



University Hospital Galway

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT
GalwayEM.ie

Wrist Injuries

(<https://galwayem.ie/index.php/index.php/guidelines/trauma-and-musculoskeletal/wrist-injuries>)

Category

Trauma and Musculoskeletal (<https://galwayem.ie/index.php/guidelines/trauma-and-musculoskeletal>)

Fracture Distal Radius

Un-displaced

Futura splint, Broad arm sling. Advice on finger, elbow and shoulder exercises.

Refer Virtual Fracture Clinic (VFC).

Satisfactory position- potentially unstable

Futura splint/ POP backslab, analgesia

Refer VFC

Obvious deformity

Back slab. Refer Ortho On-call.

Epiphysis fracture lower radius

Acceptable position (ask advice if necessary)

As for undisplaced distal radius fracture.

Displaced Refer Ortho On-call.

“Off ended” fractures of the distal radius

Discuss with ED senior re reduction in ED prior to referral to Ortho On-call.

Buckle/Torus fracture distal radius or ulna

Futura splint/ Tubigrip.

ED Review Clinic 10-14 days.

Fracture scaphoid on X-ray

Scaphoid POP/ Futura splint with thumb extension.

Refer VFC.

Tenderness over scaphoid but scaphoid x-rays show NO fracture

If other evidence of a fracture - eg swelling, restriction of movement, tenderness of scaphoid tubercle

Futura splint with thumb extension.

Review Clinic in 10-14 days

If just tenderness, without other signs Tubigrip or Futura splint
Review Clinic in 10-14 days

Fracture radial styloid (usually undisplaced)

Futura splint. Refer VFC.

Small "chip" fractures eg of triquetrum or ulna styloid

Symptomatic treatment e.g. Tubigrip/ Futura splint.

Review Clinic in 10-14 days.

Other carpal injuries Ask advice

Beware dislocations around the Lunate and at the Metacarpal bases

Do not treat simple soft tissue injuries in a Futura splint.

Image

https://galwayem.ie/index.php/home/galwayem_live/galwayem/web/sites/default/files/images/Lunate.png

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