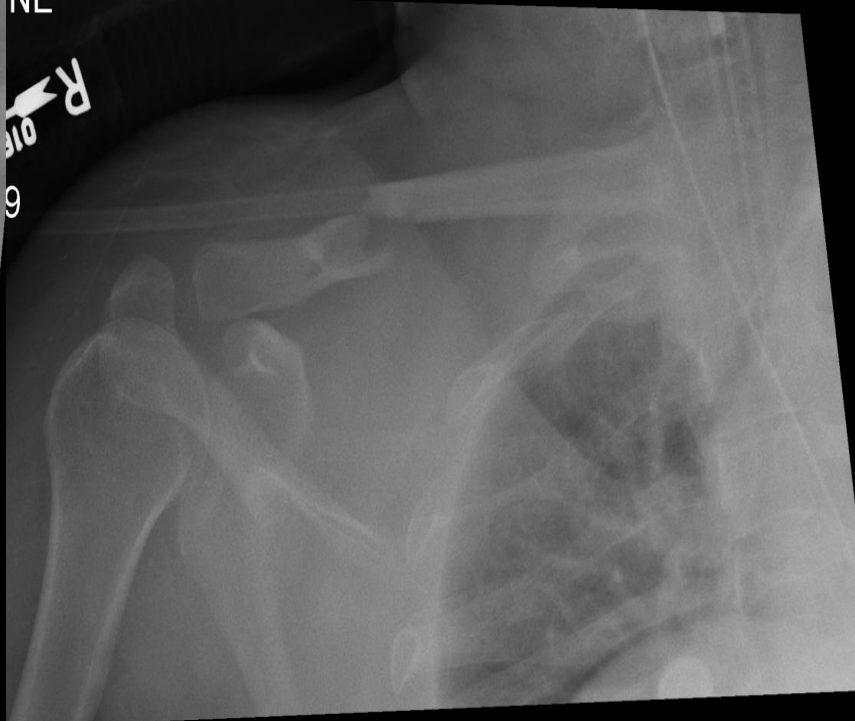
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# Upright radiographs two weeks later



# Intra-operative radiograph





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PHOENIX

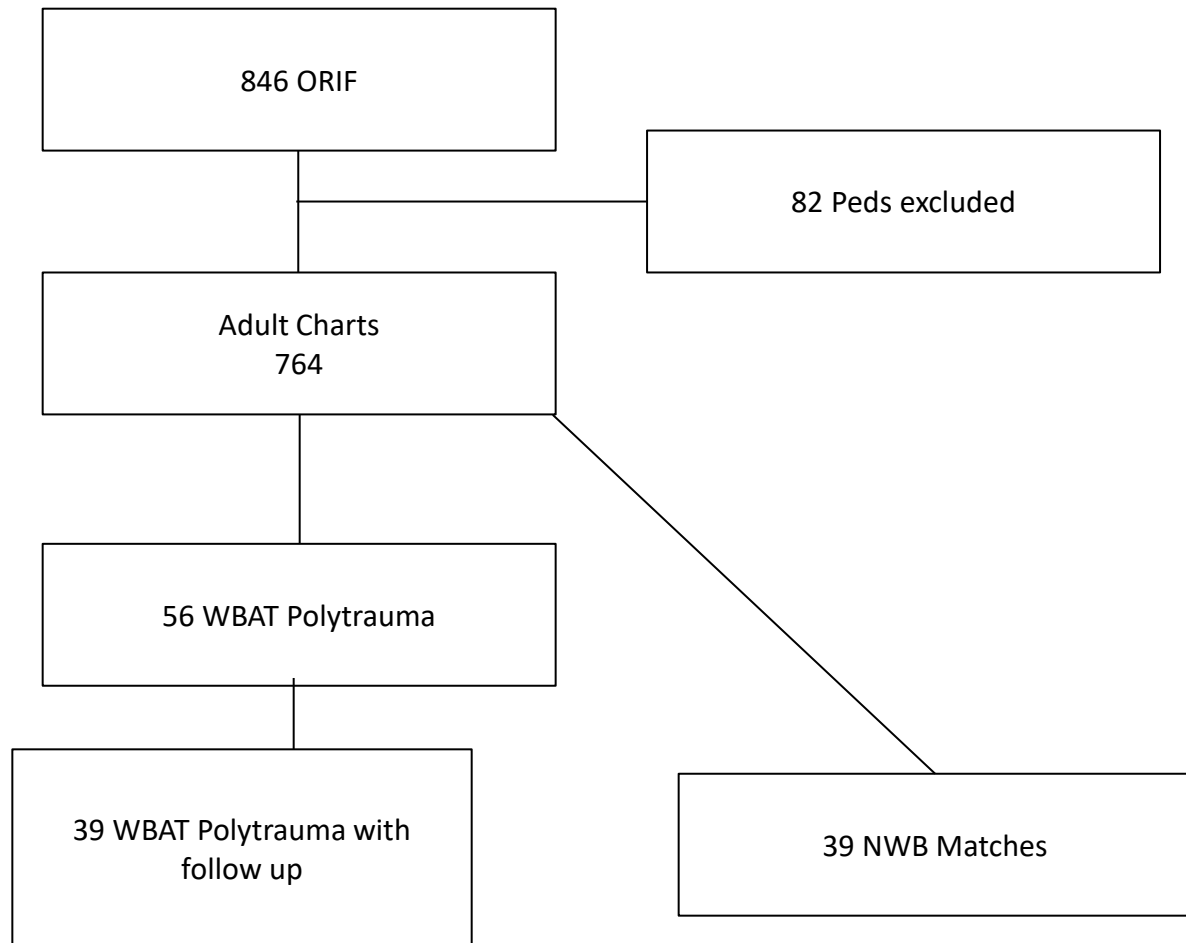
# Immediate Weight Bearing After Surgical Fixation of Clavicle Fractures in Polytraumatized Patients: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Ben Watzig, PGY-2

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Dehghan

Co-Investigators: Dr. Michael McKee, Dr. Nicholas Frane, Clayton Hui,  
Dr. Arjun Vohra, Sorka MS3

# Results



# Outcomes

	WBAT (39)	NWB (39)
• Fixation failure:	1	2
• Deep infection:	0	0
• Superficial infection:	1	1
• Reoperation:	1	1
• Time to union:	13.5 w	13.6 w
• No difference in any outcome measure		

**4. Most adolescent clavicle fractures can be treated non-operatively but some should be fixed**

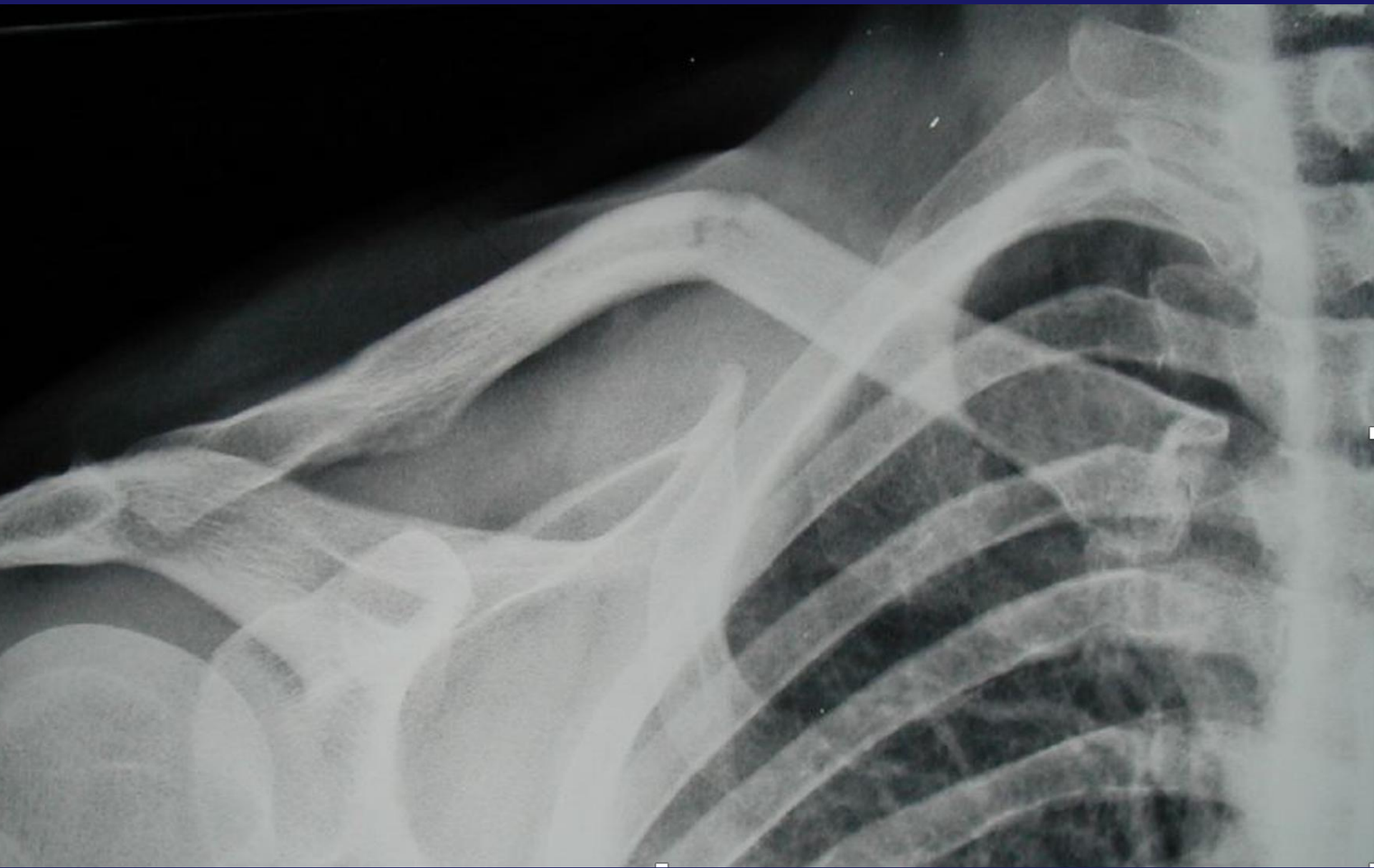


- 14 year old boy
- Dominant arm
- High level golfer





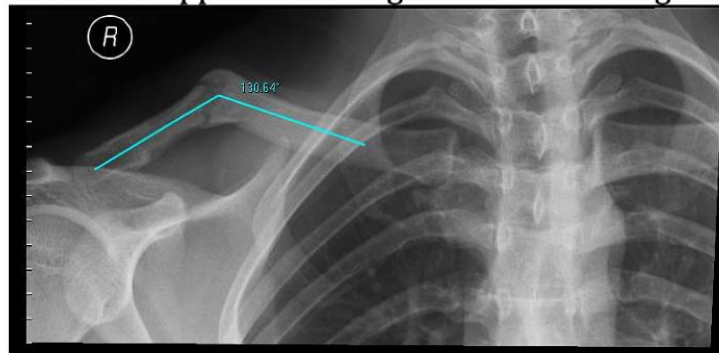




## Clavicular Refracture at the Site of Angular Malunion in Young Athletes

Matthew J Furey<sup>1</sup>, Radovan Zdero, Michael D McKee

**Figure 1.** Patient 1: Radiograph demonstrating re-fracture at the site of previous malunion. Approximate angulation was 50 degrees.



**Figure 2.** Patient 1: Post surgical reduction and fixation of mid-shaft angulated malunion of the clavicle



## CURRENT CONCEPTS REVIEW

# Clavicular Fractures in the Adolescent

Midhat Patel, MD, Benton E. Heyworth, MD, Niloofar Dehghan, MD, FRCS, Charles T. Mehlman, DO, MPH, ATC, and Michael D. McKee, MD, FRCS

- Current evidence suggests that the majority of clavicular fractures in adolescents can and should be treated nonoperatively.
- Although rare, in certain patients or fracture patterns, nonoperative management may be associated with delayed healing, prolonged disability, and/or poor functional outcome requiring secondary reconstruction.
- When warranted, primary open reduction and internal fixation with plate and screw application has consistently good outcomes with a low complication rate, with the most common complication being implant-related symptoms requiring a secondary surgical procedure for implant removal.
- Prospective, comparative studies examining operative and nonoperative treatment, including measures of early return to function, injury burden, return to athletic activity, complication and reoperation rates, and shoulder-girdle-specific, long-term outcome measures are warranted to further elucidate which fractures may benefit from primary fixation.

The treatment of clavicular fractures in adolescents (from 10 to 18 years of age) has traditionally been nonoperative, but it is clear that an increasing number of orthopaedic surgeons are recommending operative treatment for these injuries. This is based, at least in part, on multiple, high-quality, comparative trials in adults<sup>1</sup>. These studies demonstrated that primary operative repair of displaced midshaft clavicular fractures

informed, joint decision with their patients and patients' families with regard to the optimal treatment for clavicular injury.

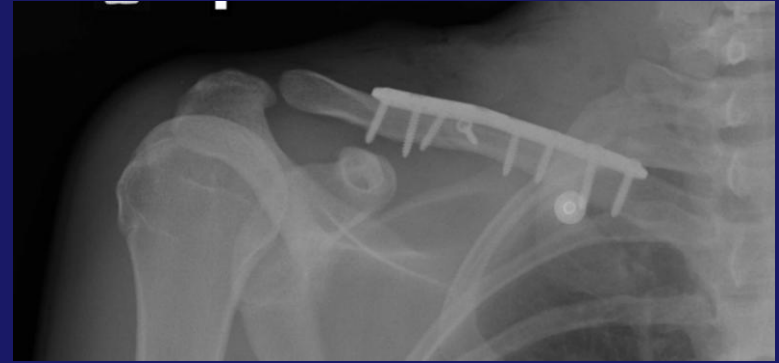
### **Epidemiology**

Clavicular fractures account for 10% to 15% of all fractures in children<sup>7,8</sup>. In an epidemiological review of all upper-

# **5. Fixing a Clavicle Fracture is a Finesse Operation With a Narrow Risk-Benefit Ratio**



# Surgical Risk-Benefit Ratio



- Life saving
- Non-op Rx bad
- Indestructible
- Reconstruction difficult
- Ratio: +++++

- Improves U/E function
- Non-op Rx good
- Can fall apart
- Reconstruction reasonable
- Ratio: +