



Why the Name? Fracture Eponyms (and few other Named Injuries)

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Eponymous Fractures/Fracture-Dislocations

- Named fractures for who first described, classified, or popularized the injury pattern
- **Benefit:** Provides rapid, succinct description of complex fracture patterns.
- **Disadvantage:** Often misnamed which creates confusion and misdirects management.

***Does not account for severity of the injury.*



*UPPER EXTREMITY
EPONYMOUS FRACTURES*





Case courtesy of Dr Benoudina Samir, Radiopaedia.org, rID: 58016

Hill Sachs Defect

- 1940: Radiologists Arthur Hill and David Sachs
- Pattern: impaction fracture of the posterolateral humeral head
- MOI: Anterior shoulder dislocations
 - Impaction- anterior glenoid rim

*AP with internal rotation of the shoulder necessary to avoid missing this defect

BANKART LESION





Bankart Lesion

- 1923: Orthopedic surgeon Arthur Bankart
 - Pattern: Soft tissue injury of the anteroinferior labrum
 - Bony Bankart: fracture of the glenoid
 - MOI: anterior shoulder dislocation
- **Commonly associated with Hill Sachs*
- Both are associated with an increased risk for instability and repeat dislocations

•Bankart ASB. Recurrent or habitual dislocation of the shoulder joint. Br Med J. 1923 Dec 15; 2(3285): 1132-1133.

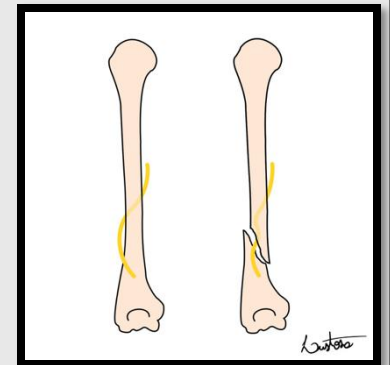




Holstein-Lewis Fracture

- 1963: Orthopedic surgeons Arthur Holstein and Gwilym Lewis
- Pattern: Spiral fx of the distal third of the humerus
- MOI: trauma

*Increased risk of radial nerve palsy





Galeazzi Fracture - Dislocation

- 1934: Surgeon Riccardo Galeazzi
- Pattern: radial shaft fracture (middle/distal third) with associated dislocation of the distal radioulnar joint (DRUJ)
- MOI: FOOSH, forearm pronation or supination

**Rare in kids:* consider Galeazzi equivalent

- Radial shaft fx with distal ulnar physis displacement (DRUJ remains intact)

•Galeazzi R. Über ein besonderes Syndrom bei Verletzungen im Bereich der Unterarmknochen. Archiv für orthopädische und Unfall Chirurgie 1934; 35:557–562.

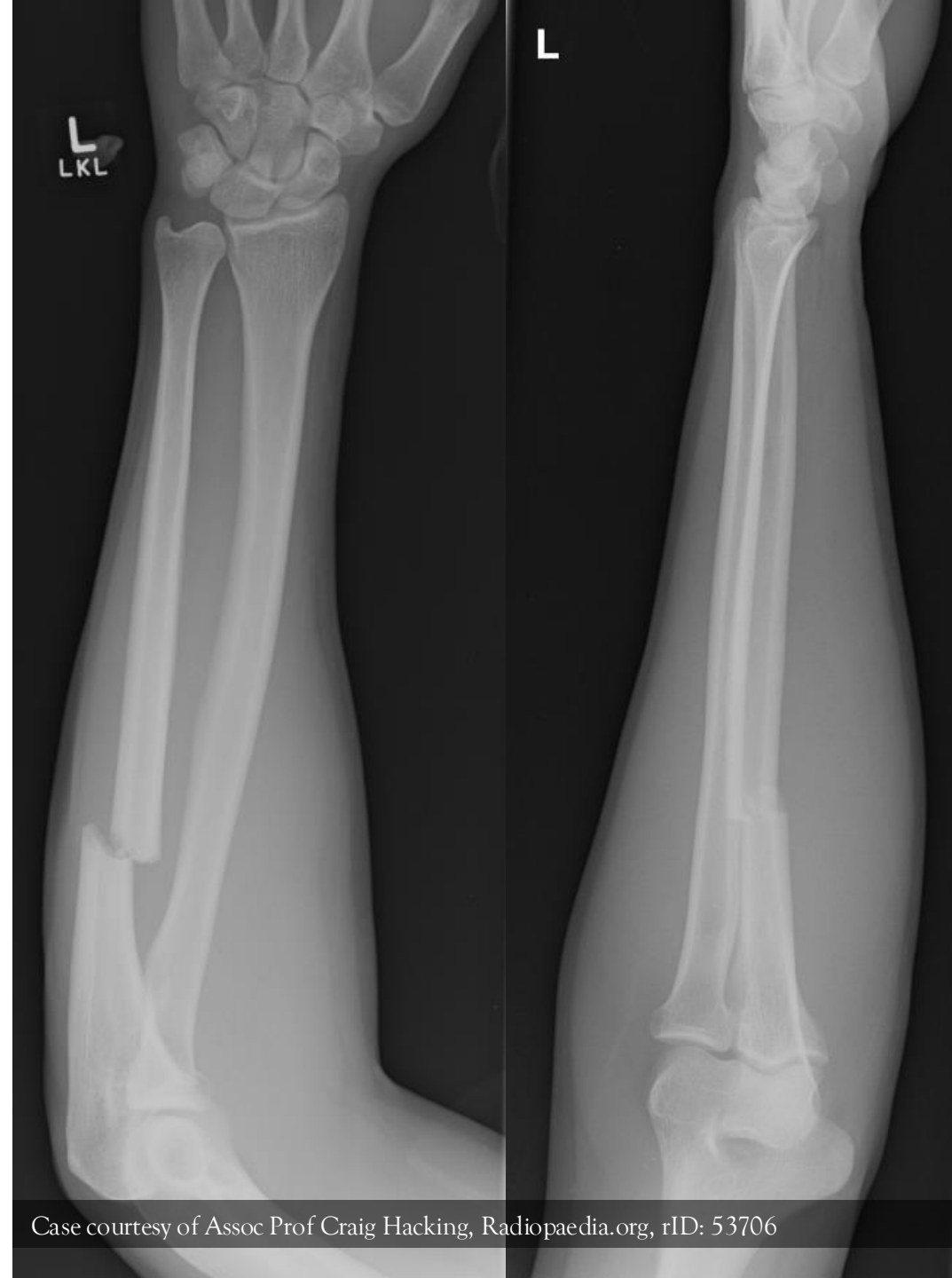




Nightstick Fracture

- Named after police baton (nightstick) impacting the midshaft of the ulna with a direct blow
- Pattern: isolated ulnar shaft fracture
 - Typically, transverse in midshaft
- MOI: direct impact of blunt object to the forearm often while attempting to block a blow to head
 - Must consider defensive wound, assault

*When “isolated” ulnar shaft fx identified, consider physical exam findings and dedicated elbow images to assess for associated injuries



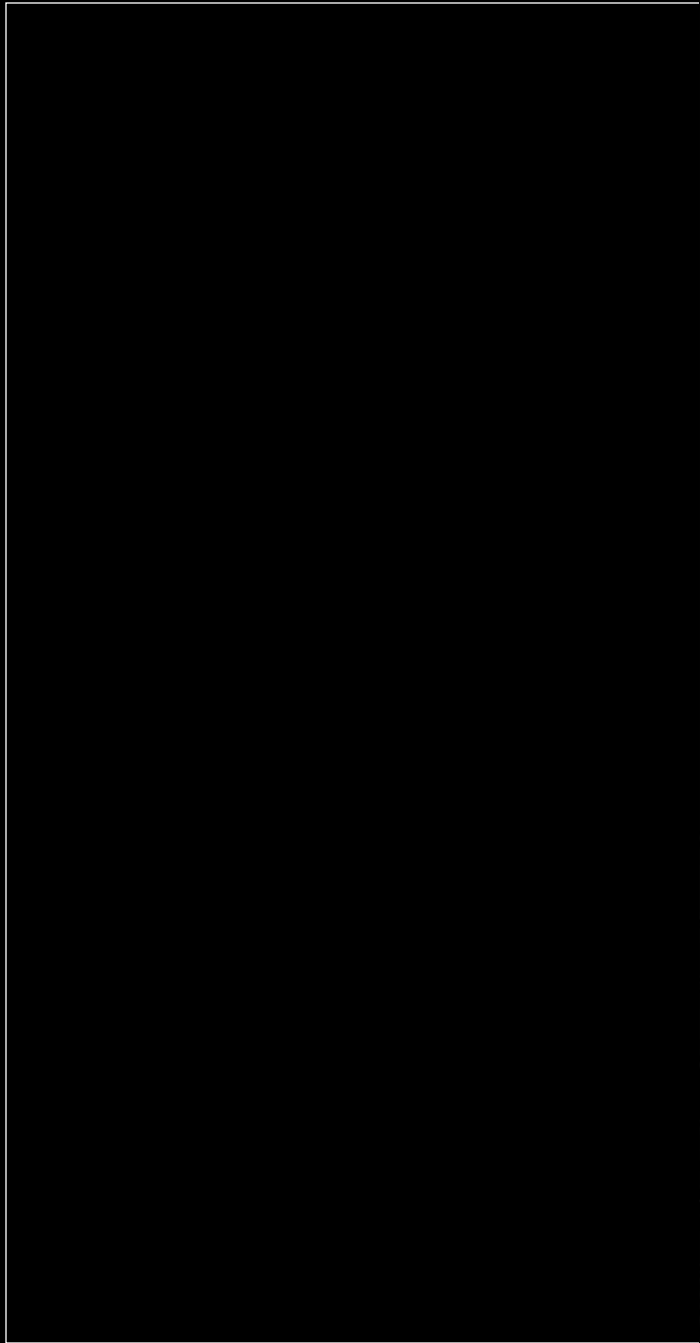


Monteggia Fracture - Dislocation

- 1812: Surgeon Giovanni Battista Monteggia
- Pattern: ulna shaft (proximal third/middle) fx with dislocation of radial head
- MOI: majority are FOOSH with forearm pronation or hyperextension
 - Bado classification (Type I-IV) based on pattern variability
- *Missed or delayed diagnosis of radial head dislocation may lead to significant complications

•Monteggia GB. Lussazioni delle ossa delle estremita superiori. In: Monteggia GB. Istituzioni Chirurgiche. 1814; V: 131-133





Colles Fracture

- 1814: Surgeon Abraham Colles
- Pattern: **extra-articular** distal radius fracture with impaction and dorsal angulation/displacement
 - “dinner fork deformity”
- MOI: FOOSH or high impact trauma
 - *50% associated ulnar styloid fracture

•Colles A. On the fracture of the carpal extremity of the radius. The Edinburgh medical and surgical journal. 1814;10:182-186.

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Smith Fracture

- 1847: Surgeon and pathologist Robert Smith
 - Pattern: transverse fracture of the distal radius with volar angulation/displacement
 - Also termed Reverse Colles
 - MOI: Fall on flexed wrist
- *Type I is most common which is extra-articular

•Smith RW. On Fractures of the Bones of the Fore-arm in the Vicinity of the Wrist Joint. In: A Treatise on Fractures in the Vicinity of Joint and on Certain Forms of Accidental and Congenital Dislocations. Dublin. 1847: 129-175.

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Case courtesy of Dr Jan Frank Gerstenmaier, Radiopaedia.org, rID: 25199



Barton Fracture

- 1838: Surgeon John Rhea Barton
 - Eponym applied in 1860
- Pattern: oblique fracture of the distal radius with articular extension dorsally
 - Dorsal-type: Barton fracture
 - Volar-type: reverse Barton fracture

*Often associated with dorsal
subluxation/dislocation of radiocarpal joint

Barton, JR. Views and treatment of an important injury of the wrist. *Medical Examiner*. 1838; 1: 365–368.

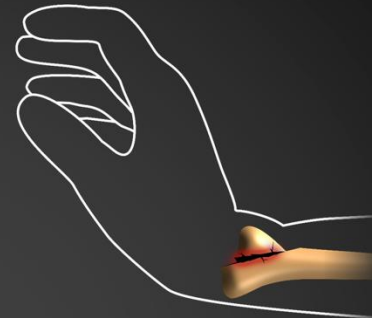
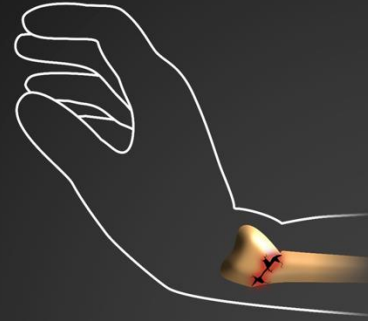


Common distal radius fractures

Extra-articular

Intra-articular

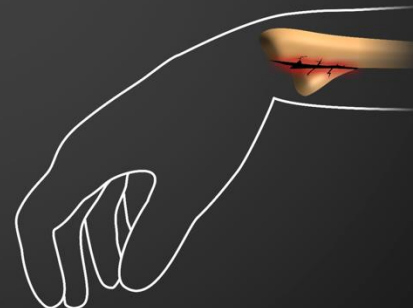
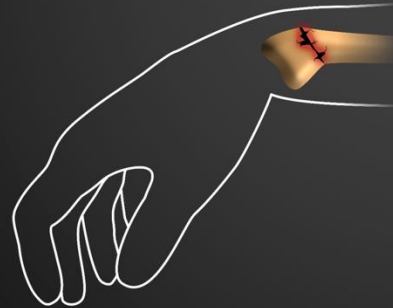
Dorsal angulation



Colles

Dorsal Barton

Volar angulation



Smith

Volar Barton /
Reverse Barton

Case courtesy of Dr Maciej Debowski, Radiopaedia.org, rID: 66146





Case courtesy of Dr Alexandra Stanislavsky, Radiopaedia.org, rID: 12360

Chauffeur Fracture

- Also known as Hutchinson or Backfire
- 1866: Surgeon Johnathan Hutchinson
- Named for injury sustained when using a hand crank and it unexpectedly jerked back impacting wrist
- Pattern: intra-articular oblique fracture of radial styloid process
 - Scaphoid impacts radius
- MOI: direct trauma to dorsum of wrist or FOOSH

*May be considered avulsion fracture as the radiocarpal ligaments remain attached to styloid



Bennett Fracture

- 1881: Surgeon Edward Bennett
- Pattern: intra-articular oblique fracture at the base of the first metacarpal
 - Associated with subluxation or dislocation of carpometacarpal joint
- MOI: axial trauma with partially flexed metacarpal

*Two-part fracture





Rolando Fracture

- 1910: Silvio Rolando
- Pattern: comminuted intra-articular first metacarpal base fracture
 - ≥ 3 parts, T or Y shaped
- MOI: axial trauma with partially flexed metacarpal

* “Comminuted Bennett Fx”: unstable fx

• Rolando S. Fracture de la base du premier metacarpien et principalement sur une variété non encore décrite. La Presse Médicale 1910; 33: 303–304. [Translated Meals RA. Fracture of the base of the first metacarpal and a variation that has not yet been described. Clin Orthop Relat Res. 2006 Apr; 445:15-8]



A photograph of two people sitting on concrete steps. The person on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and dark blue jeans, with their feet on a skateboard. The person on the right is wearing a grey t-shirt and light blue jeans, holding a smartphone in their hands, with their feet on a skateboard. The background is a plain concrete wall.

*LOWER EXTREMITY
EPONYMOUS FRACTURES*





Segond Fracture

- 1879: Surgeon Paul Segond
- Pattern: avulsion fracture of the proximal lateral tibia (inferior to the tibial plateau)
- MOI: internal rotation of the knee with varus stress

*Frequent association with **ACL tears**, meniscal tears, and other soft tissue injuries

•Segond P. Recherches cliniques et expérimentales sur les épanchements sanguins du genou par entorse. Progrès Médical 1879; 16: 297–299, 319–321, 340–341



Maisonneuve Fracture

- 1840: Surgeon Jacque Gilles Maisonneuve
- Pattern: spiral fracture of the proximal fibula with associated unstable ankle injury
 - Disruption of the distal tibiofibular syndesmosis +/- medial malleolus fx, and interosseous tear
 - May have widening at ankle mortise
- MOI: force on externally rotated ankle with a pronated foot

*Always assess proximal fibula with ankle injuries to avoid missing this injury

•Maisonneuve JG. Recherches sur la fracture du péroné. Archives générales de médecine **1840**; 7: 165-187 and 433-473



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Tillaux Fracture

- 1872: Paul Tillaux
- Pattern: fracture of the anterolateral tubercle of the distal tibia
- MOI: pull of the anteroinferior tibiofibular ligament in abduction/external rotation
- Fracture requires an open physis: Adolescent injury

*Salter-Harris Type III

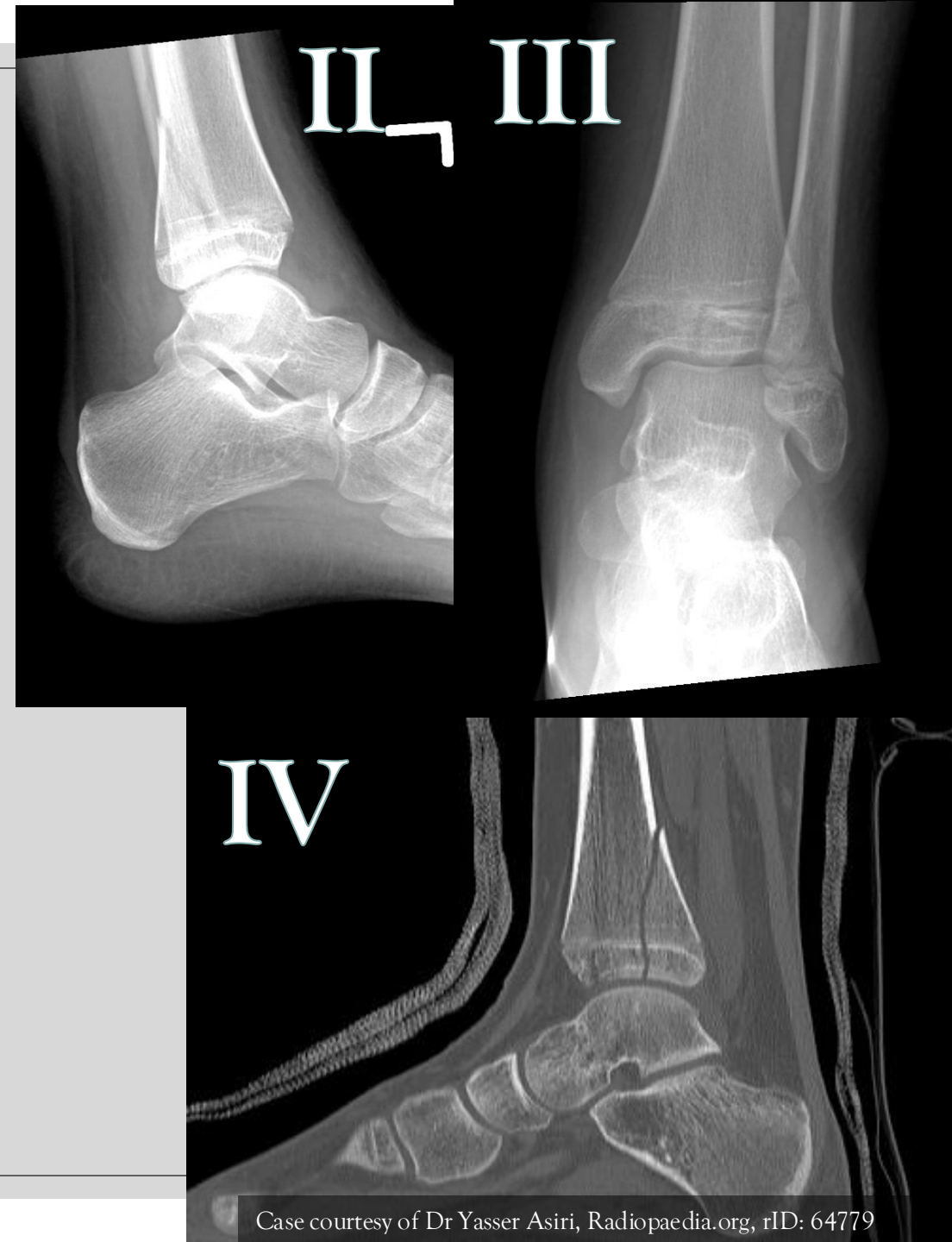




Triplane Fx

- Name reflects the injury extending along the frontal, lateral, and transverse planes
- Pattern: SH IV fracture of the distal tibia
 - Epiphysis: vertical fx
 - Physis: horizontal fx
 - Metaphysis: oblique fx
- MOI: External rotation and supination injury in adolescents as epiphyseal plate is closing

*Fractures appear as a SH III on AP view and SH II on lateral view.





Jones Fracture

- 1902: Orthopaedic surgeon Sir Robert Jones
 - Sustained this injury while dancing
- Pattern: transverse fracture at the metadiaphyseal junction without articular extension
 - Pseudo-Jones: avulsion fracture of the fifth metatarsal base
- MOI: plantarflexion with adduction force to forefoot

*Higher rate of nonunion, delayed union, or refracture due to limited blood supply

•Jones R. Fracture of the Base of the Fifth Metatarsal Bone by Indirect Violence. Ann Surg. 1902; 35(6): 697-700



A long-exposure photograph of a road at night, showing light trails from vehicles. The trails are primarily blue and white on the left side of the road, and orange and red on the right side. The road curves into the distance. The entire image is framed by a white double-line border.

QUICK COMPARISONS



Colles



Barton



Bennett



Rolando

Jones



Pseudo-Jones



Apophysis



Night Stick



Monteggia



Final Tips

1

Correlate with
clinical findings

2

Document
potential associated
injuries

3

Describing a fracture is far
more important than the
unique name!

Questions?

References

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2. Eng J, Mysko WK, Weller GE, et al. Interpretation of emergency department radiographs a comparison of emergency medicine physicians with radiologists, residents with faculty, and film with digital display. *AJR AM J Roentgenol*. 2000;175:1233-1238.
3. Bolander, S. A systematic approach to describing fractures. *JAAPA*. 2019;32(5):23-29.
4. Martin J, Marsh JL, Nepola JV, Dirchl DR, Hurwitz S, DeCoster TA. Radiographic fracture assessments: which ones can we reliably make? *J Orthop Trauma*. 2000;14(6):379-385.
5. Nguyen JC, Markhardy BK, Merrow AC, Dwek JR. Imaging of pediatric growth plate disturbances. *Radiographics*. 2017;37(6):1791-1812.
6. Wong PK, Hanna TN, Shuaib W, et al. What's in a name? Upper extremity fracture eponyms (part 1). *Int J Emerg*. 2015;8:27.
7. Wong PK, Hanna TN, Shuaib W, et al. What's in a name? Lower extremity fracture eponyms (part 2). *Int J Emerg*. 2015;8:25.

*Historical references included on slides

Resources

- AAOS: <http://www.aaos.org/>
- POSNA: <https://posna.org/>
- AAFP: <http://www.aafp.org/>

- Radiopaedia: <http://radiopaedia.org/>
- OrthoBullets: <https://www.orthobullets.com>