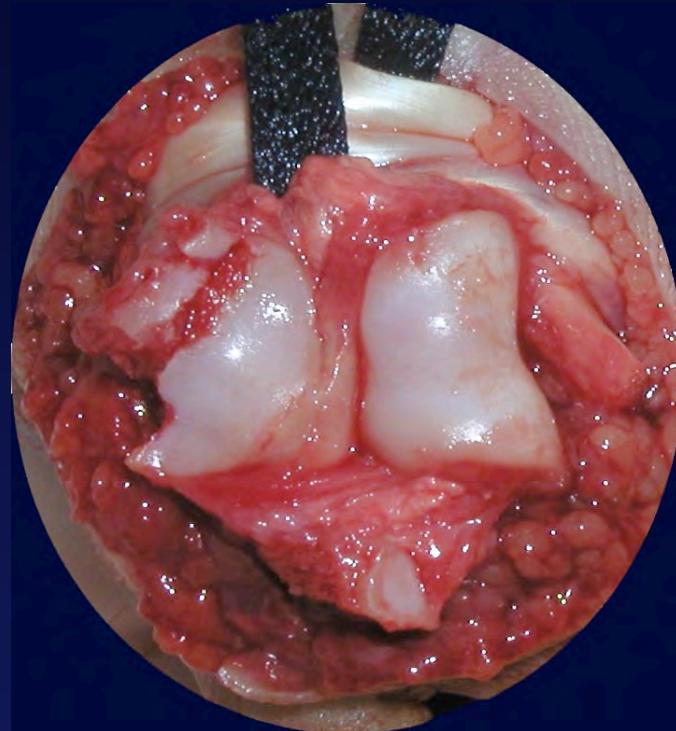


# Fractures of the fingers



Thierry Dubert

# Recent Fractures

## *Definitions*

large bone fragment



Delay < 3 weeks



# The more frequent complications :



Stiffness  
Pain



PIP Stiffness = global hand disability

Young patients  
→  
impairment

Functional and professional

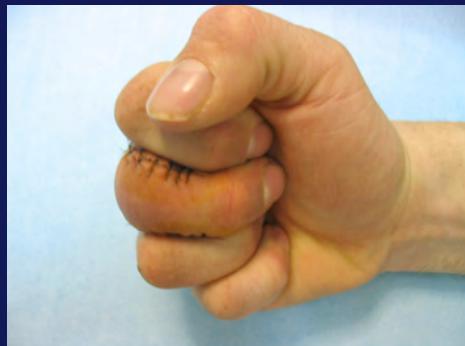
# Early mobilization



*Synovial fluid nutrition  
Tendon gliding  
Removal of waste products*

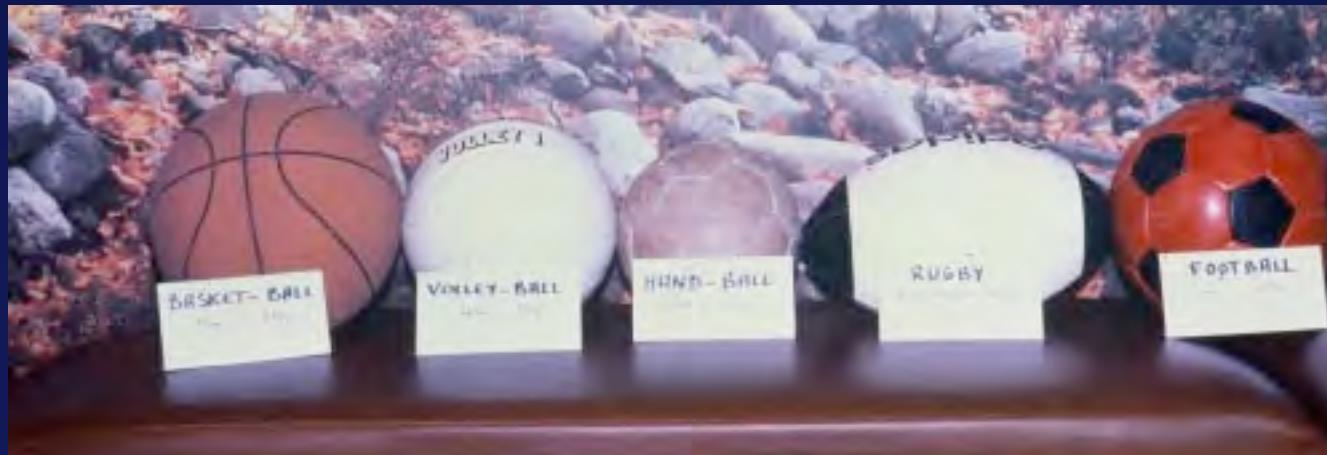


*Salter 1980*



# Mecanism of injury

- Flexion/ extension
- Lateral stress
- Compression
- Temporary dislocation



# Clinical examination

## Observation

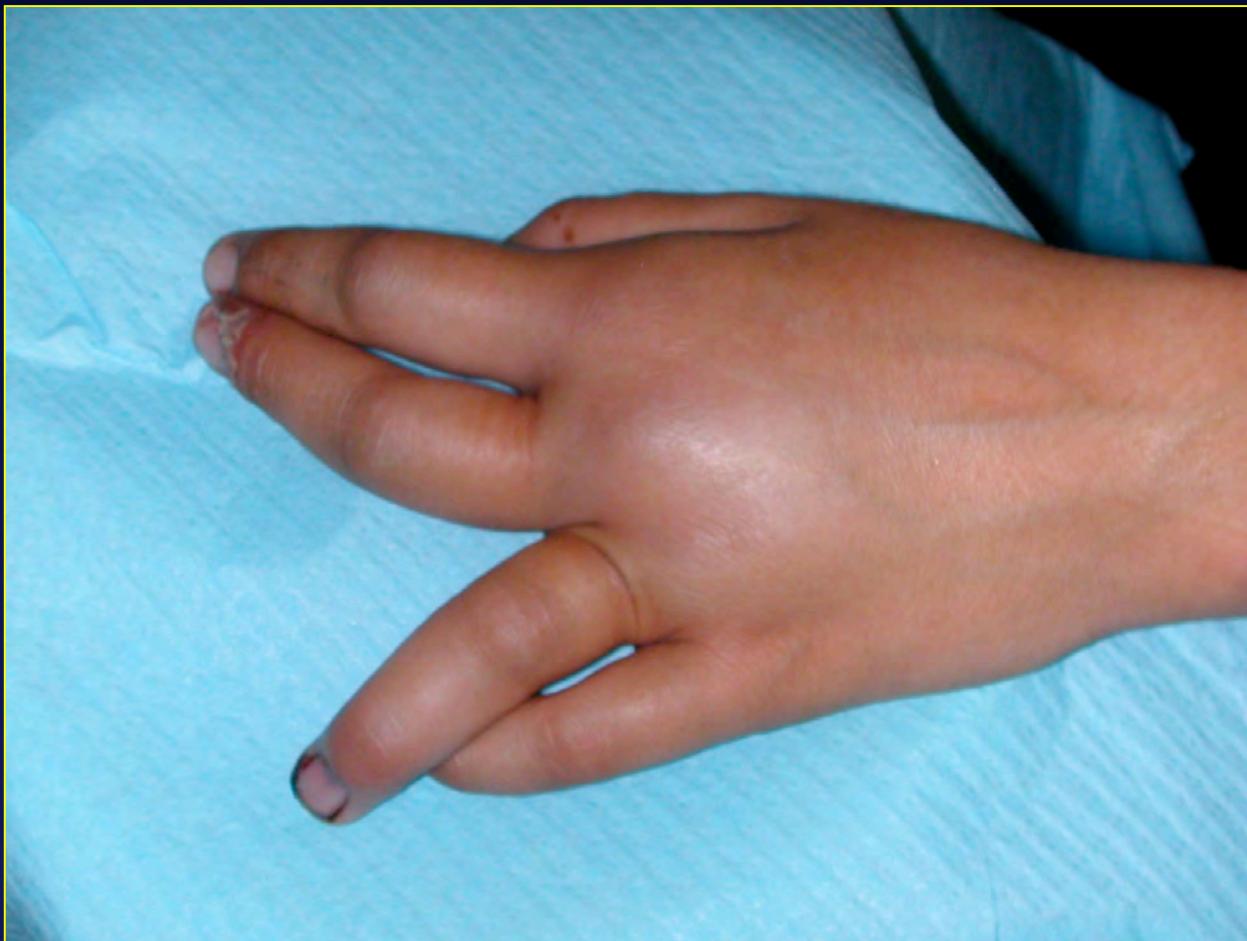
- Deformity
- Swelling
- Ecchymosis
- Range of motion
- Associated injury  
(skin, tendons, multilevel)



## Stress Testing ?

- After X-Ray
- Under Local Anesthesia

# Clinical examination



# X Ray examination



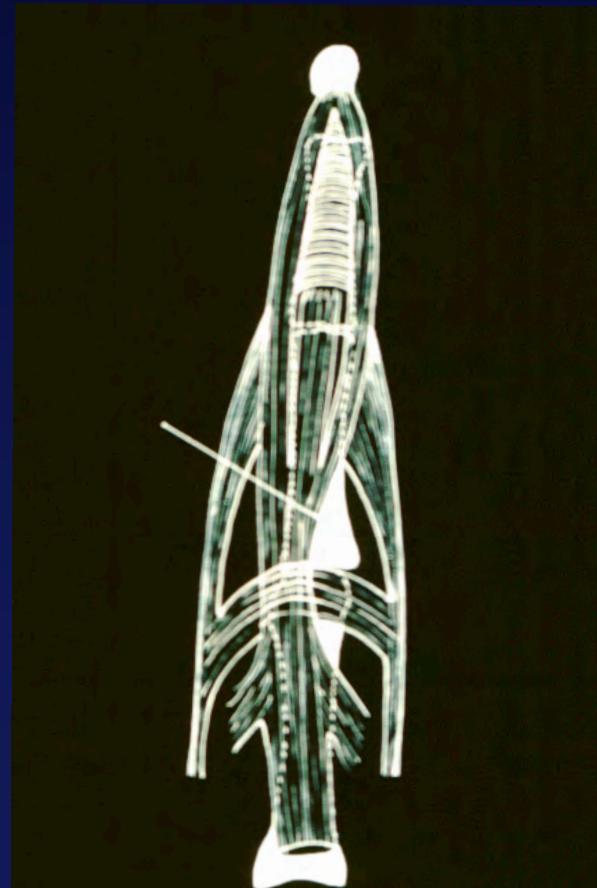
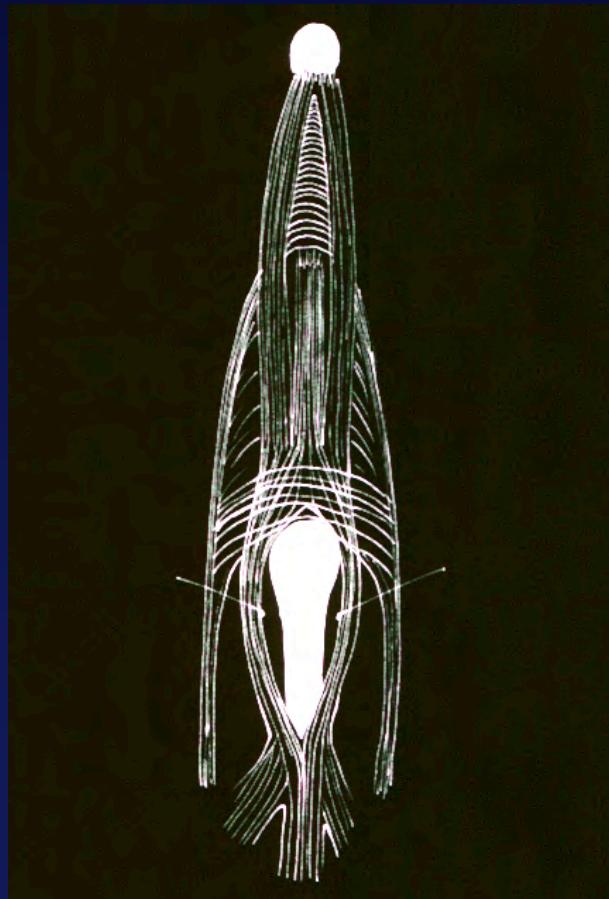
AP  
True Lateral  
3/4  
CT Scan ?



- Fracture lines
- Displacement
- Impaction
- Articular congruency

# Fractures of the Base of the Proximal Phalanx

- Surgical approach : dorsal or palmar



# Fractures of the base of the Proximal Phalanx

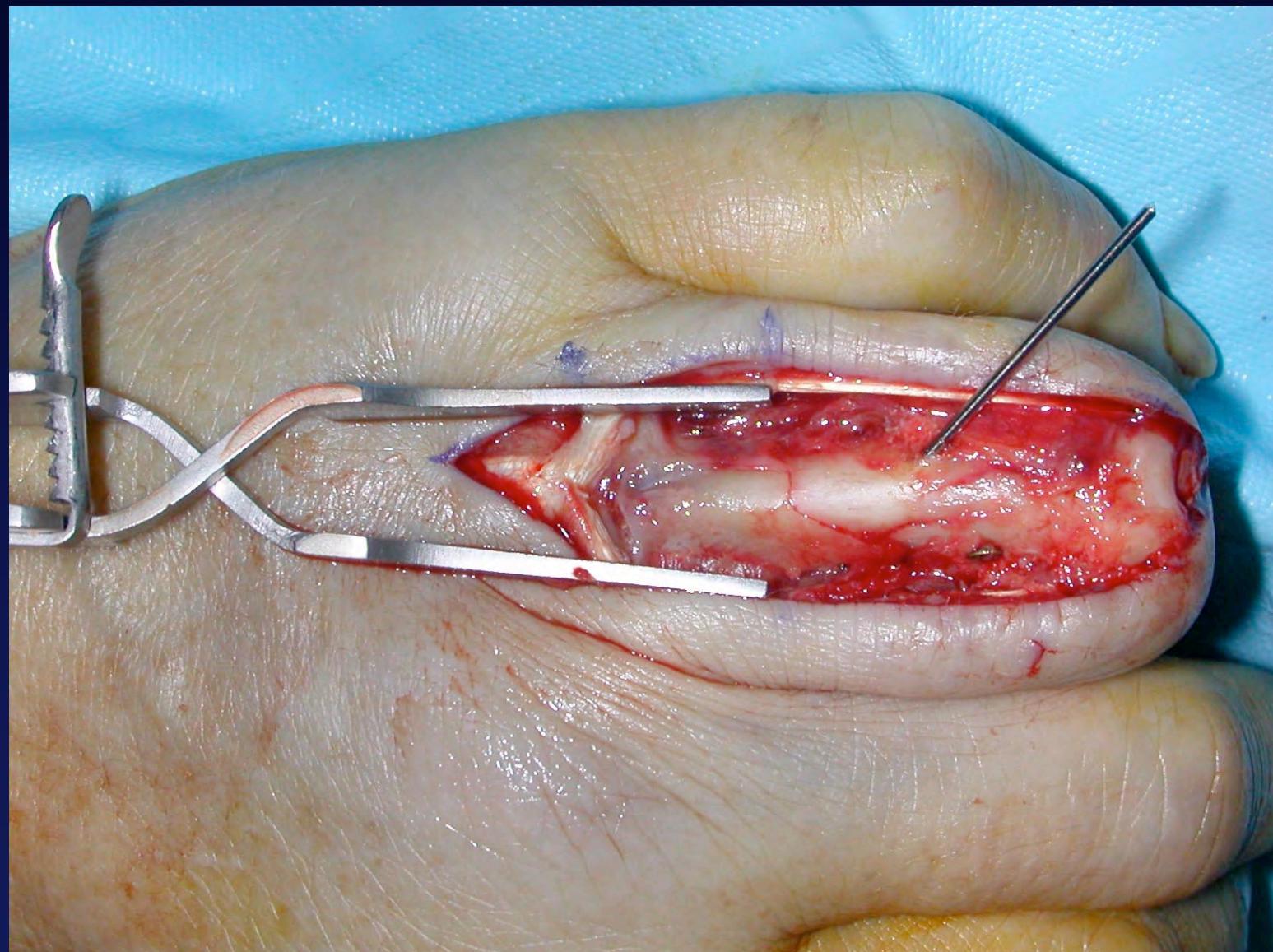


# Fractures of the base of the Proximal Phalanx



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx







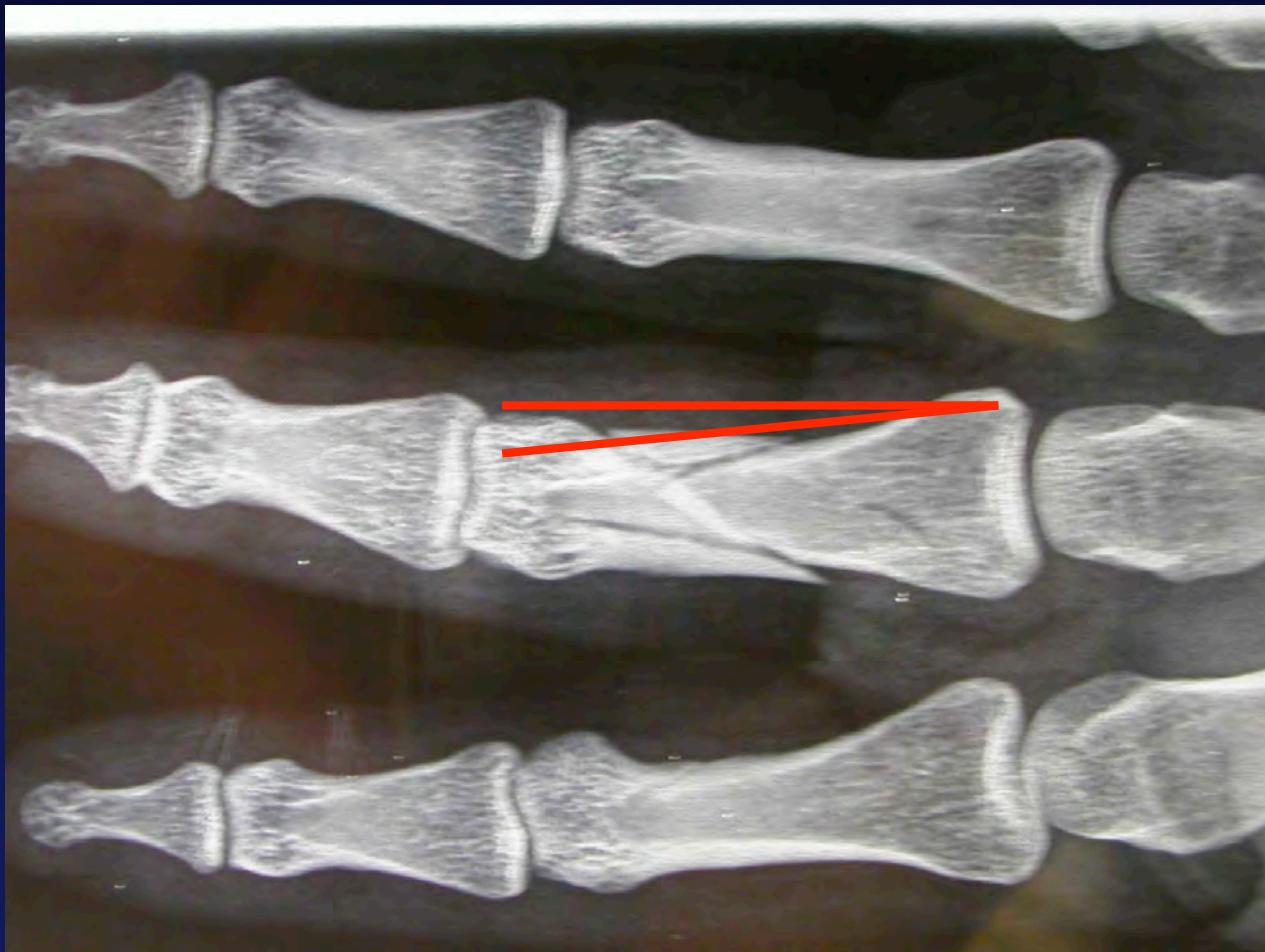
# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



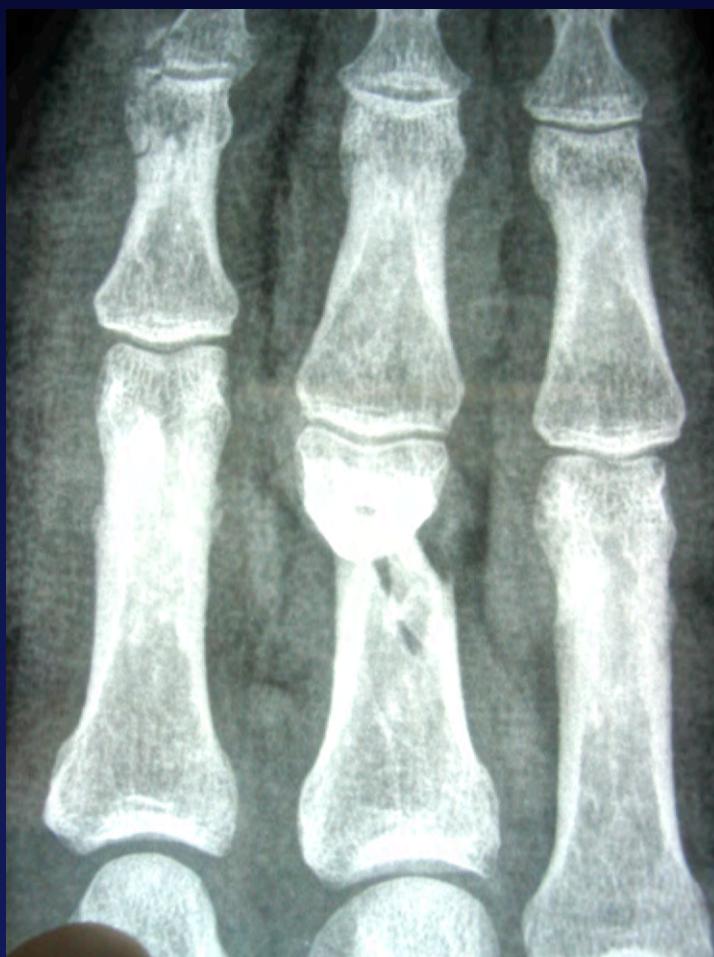
# De quel côté mettre la plaque?



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx



# Vis

- Large abord
- Meilleure tenue
- Pas d'ablation

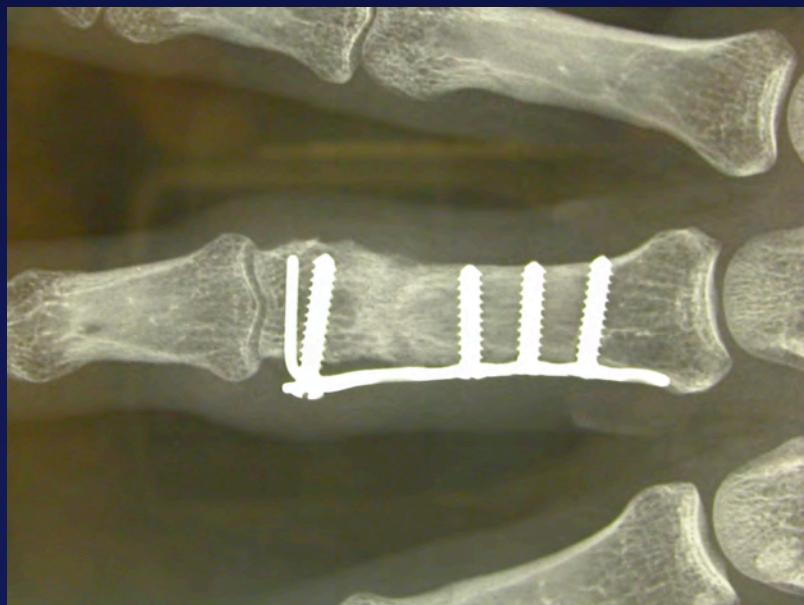


# Combinaisons de circonstance...



# CLOUS-PLAQUES

Pour les fractures distales









# Fractures fermées avec lésions associées

- Fracture spiroïde de P1
- Section complète de l'appareil extenseur



# Fracture fermée avec Section de l'appareil extenseur



# Fractures fermées avec lésions associées



## Amputations trans P1

- Unidigitale : Pas de replantation
- Pluridigitales



# Fractures of the Proximal Phalanx

## Conservative treatment

- Cast of Thomine



# Traitement orthopédique des fractures de P1



Appareillage de Thomine

# Appareillage de Thomine

MP en flexion

IPP libres

Syndactylie dynamique



# Appareillage de Thomine

MP en flexion

IPP libres

Syndactylie dynamique



# Fracture diaphysaire communutive et ouverte



Instabilité majeure  
Surveillance cutanée



# Brochage temporaire MP en flexion

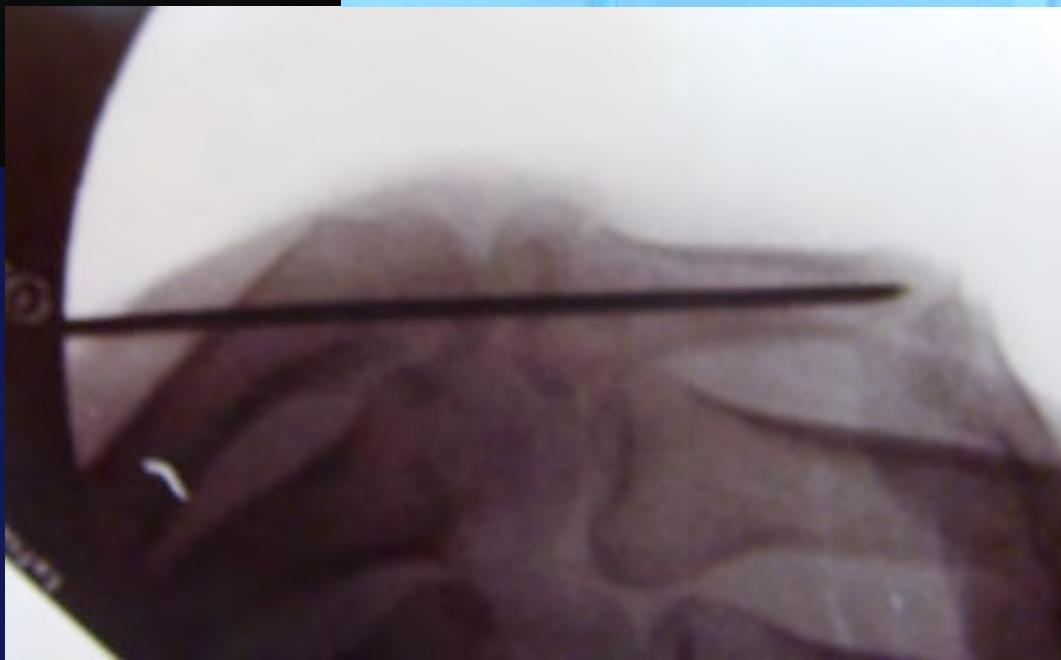
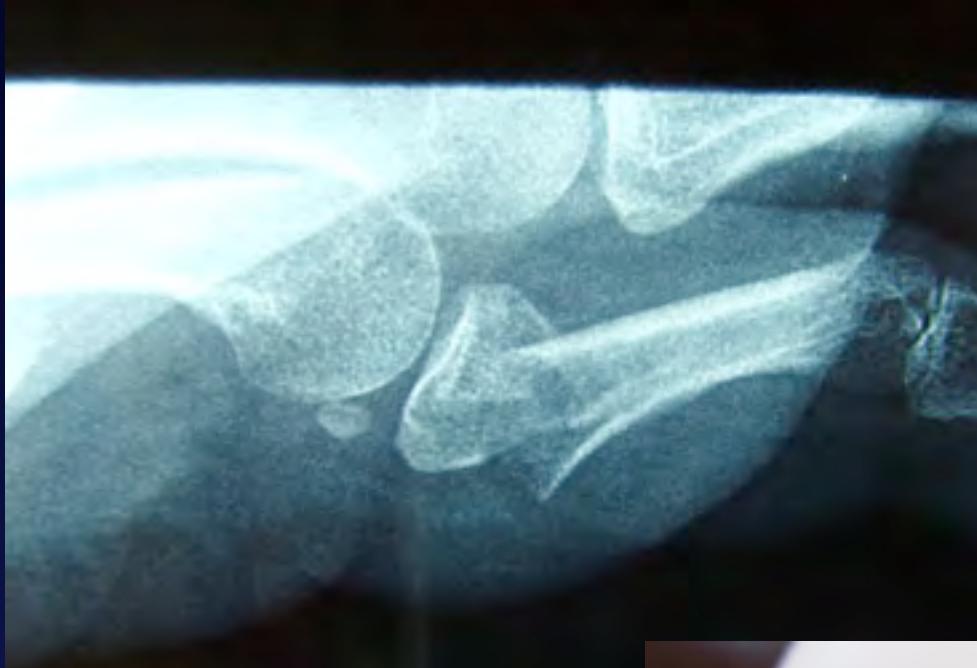


Equivalent de  
l'appareillage de Thomine



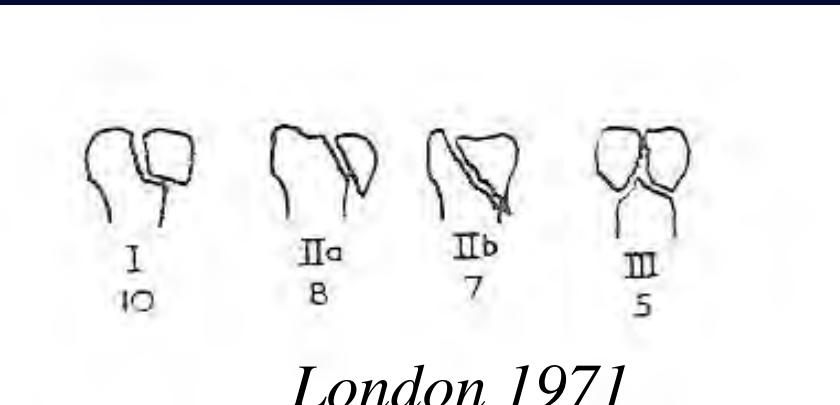
# Résultat du brochage temporaire MP en flexion







# Classification of P1 condylar fractures



*London 1971*

- Grade I : little displacement  
no instability
- Grade II : unstable fractures
  - Type IIa : small fragment
  - Type IIb : large fragment
- Grade III : Comminutive - Pilon

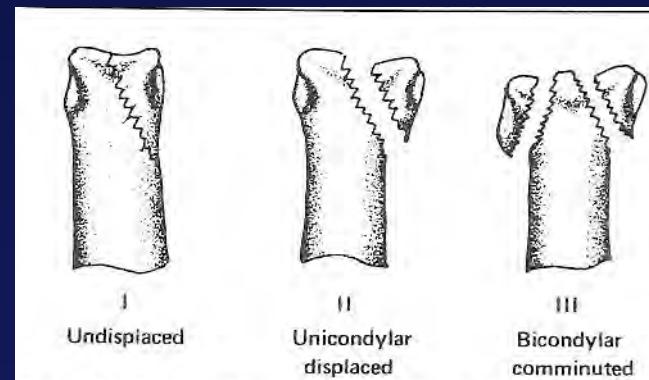


Fig. 2 Mr. P. S. London's classification of condylar fractures.

*O'Rourke 1989*

# Classification



of

## P1 condylar fractures

Grade I : no instability

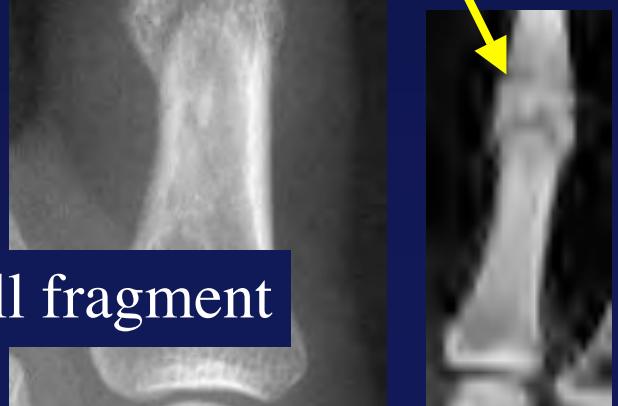


*London (1971)*

Type IIb : unstable large fragment



Type III

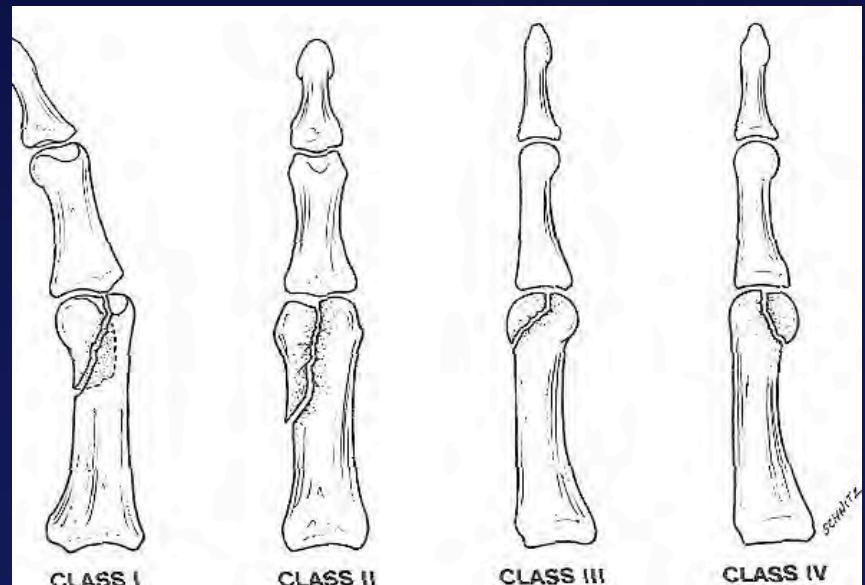


Type IIa : unstable small fragment

# Another classification of P1 condylar fractures

Weiss & Hastings 1993

- Class 1 : oblique volar
- Class 2 : long sagittal
- Class 3 : dorsal coronal
- Class 4 : volar coronal



60% 20% 10 % 10%



# Class 1 : oblique volar

*Weiss et Hastings 1993*



Distraction force

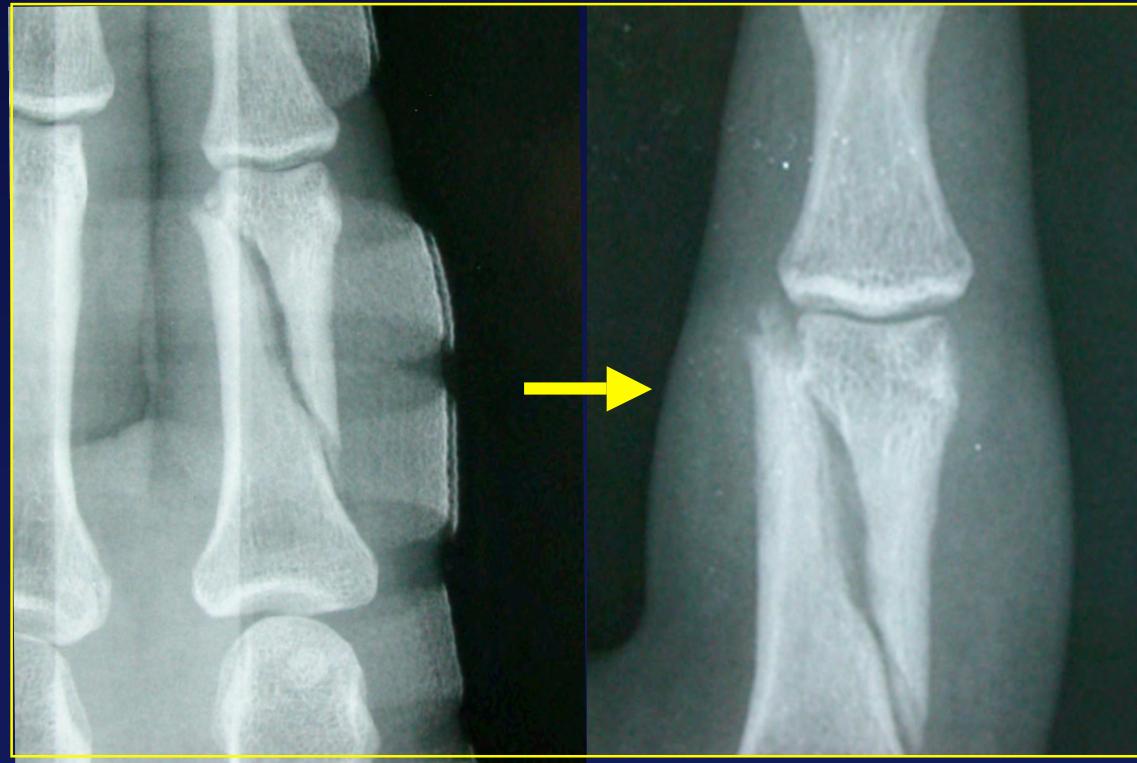
Through collateral  
ligament

With an element of  
rotation



But, Juxta condylar ...

...Can become intra-articular



# Classifications of the fractures of the middle phalanx



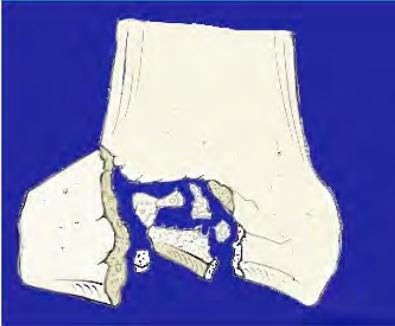
Based on

- Localisation
- Degree of comminution
- Number of fragments
- Impaction
- Subluxation



Lateral X Ray :

false negative



# Proximal phalanx

## Classification of Seno (1997)

- Type 1 : fragment on the palmar side
- Type 2 : fragment on the dorsal side  
(extensor tendon insertion)
- Type 3 : « Pilon fracture » dorsal and palmar fragments
- Type 4 : Extra-articular
- Type 5 : Not classifiable

## Type 1 :



*Seno 1997*



One fragment on the palmar side

(Continuity of the fragment with the palmar plate)

## Type 2



Seno 1997



Fragment on the dorsal side  
(proximal extensor tendon insertion)

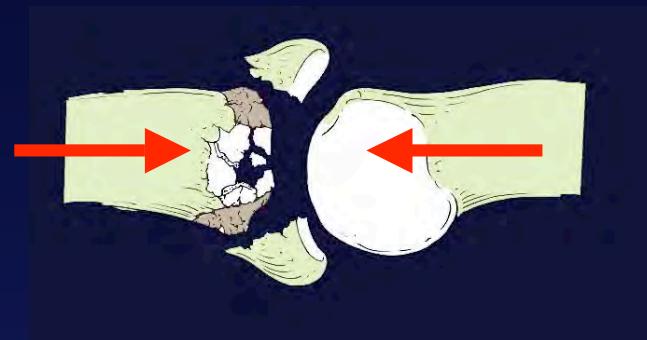
# Type 3



*Seno 1997*

## Pilon fracture

High energy Axial loading



### Two main fragments

On palmar and dorsal sides

No continuity with the shaft

Widening of the base

Central impaction



*Stern 1991*

# Bipolar avulsion



Seno 1997



Pilon ?

# Classification of Seno



Seno 1997

## Sub-classification

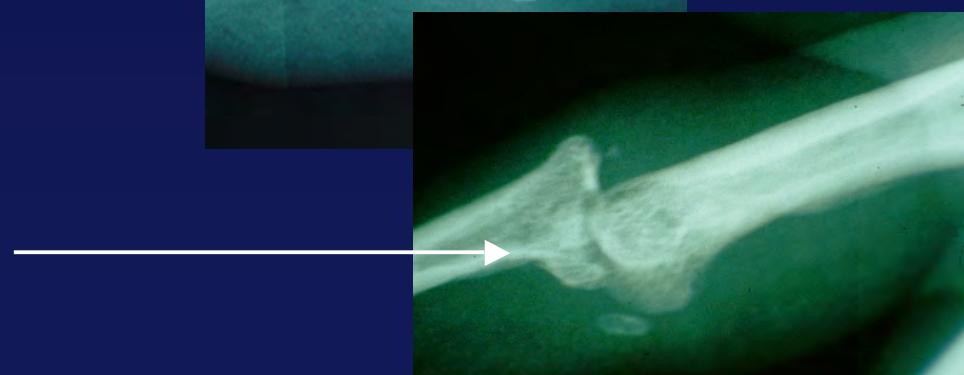
– a : avulsion



– b : separation



– c : impaction

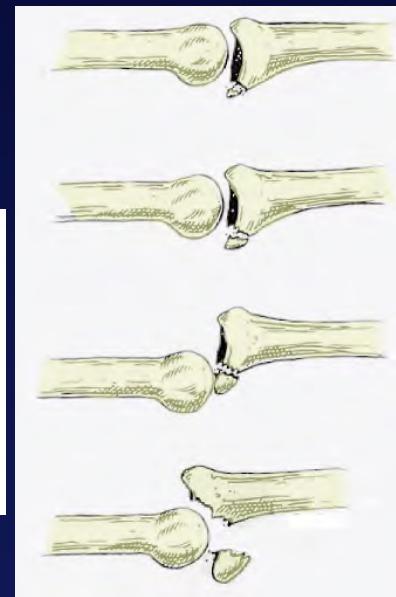
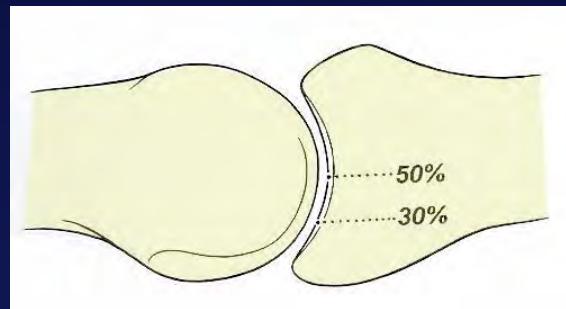


# Percentage of articular impaction (type 1c)

< 30 %

30 to 50 %

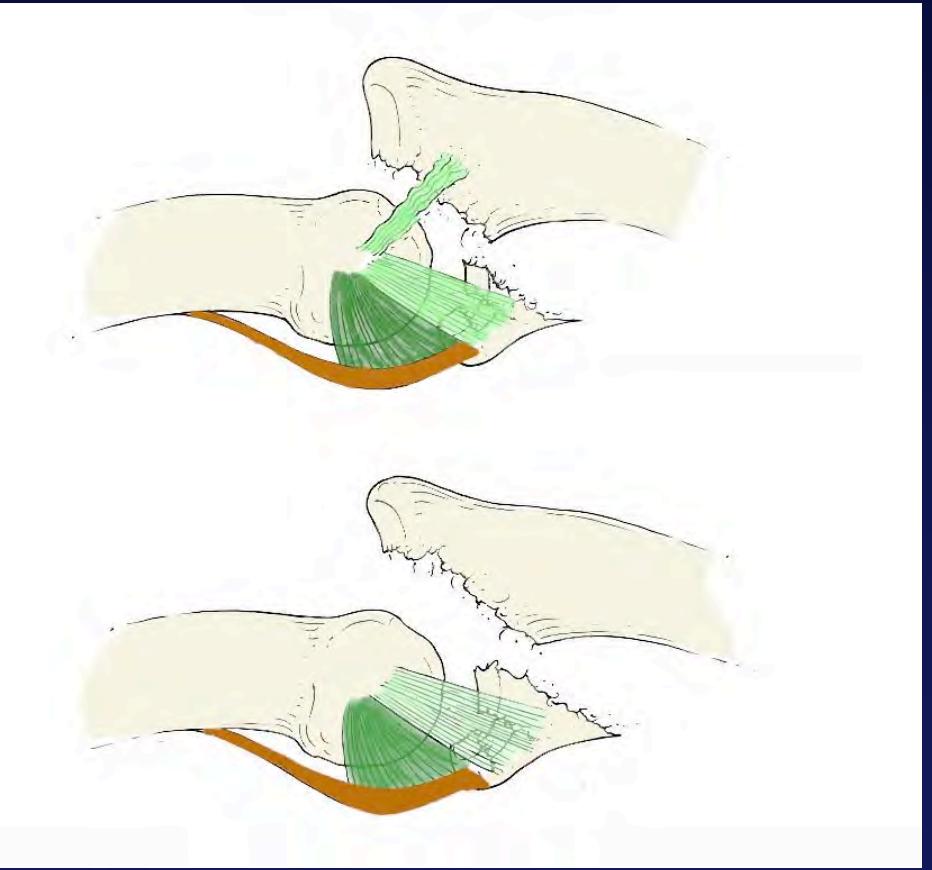
> 50 %



Dorsal instability is directly proportional  
to the degree of impaction

The joint is  
always unstable  
over  $> 40\%$

Loss of  
Ligamentous support  
and  
Articular buttress



# Bony loss of substance



# Associated lesion

- Skin loss
- Extensor tendon
- Multilevel injuries



# Anesthesia

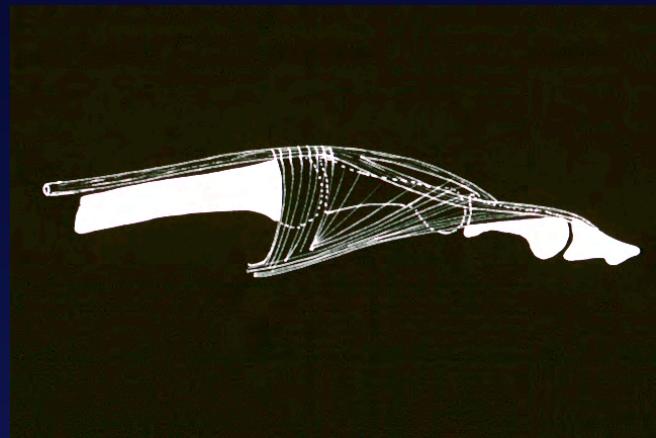
Prefer Axillary bloc

- Arm tourniquet
- Sensory and motor bloc



# Surgical approach

- Dorsal or Lateral approach
  - More direct
  - Trough extensor tendon



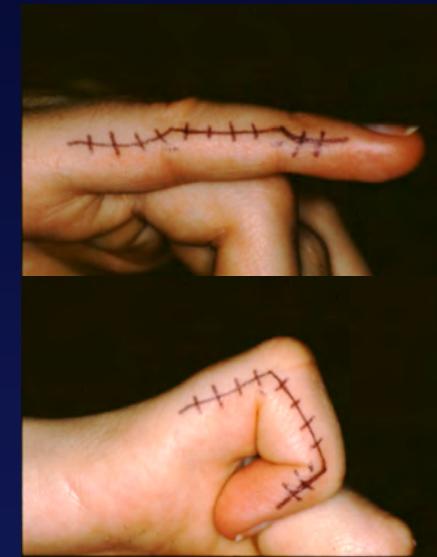
- Palmar approach
  - More distant
  - Spares flexor tendons



# Dorsal or Lateral approaches

Lateral skin incision : Avoid

- radial side of the index finger
- ulnar side of the little finger





Avoid Lazy S

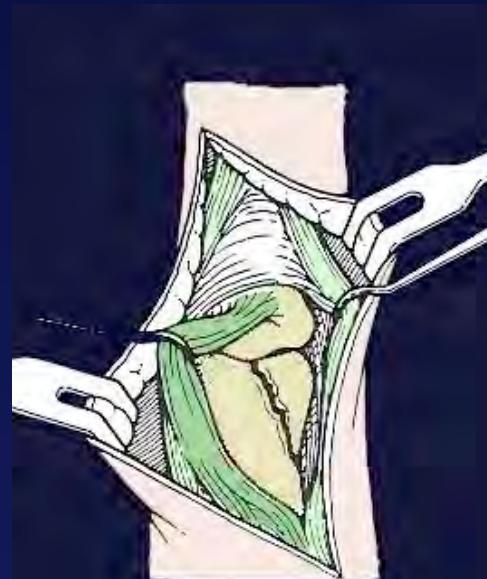
## Dorsal skin incison

Prefer Longitudinal

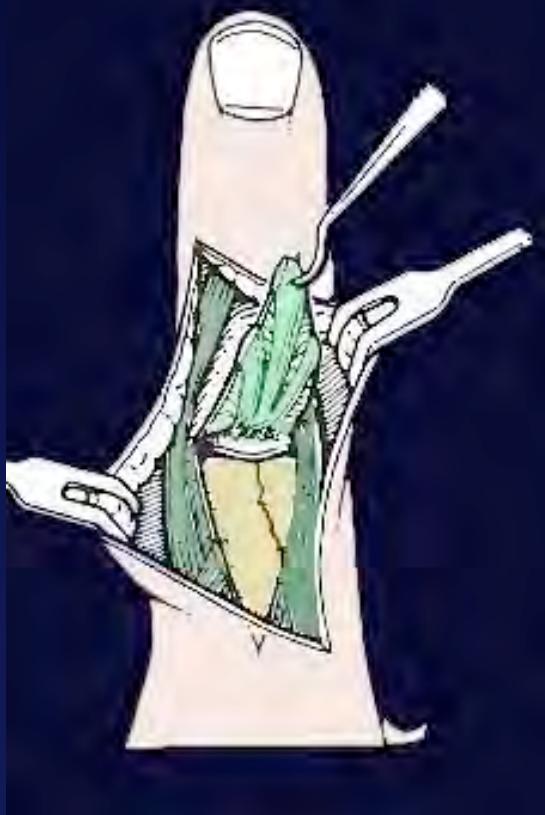


# Crossing extensor tendon

Between lateral and central slip



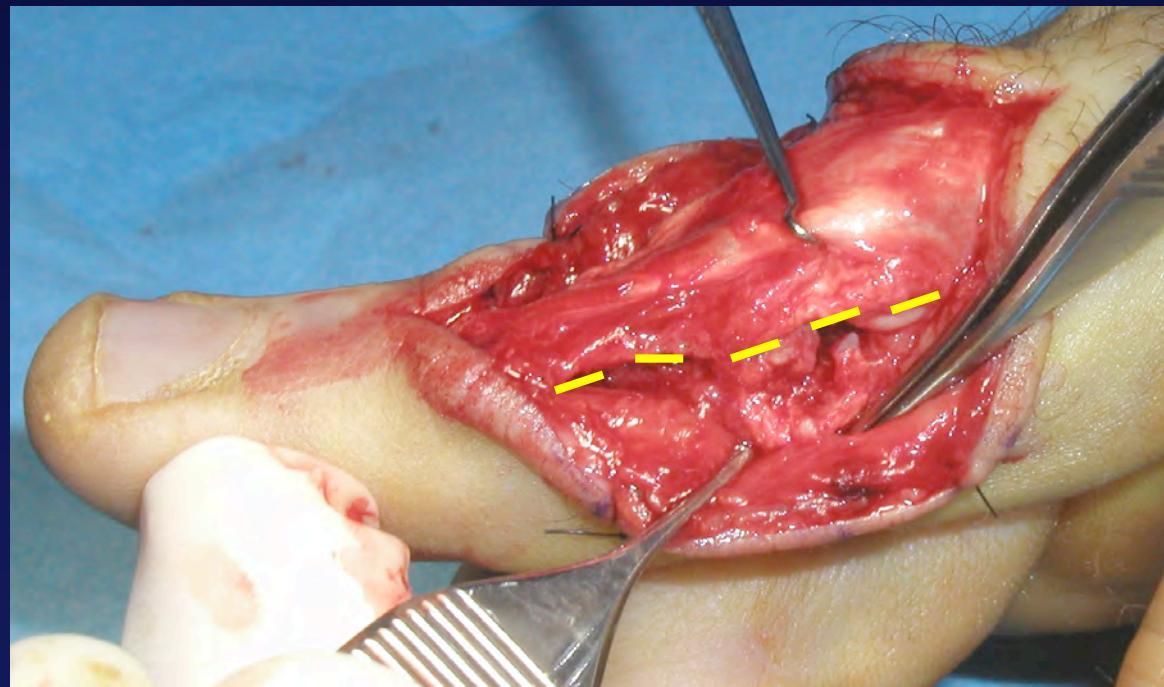
# Through the central slip *(Chamay's approach)*



Stronger repair than transverse section

# Crossing extensor tendon

Through the transverse retinacular ligament

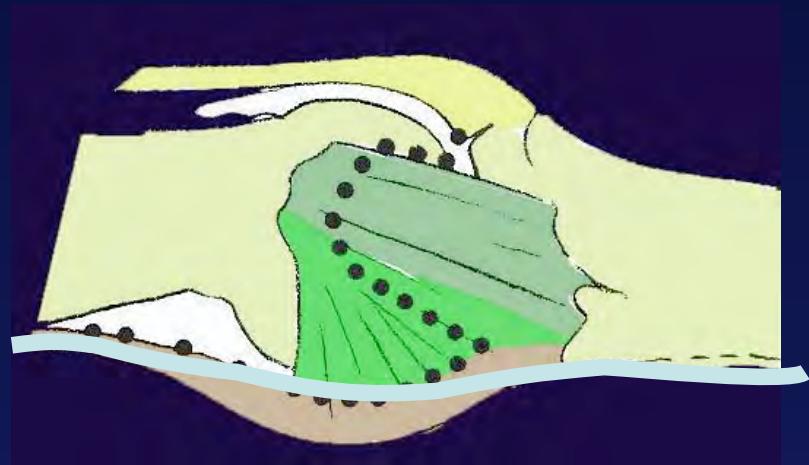


# *Dorso-lateral approach*

## Intra-articular exposure

Proximal release of

- Collateral ligaments
- Palmar plate



*Büchler 1996*

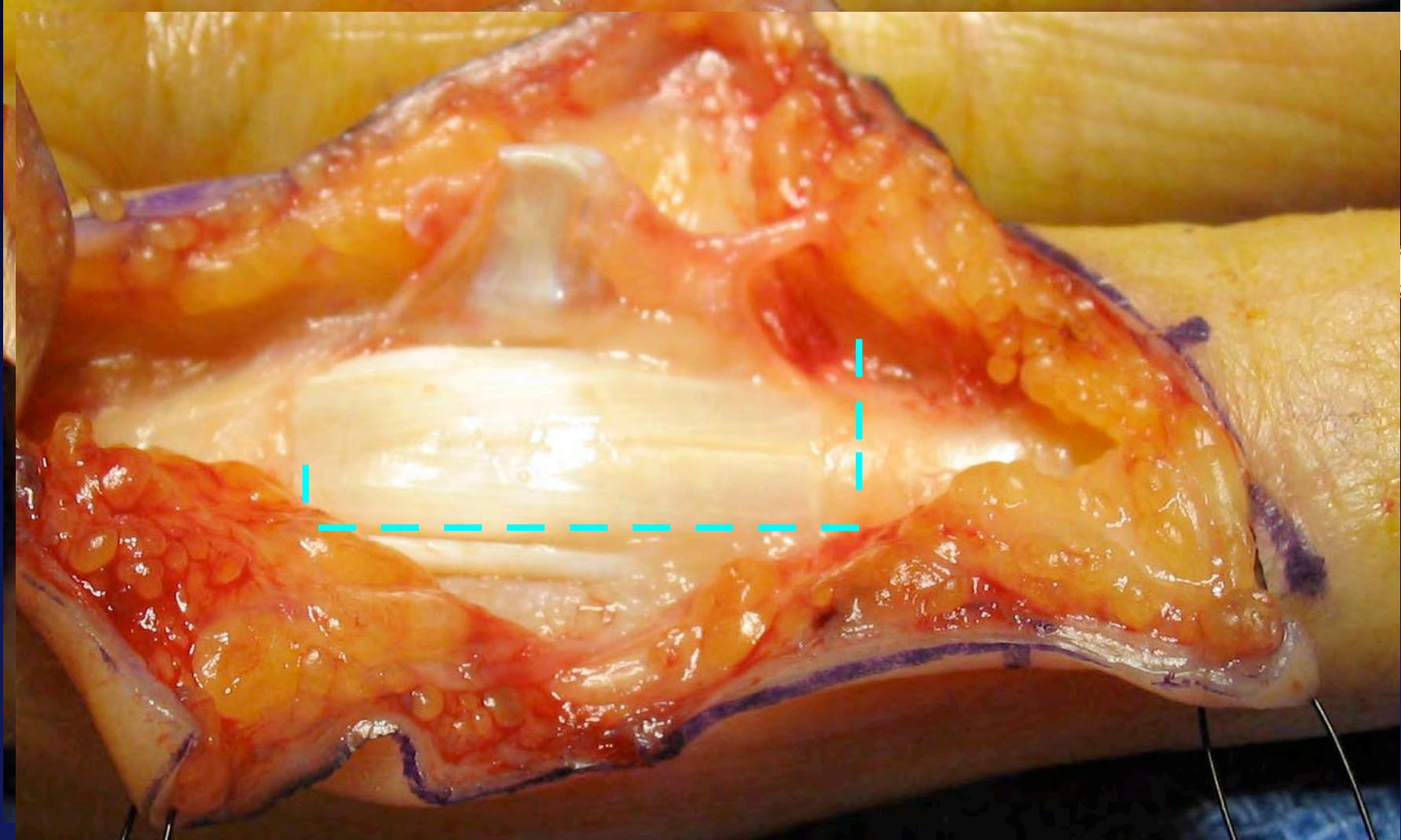
TATA approach ?  
*Saffar 1983*

# Anterior approach : Shotgun

Brüner type incision centered on the PIP joint

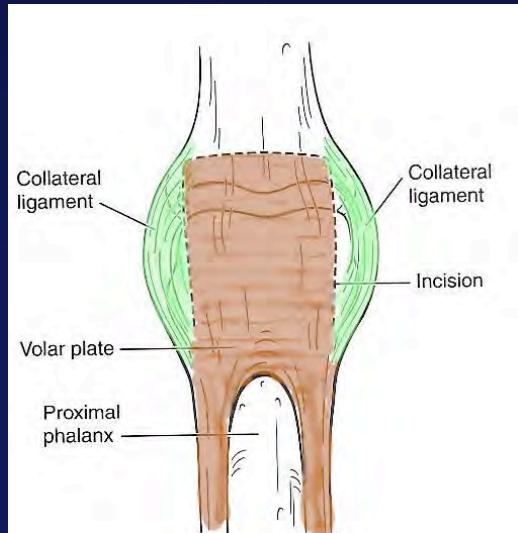


# Anterior approach : Shotgun



# Anterior approach : Shotgun

- Release  
of the palmar plate
- Excision  
of the lateral ligaments

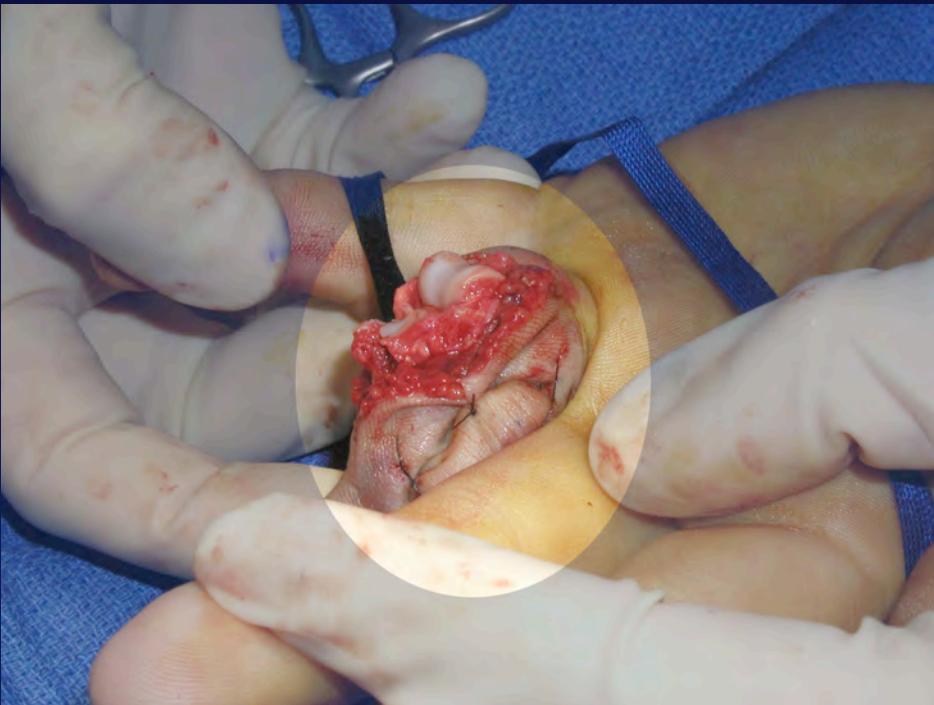




# Anterior approach Shotgun



The middle phalanx is « Shoe-horned » over  
the head of the proximal phalanx



# Shotgun Anterior approach

Closure



# Treatment modalities for PIP fractures

- Extension-Block splinting
- Extension-Block pinning
- Temporary K wire fixation
- Internal fixation
- Volar plate arthroplasty
- Dynamic external fixator
- Vascularized transfer
- Radical procedures



# Extension-Block splinting



# Extension-Block splinting

- Dorsal splint
- Incorporated in a gauntlet
  - Metacarpo-phalangeal flexion
  - Progressive PIP extension



*MCElfresh 1972*

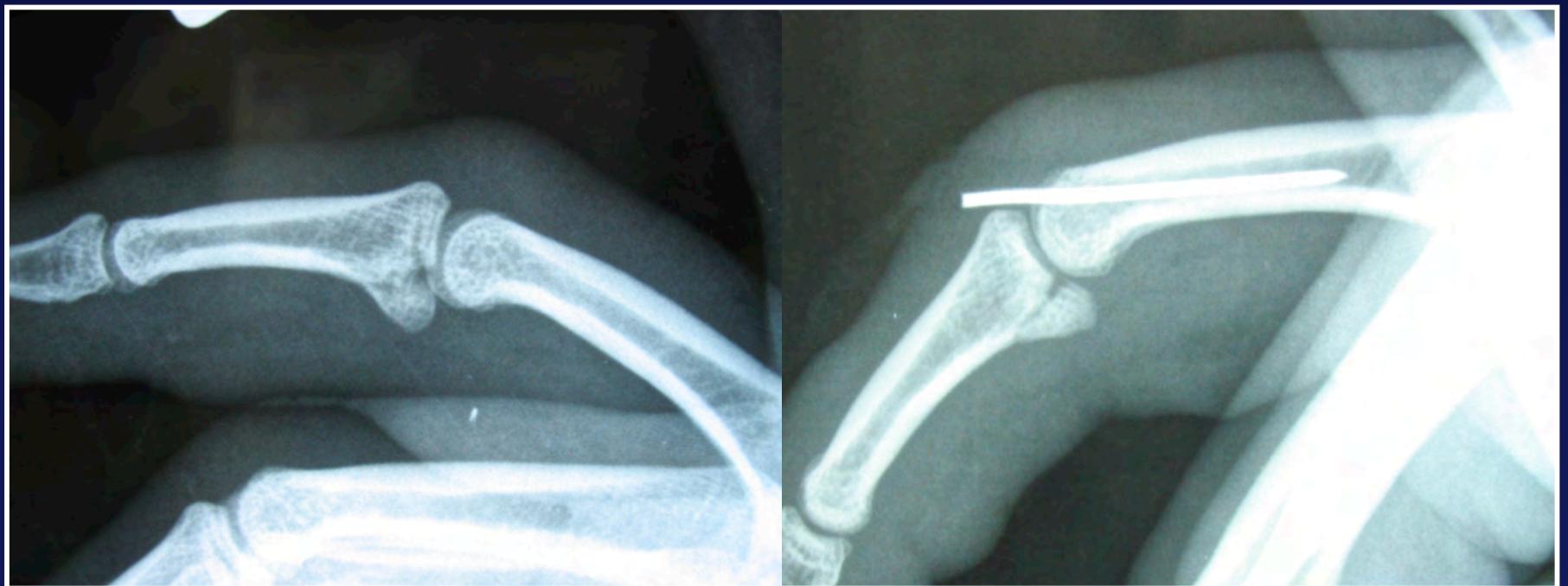


# Extension-block pinning

## « Doorstop procedure »

*Sugawa 1979*

- *Inoue 1991*
- *Viegas 1992*
- *Twiman 1993*

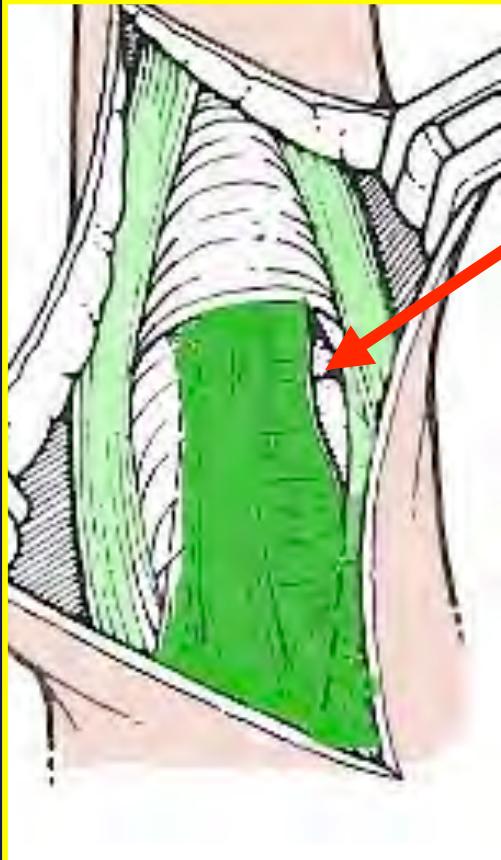


# Extension-block pinning

## « Doorstop procedure »

*Sugawa 1979*

### Technique



- Under Fluoroscopy
- 1.2 mm K-Wire
- On one side of the central slip
- Full flexion  
before wire insertion  
to avoid any tenodesis effect



# Extension-block pinning



# Extension-block pinning

## « Doorstop procedure »

### Advantages

- Simple
- Poorly invasive
- Avoids recurrent subluxation (>30%)

But : infection is potentially severe (intra-articular)

Daily pin care  
Regular follow-up

Removal after 3 to 8 weeks

# Trans articular pin fixation or static external fixator

*Bunnell 1956*

*Boyes 1964*

*Spray 1966*

*Milford 1971*

Stabilization in 20 to 40° flexion  
Retained for 3 weeks

Propensity to stiffness



Good results at 16 years

Mean 85°      *Newington 2001*

# Trans articular pin fixation or static external fixator

- For protection of a internal fixation

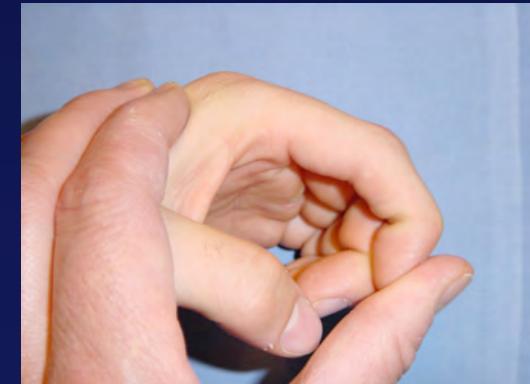


# Trans articular pin fixation or static external fixator

Pitfalls :



Incomplete reduction  
Insufficient DIP mobilisation  
Too late removal

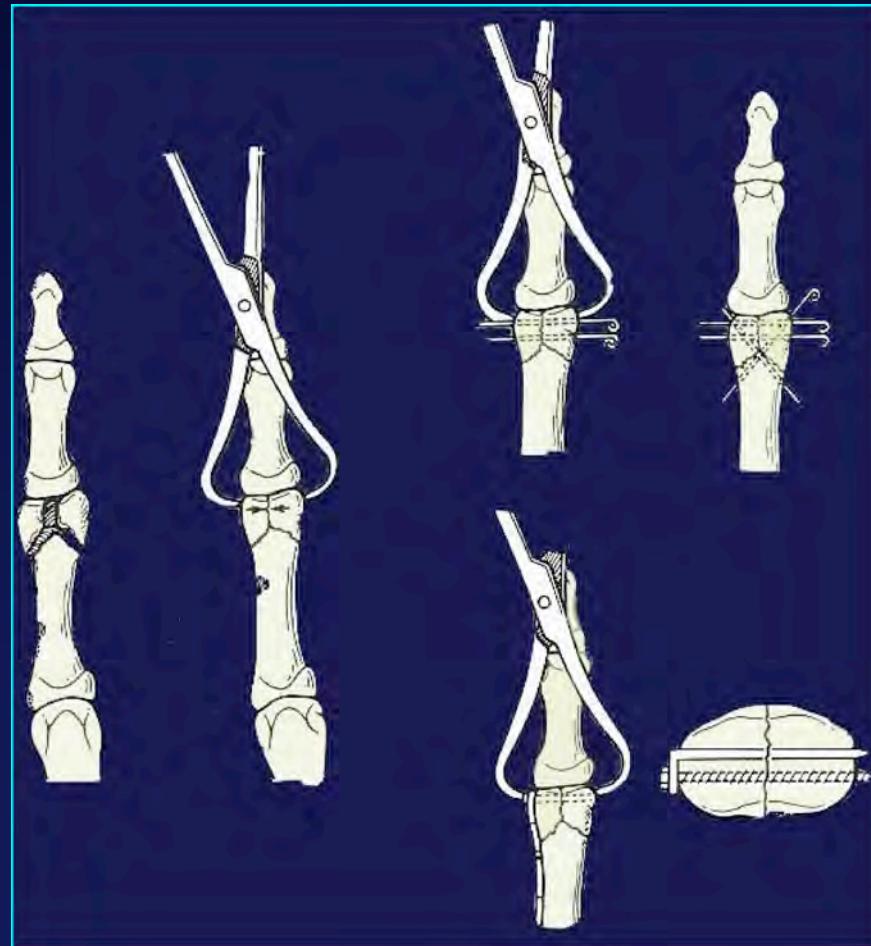


# Essential guidelines *for* Internal fixation :

- Specialized surgery
- Protection of the skin
- Protection of the extensor tendon
- Preservation of bone vascularization

Open  
surgery

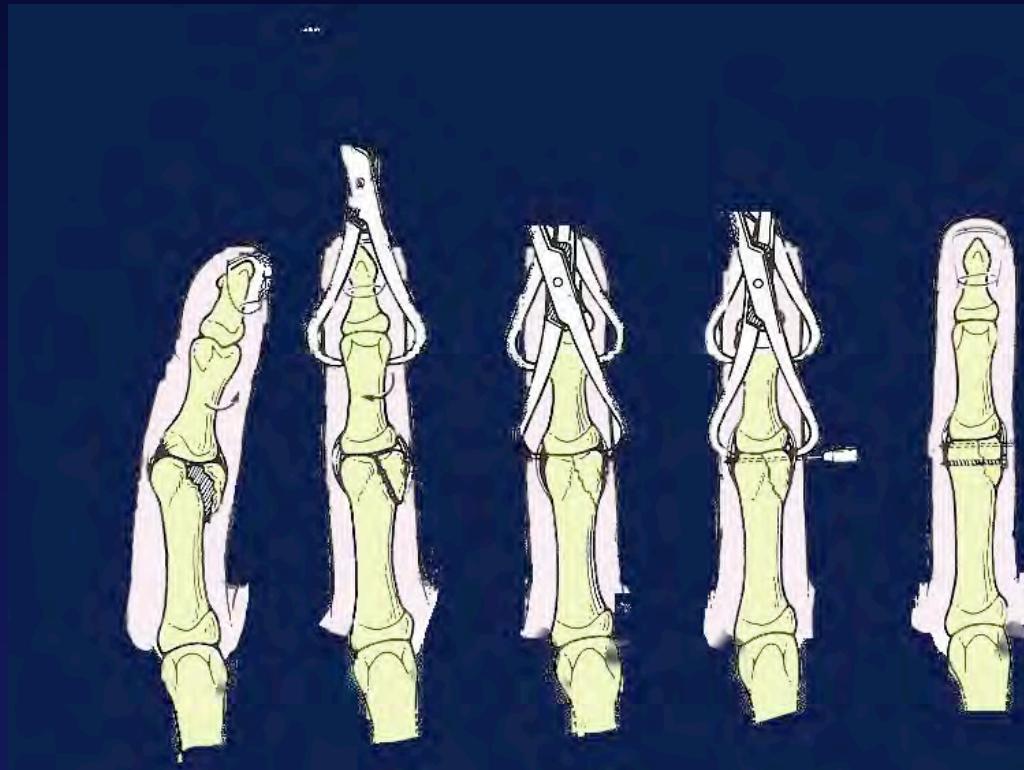
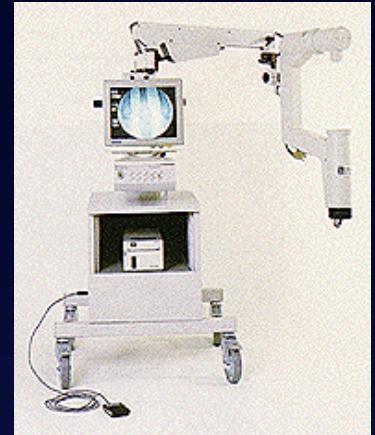
# Essential guidelines *for* Internal fixation :



- K wires
- Screws
- Plates

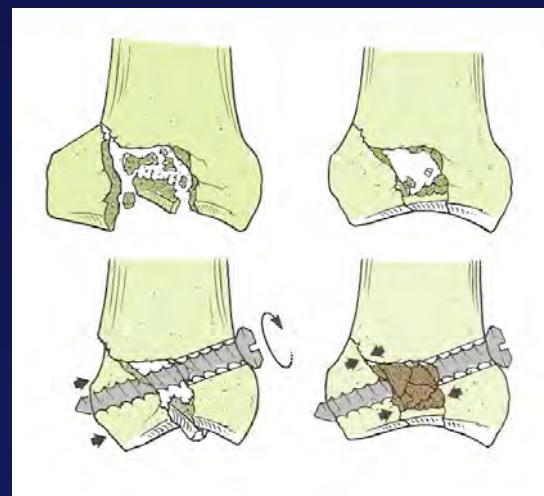
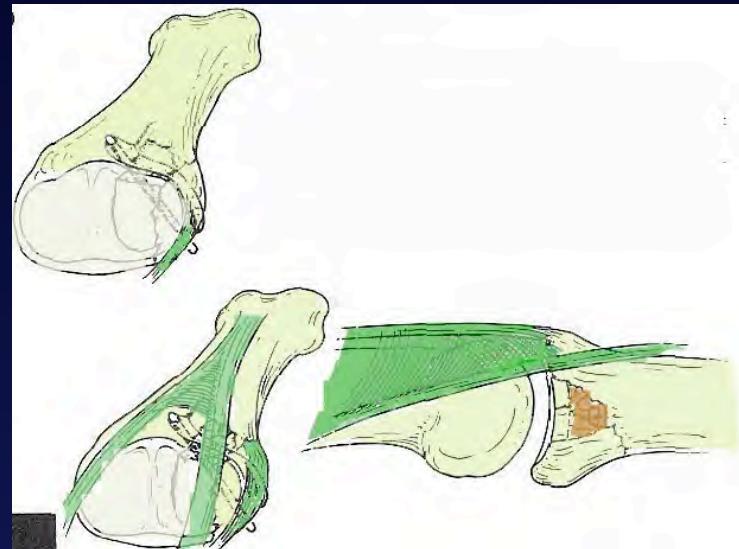
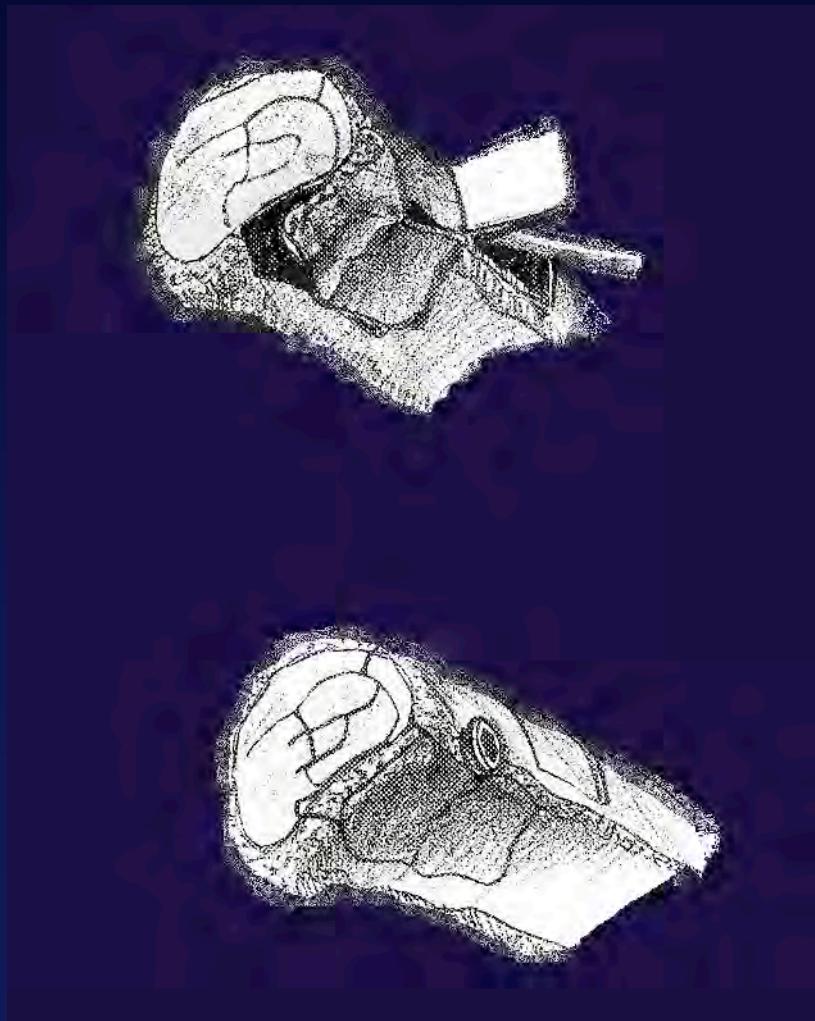


# Essential guidelines *for* Internal fixation :

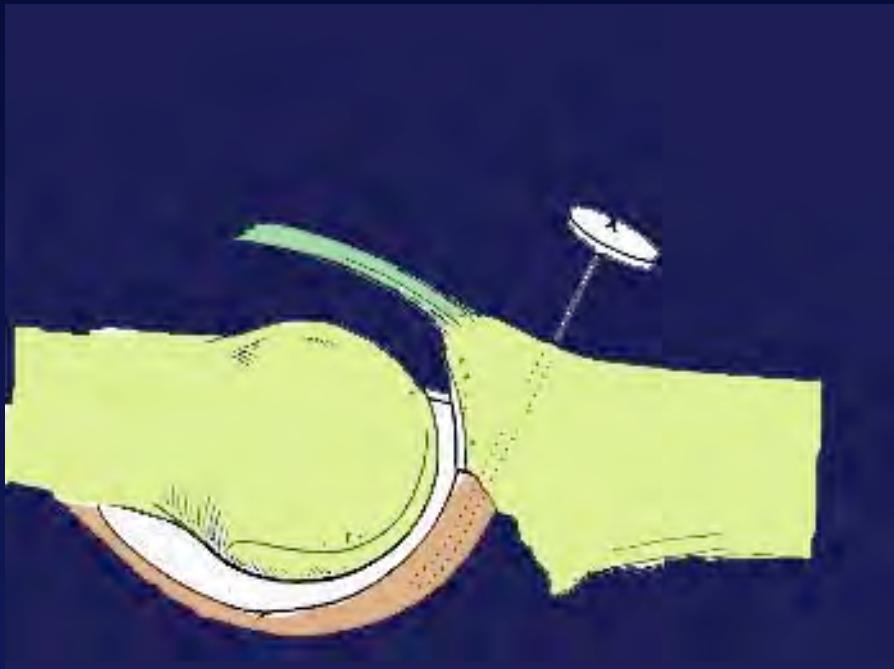


Closed K-Wire fixation

# Bone grafts



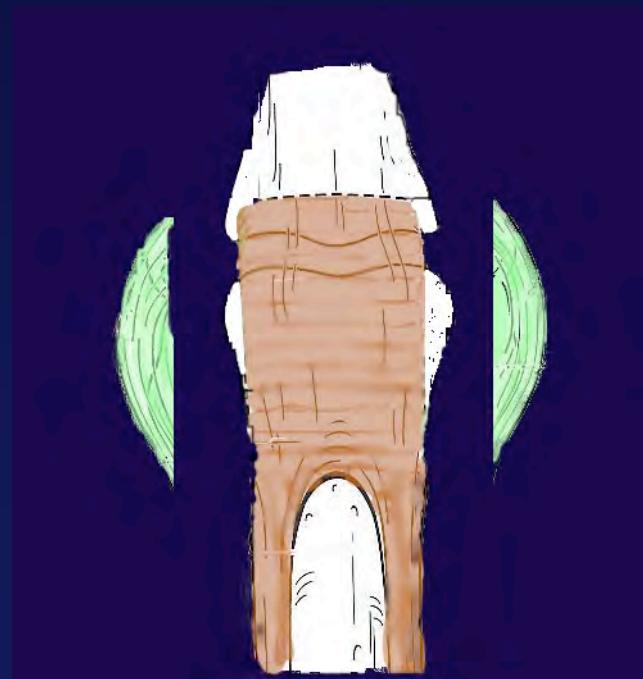
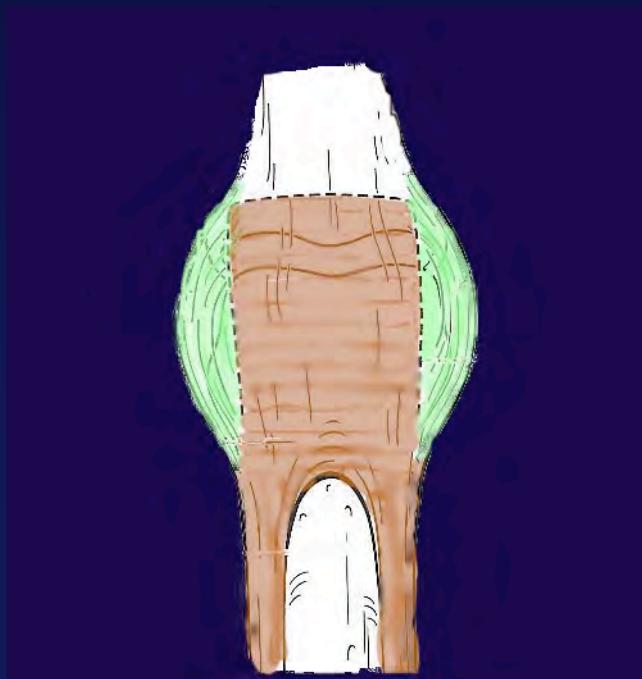
# Volar plate arthroplasty



*Eaton 1980*

# Volar plate arthroplasty

- Release of the palmar plate
- Excision of the lateral ligaments



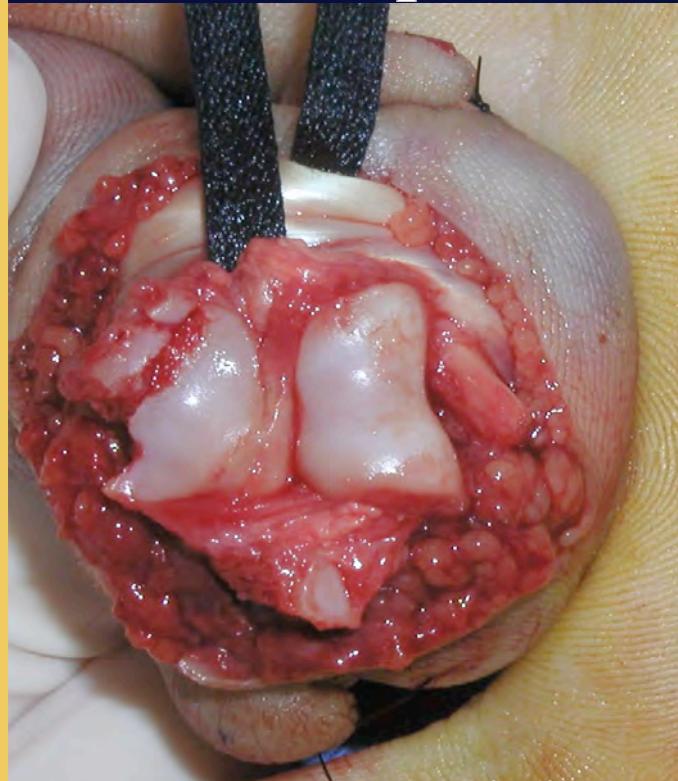
# Volar plate arthroplasty

- Release of the palmar plate
- Excision of the lateral ligaments



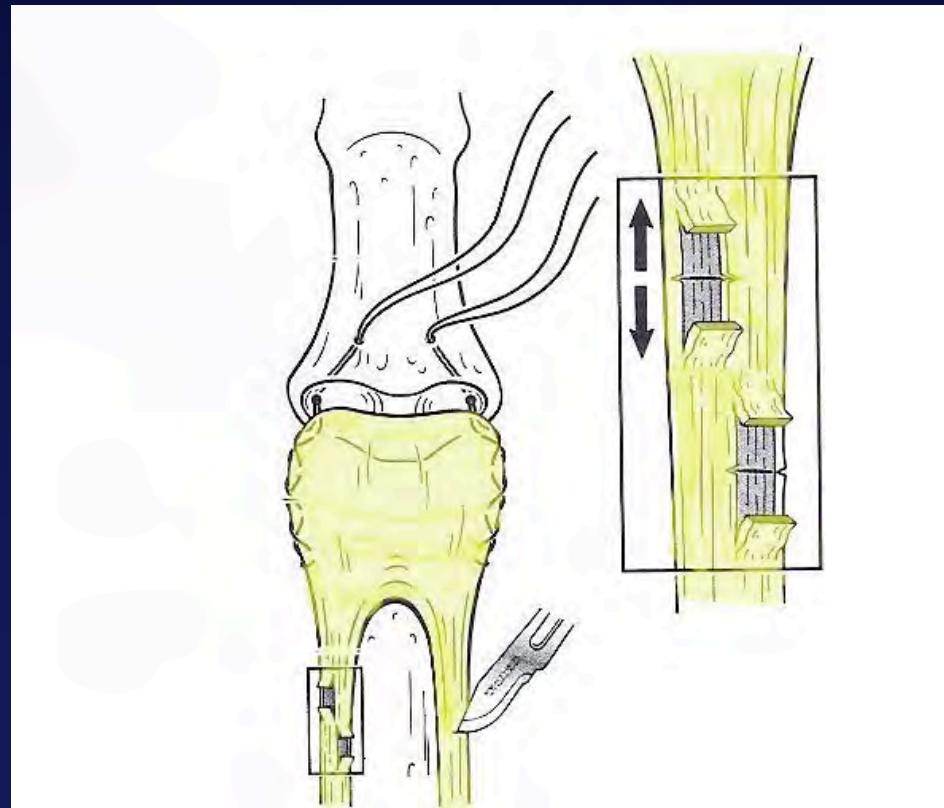
# Volar plate arthroplasty

Preparation of a symmetric trough



# Volar plate arthroplasty

- Lengthening of the Check Reins



*Blazar 2001*

# Volar plate arthroplasty

- Palmar plate advancement and fixation



Anchor

*or*

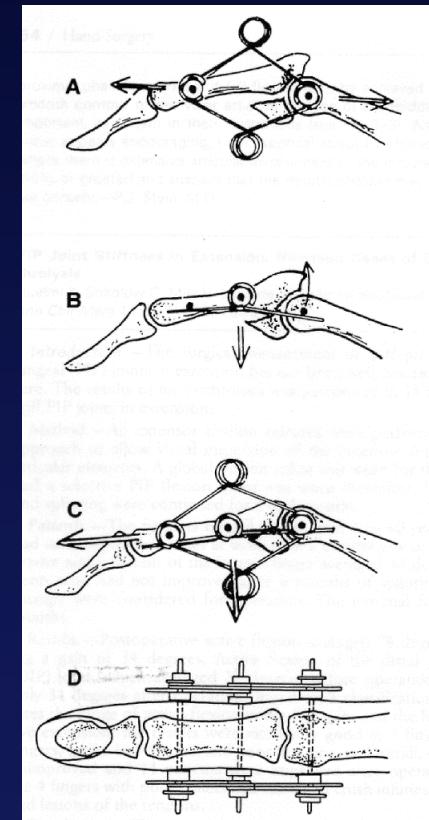
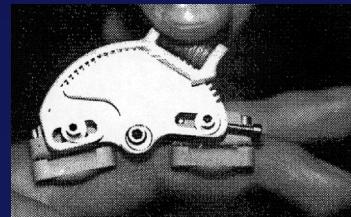
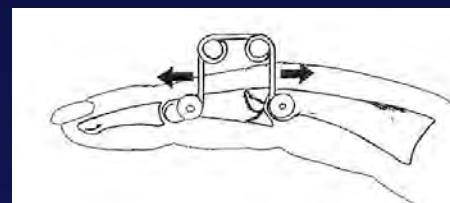
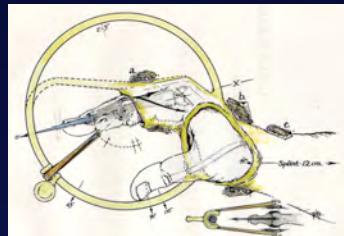
Pull out

# Volar plate arthroplasty

- Reduction is checked fluoroscopically
- Complementary stabilisation
  - Extension-Block splinting
  - Extension-Block pinning
  - Temporary K wire fixation
  - Dynamic external fixator

# Dynamic external fixators

- Agee 1978
- Schenck 1986
- Inanami 1993
- Susuki 1994
- Allison 1996
- Compass hinge (Krakauer 1996, Bain 1998, Feldscher 2002)
- Duteille 2003
- Syed 2003



# Dynamic external fixator

- Goals of the treatment
  - No surgical approach (adhesion -vascularization)
  - Concentric joint reduction
  - Ligamentotaxis
  - Early mobilization
  - Remodelling
- No reduction of impaction

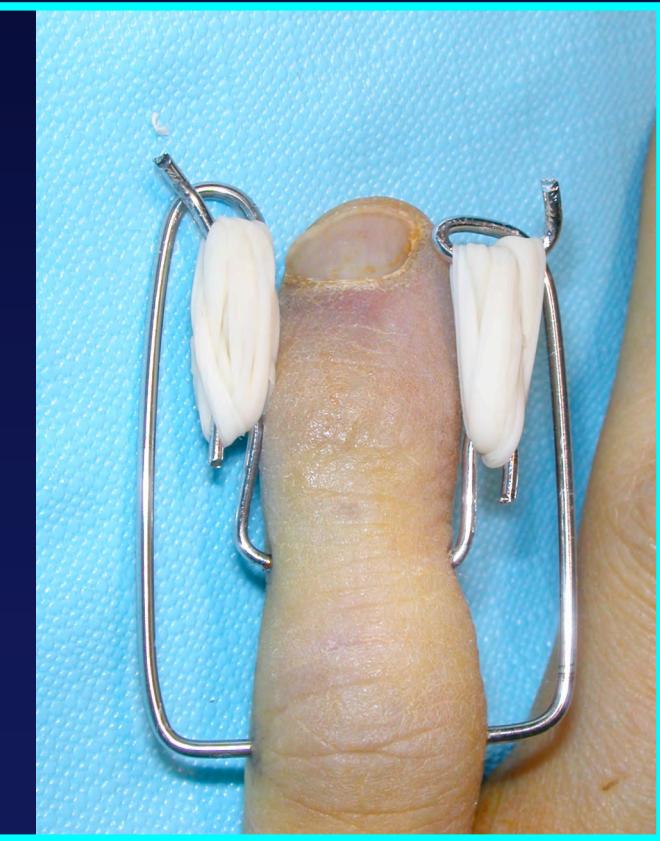


# « Pins & Rubbers »

## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

- Simple
- Light
- Cheap
- Easily available components
- Allows postop X Ray control



# « Pins & Rubbers »

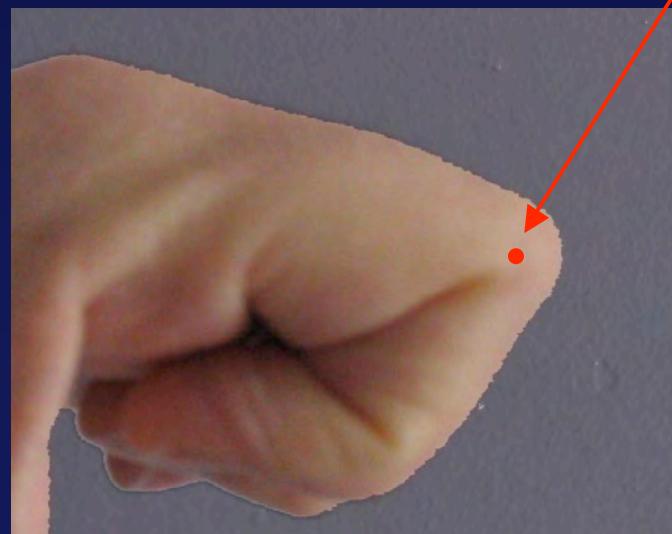
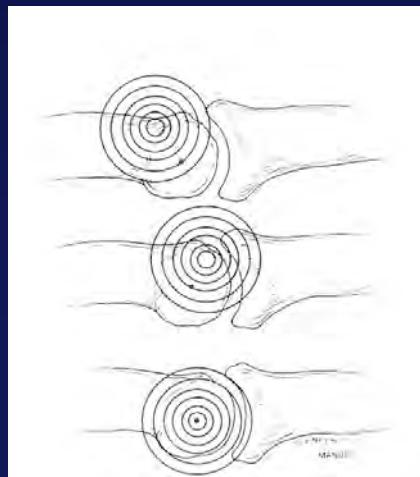
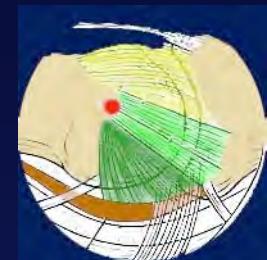
## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

### 2 parallel K-wires

Axial traction pin : 1,2 mm Center of motion

Hook pin : 1,0 mm



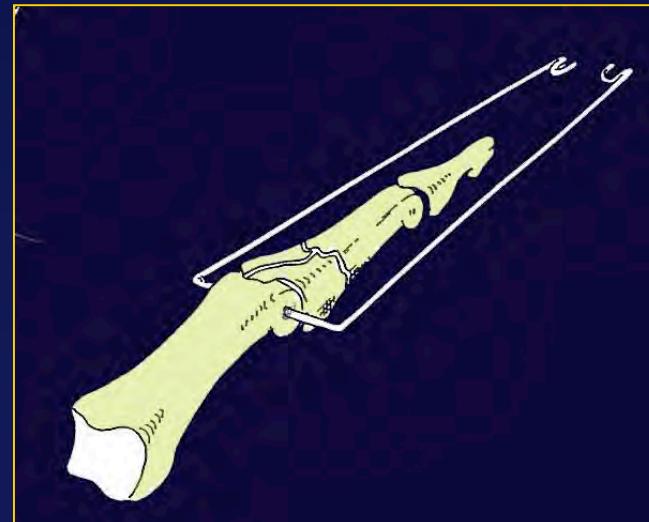
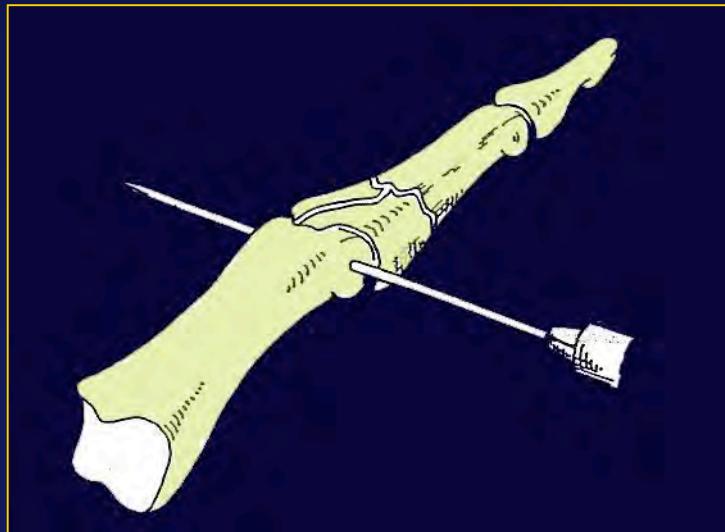
# « Pins & Rubbers »

## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

2 parallel K-wires

Axial traction pin : 1,2 mm Center of motion  
Hook pin : 1,0 mm



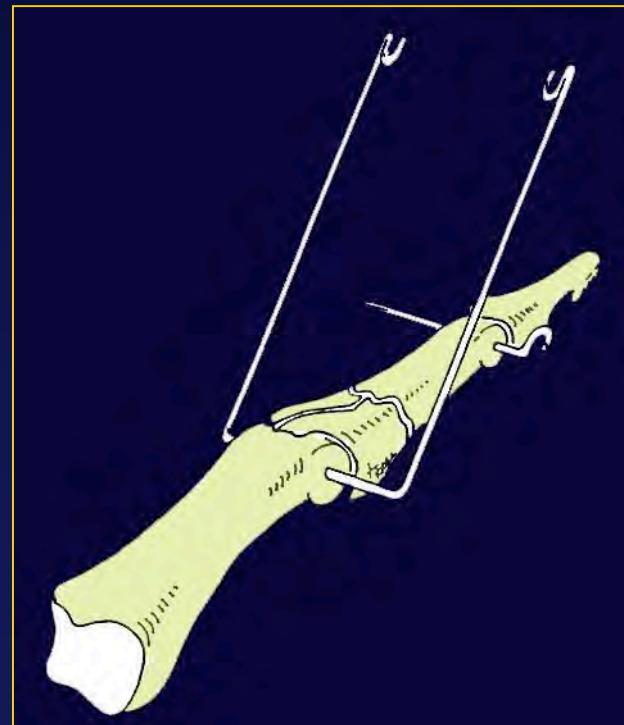
# « Pins & Rubbers »

## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

2 parallel K-wires

Axial traction pin : 1,2 mm  
Hook pin : 1,0 mm



# « Pins & Rubbers »

## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

Application  
of  
the rubber bands



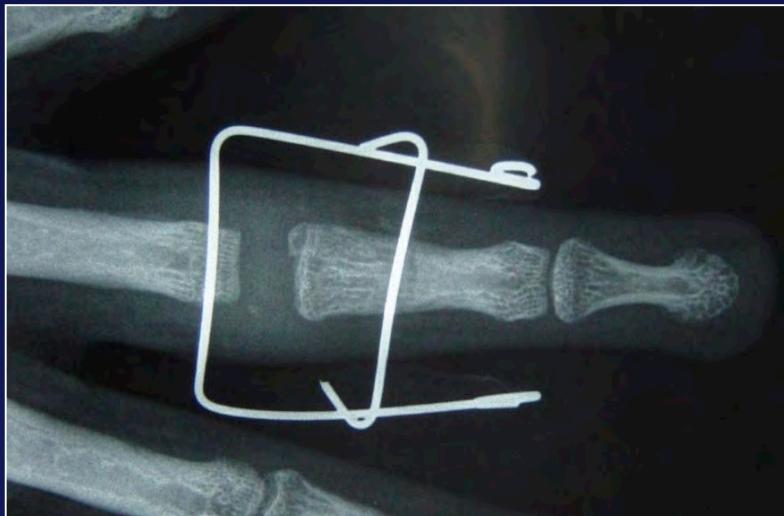
# « Pins & Rubbers »

## Technical procedure

*Susuki 1994*

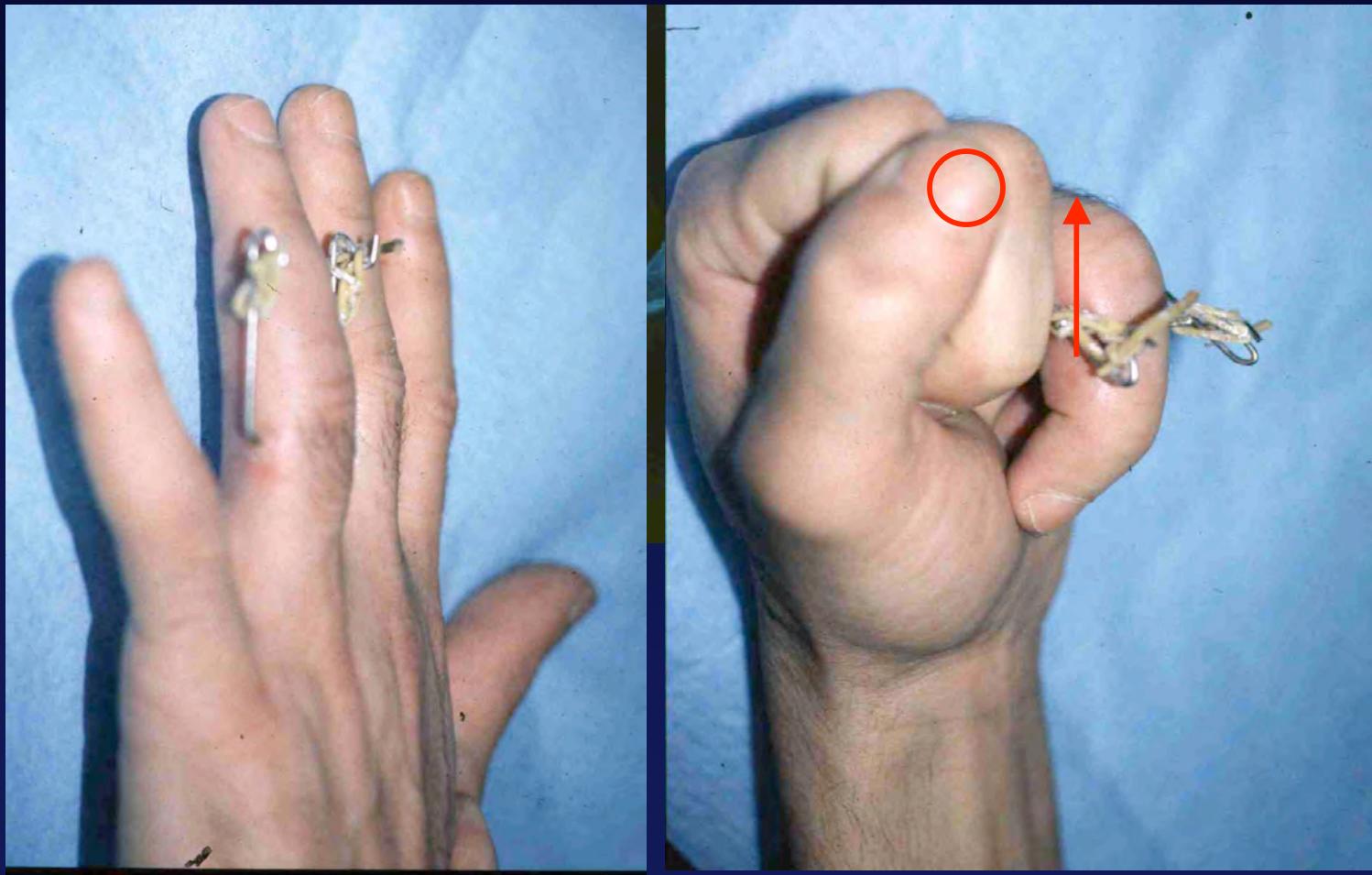
### Application of rubber bands

Distraction and reduction  
checked radiographically



# « Pins & Rubbers »

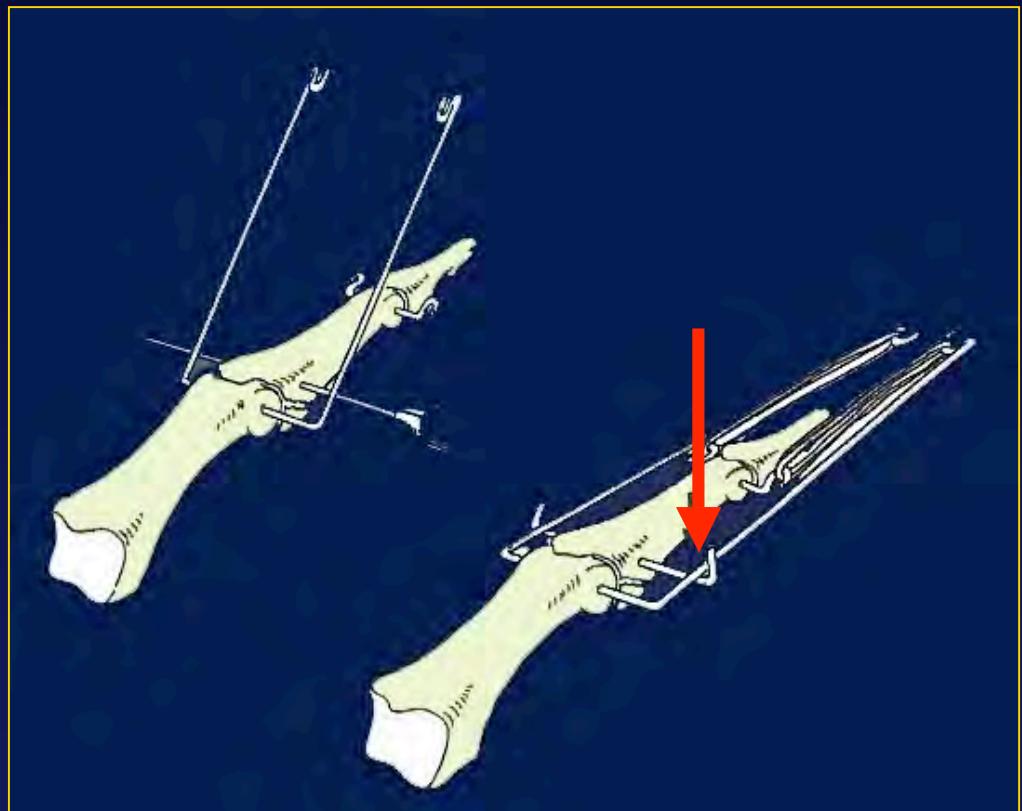
## Technical procedure



# Prevention of dorsal subluxation

Reduction pin

Base of the middle phalanx



# Immediate mobilization



Daily pin care  
indoor ?              *Duteille 2003*

Removal between 3 and 8 weeks



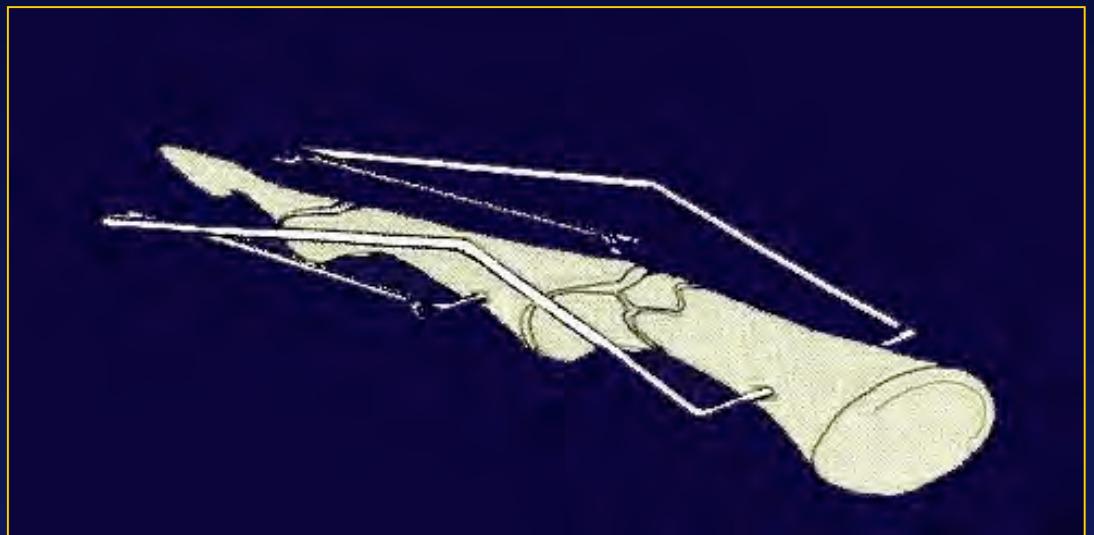
# Results

PIP ROM :  
 $> 80^\circ$  mobility on average

- *Chahidi* 2003
- *Inanami* 1993
- *Susuki* 1994
- *Morgan* 1995
- *De Soras* 1997
- *De Smet* 1998
- *Duteille* 2003

# For P1 fractures ?

- *De Soras 1997*
- *Duteille 2003*

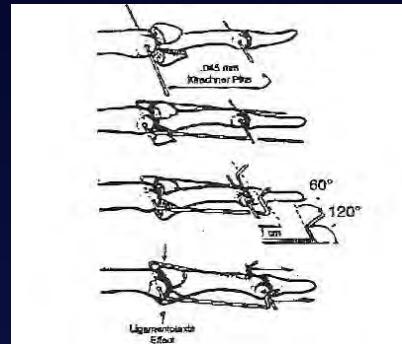


# Inversed Push-pin device

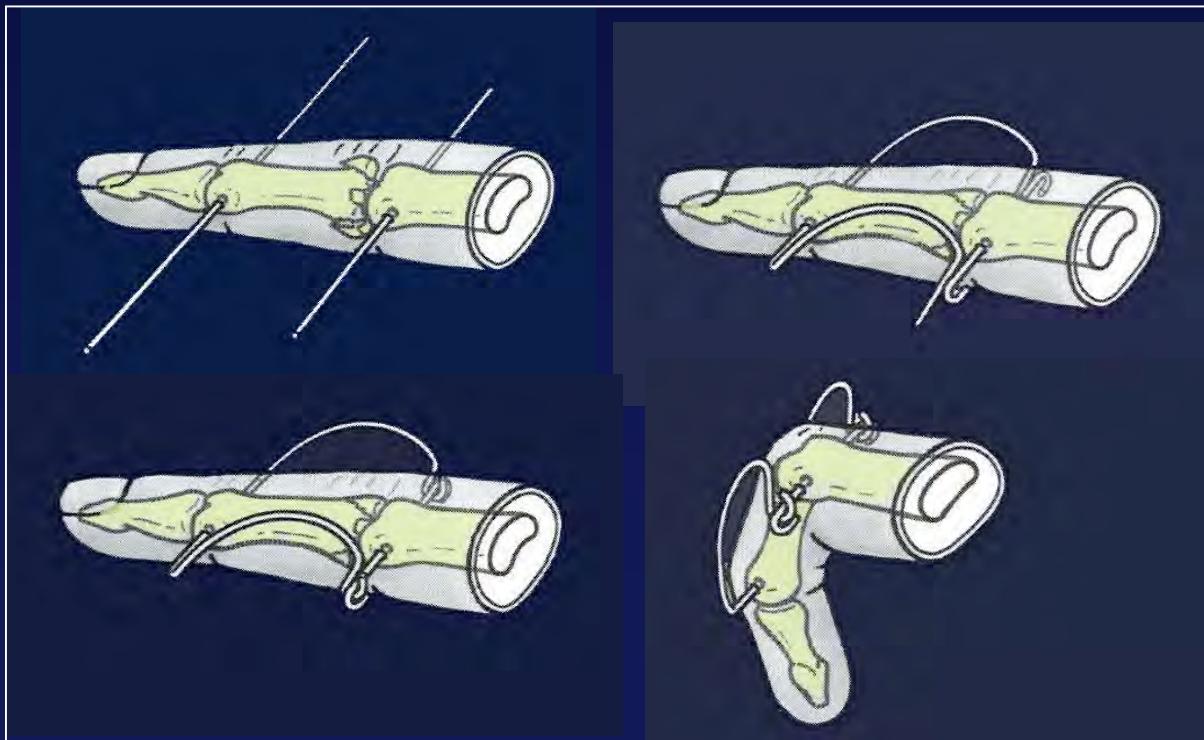
Syed 2003

8 pilon fractures

No infection



Gaul 1998



No rubber-band

Less cumbersome

Unlikely to break

# Radical procedures

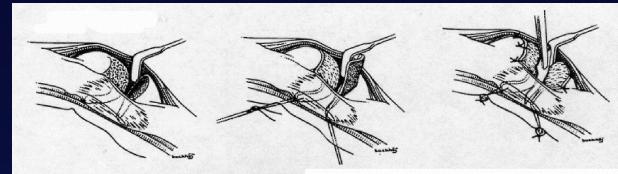
- Joint fusion
- Arthroplasties
- Silicone arthroplasty



# Cartilage defect

- Perichondrial resurfacing
- Non vascularized osteo-chondral grafts ?

- hemiarthroplasties
- Small fragments
- Synovial preservation
- Innervation



*Rinaldi 1976, Gill 1915, DePalma 1962, Campbell 1963, Menon 1983*

- Silicone prosthesis
- Vascularized articular transfer



# Vascularized toe transfer



# Vascularized toe transfer



# Indications for conservative treatment

## Proximal phalanx

- Undisplaced Fractures ?
- Comminutive Fractures



# Indications for conservative treatment

## Middle phalanx

- Undisplaced fractures
- Impaction < 30%  
with concentric joint
- Complementary to surgery



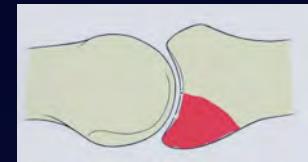
# Indications for surgery

- Open fractures
- Central slip injury
- Flexor tendon injury

Joint instability



## Palmar Base of the middle phalanx

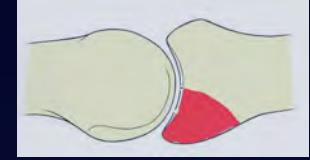


30% to 50 % (and unstable)

Attempt to conservative treatment



Palmar Base of the middle phalanx  
30 à 50%

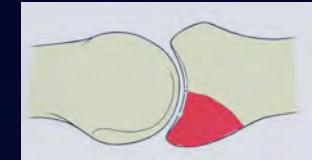


Conservative treatment



# Palmar Base of the middle phalanx

## 30 à 50%



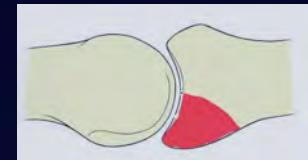
### In case of conservative treatment failure

- Large fragment : internal fixation
- Comminutive fragments :
  - Dynamic external fixators
  - Volar plate arthroplasty



# Palmar Base of the middle phalanx

30 à 50%



## Internal fixation

- Lateral approach with distraction
- or Anterior approach

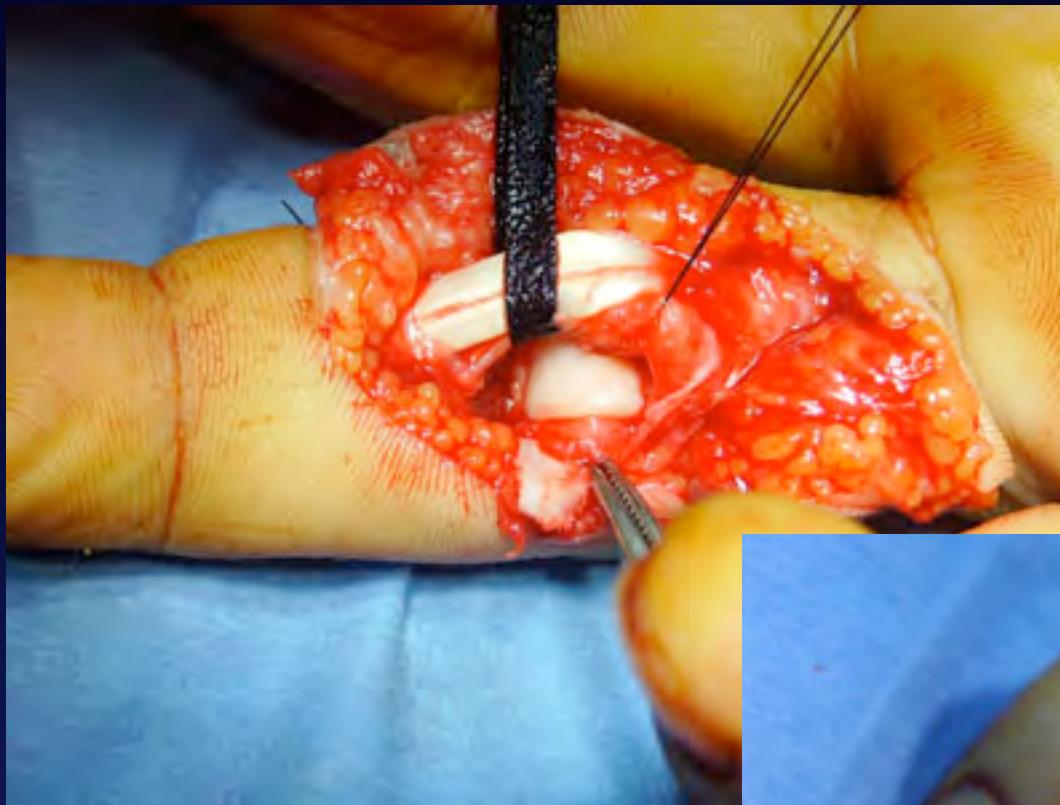


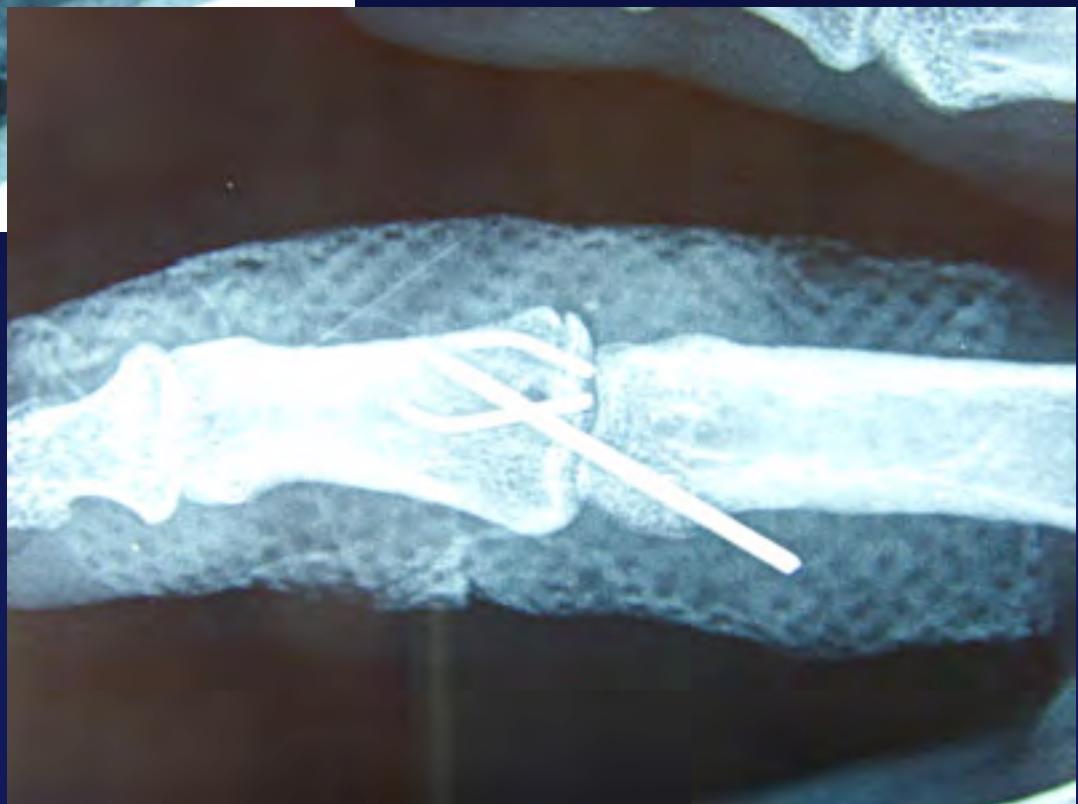
- Desimpaction +- graft
- Complementary Stabilisation

Difficult operation



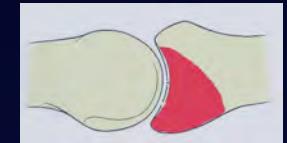






When internal fixation is not possible

30 to 50%  
or > 50%



Dynamic external fixator

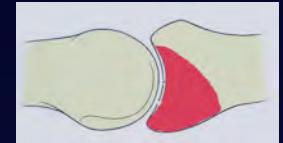
+ Restoration of  
Congruency  
Volar buttress

No Impaction reduction



When internal fixation is not possible

30 to 50%  
or > 50%

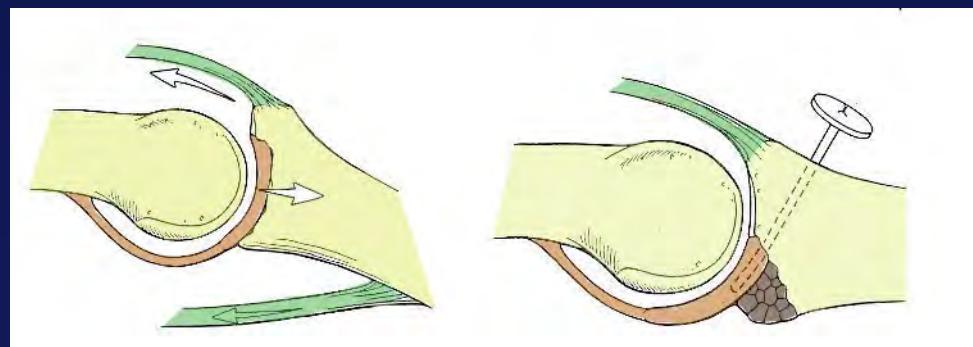


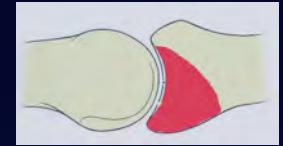
Volar arthroplasty +- bone graft

+ Restoration of

Congruency

Volar buttress





## Shaft fixation + Volar arthroplasty

1. Dorsal approach

→ Shaft internal fixation

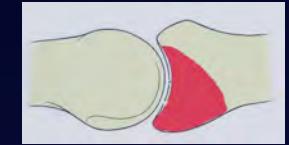


2. Anterior « ShotGun »

→ Volar arthroplasty



# Shaft fixation + Volar arthroplasty



- Extension block splinting
- Immediate rehabilitation



# When internal fixation is not possible

## hemi-hamate autograft

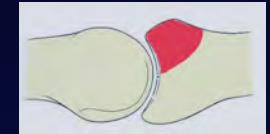
13 cases

- Mean follow-up 16 months
- Average ROM : PIP 85 DIP 60

*Williams 2003*



# Dorsal fractures of the base of the middle phalanx



Internal fixation when :

> 20% or displaced > 2 mm



# P2 Fractures Pilon no spared dorsal cortical

- Splintage
- Internal fixation
- Dynamic traction



# *Condylar fractures of the proximal phalanx*

- Closed pinning
- Or Internal fixation

2 K-Wires or screws



# *Condylar fractures of the proximal phalanx*

Prefer

< 2 mm screws

2 screws









# Bicondylar fractures of the proximal phalanx

Always internal fixation



# Basics for rehabilitation

- Early mobilization
- MP and DIP
- Adjacent fingers



Dynamic splint after 3 weeks

# Long term results

Complete recovery is exceptional

- Residual swelling
- ROM limitation (PIP and DIP)
- Mal union
- Necrosis
- Non union
- Cold intolerance



Post-traumatic arthritis is rarely symptomatic

# Long term results



# Conclusion (IPP)

- Condylar fracture of the proximal phalanx :
  - Anatomical repair
- Palmar base fracture of the middle phalanx :
  - Articular surface management
  - Stabilization and early mobilization

# Conclusion

Palmar base fracture  
*of the*  
middle phalanx



## 1. Reconstruction of the anterior buttress

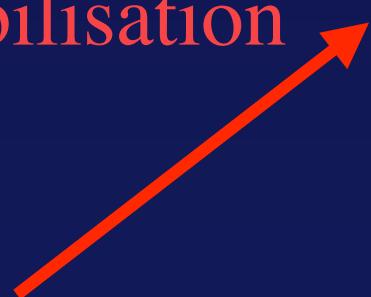
Internal fixation

Volar plate arthroplasty

Dynamic traction



Stabilisation



## 2. Stabilisation

Trans articular pinning

Extension -block pinning

Extension-block splinting

Dynamic traction

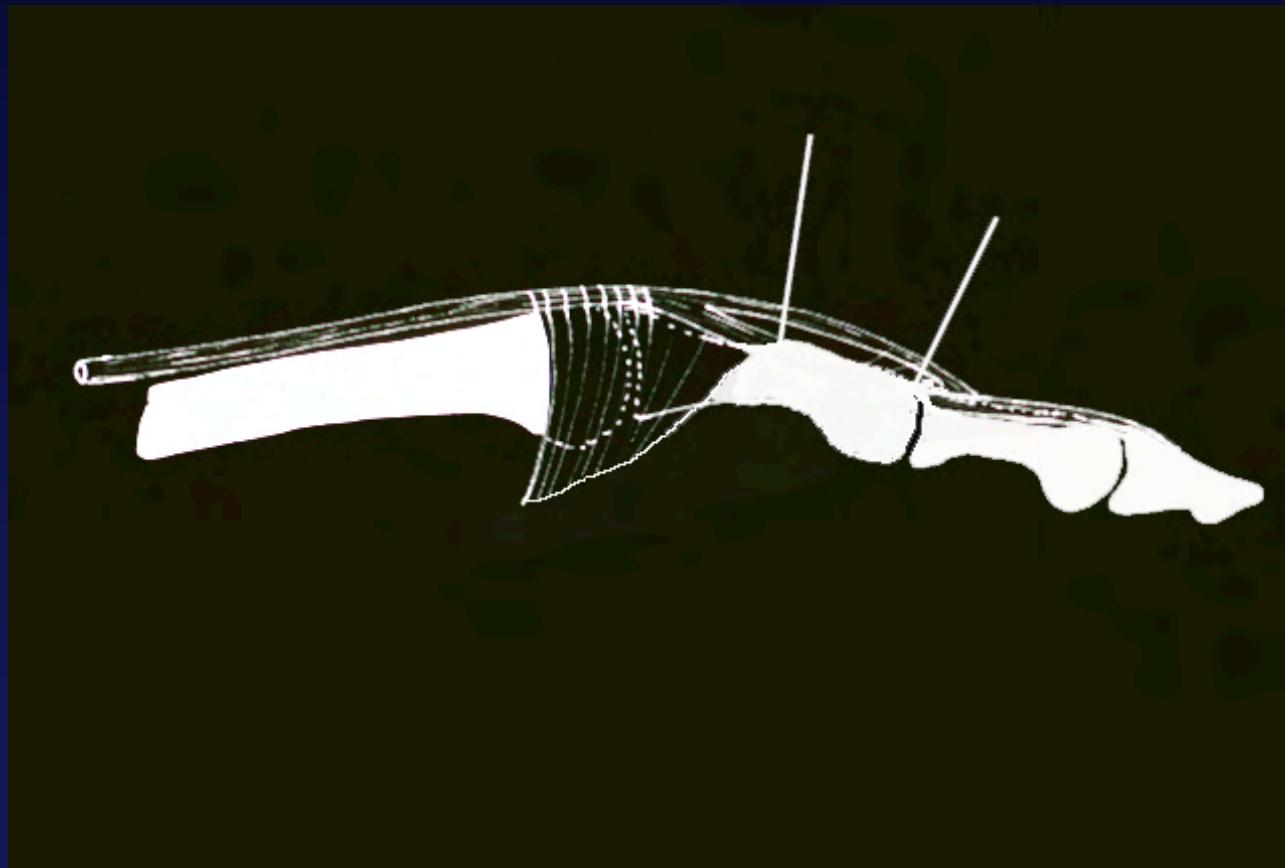
Mobilisation



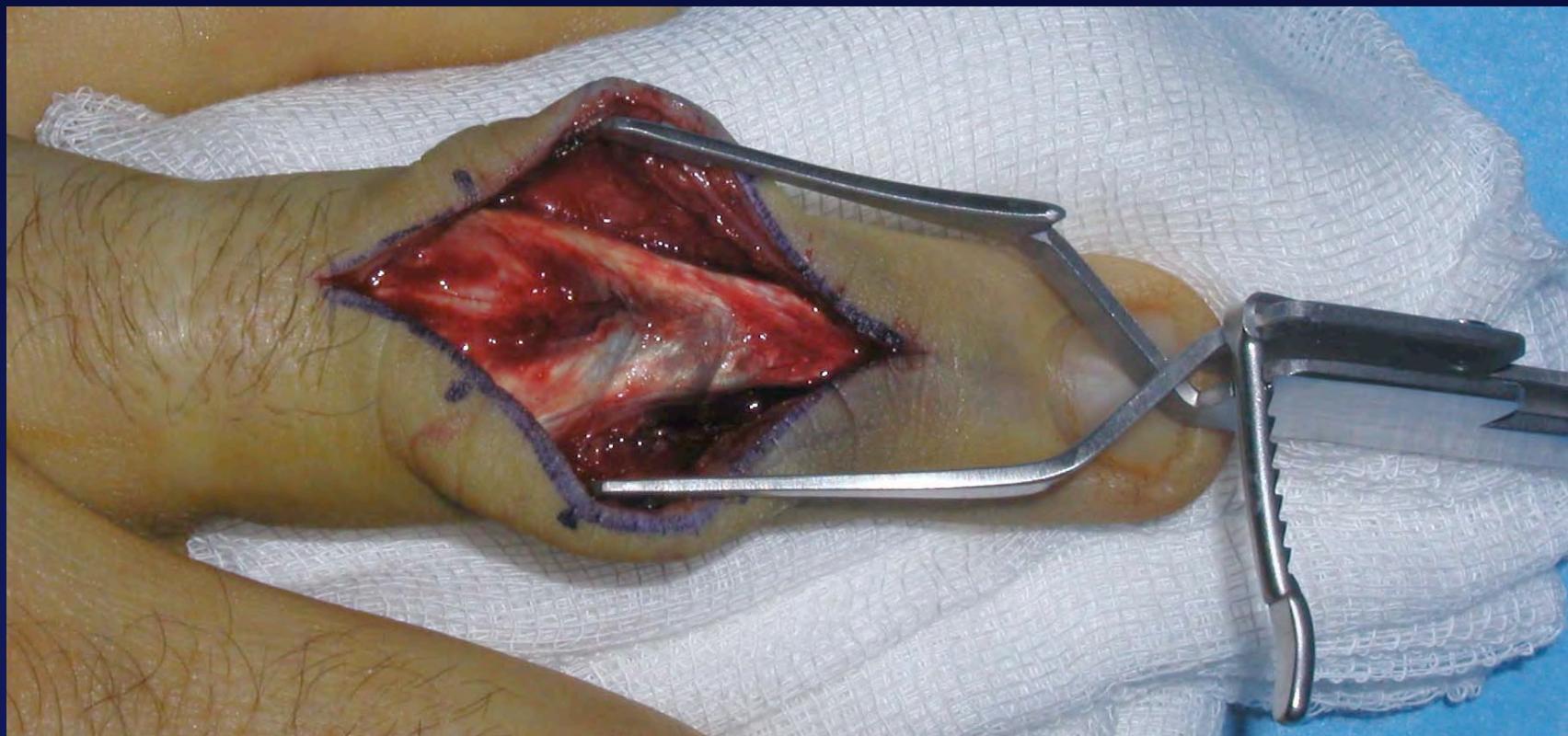
# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



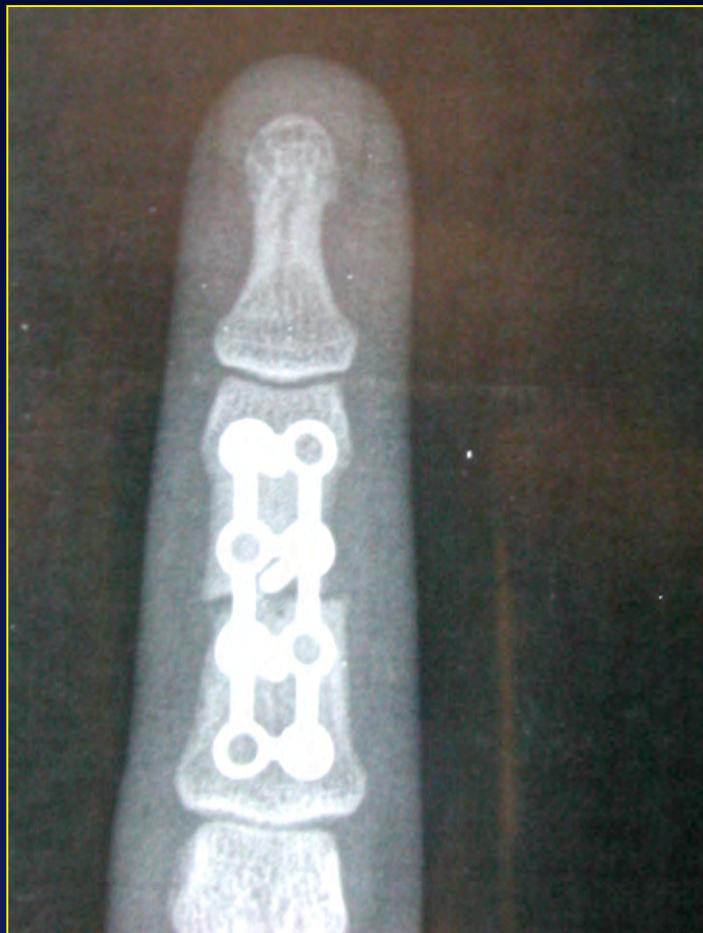
# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



Stable bone fixation  
Early rehabilitation

# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



# Middle Phalanx Shaft fracture



## Amputations trans P2



# DIP fracture- Distal P2



Orthopaedic  
stabilization

# DIP fracture



Surgical fixation



# DIP fracture- dorsal instability



# DIP fracture - Mallet fracture



# DIP fracture - Lateral impaction



# Metacarpal fractures

- III & IV :                      stable
- II & V  
Multiple                      unstable
- non displaced                      conservative  
displaced                      bone fixation



# Metacarpal shaft fractures



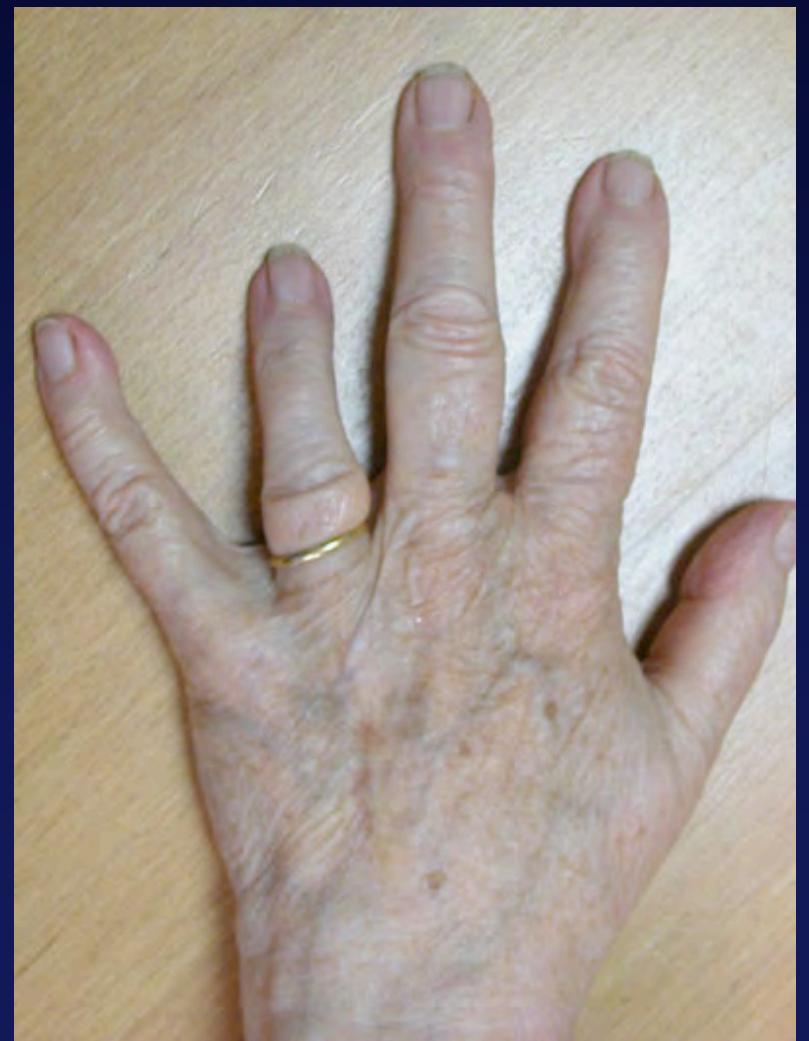
# Metacarpal shaft fractures



# Metacarpal shaft fractures



# Metacarpal shaft fractures



# Metacarpal shaft fractures



# Base of the fifth metacarpal

- Fracture-dislocation in almost every case
  - Intermetacarpal stabilization
  - Articular reconstruction



# Base of the fifth metacarpal



# Neck of the fifth metacarpal

- Conservative treatment
- Surgical treatment in select
  - Angulation > 60°
  - Open fractures
  - Rotational displacement



# Neck of the fifth metacarpal



# Neck of the fifth metacarpal

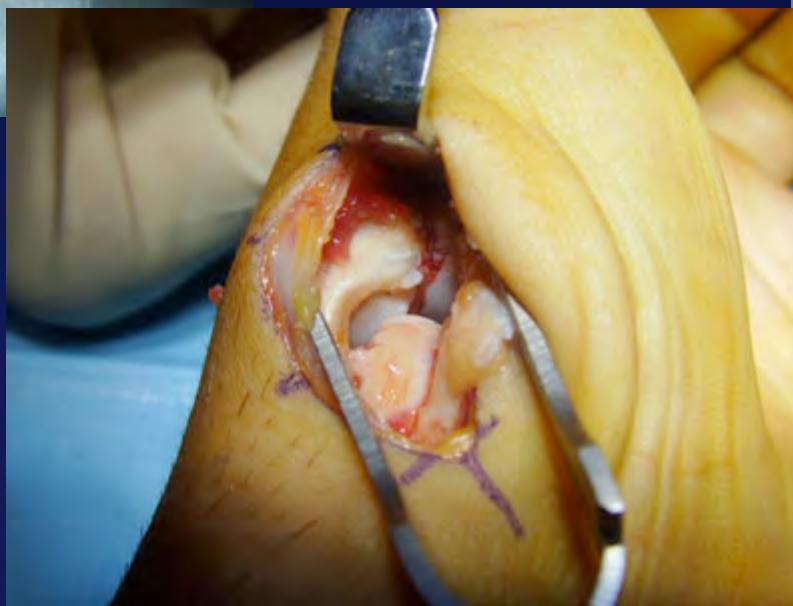


# First metacarpal fractures

- Extra-articular
- Articular
  - Bennet fracture
  - Comminutive fracture

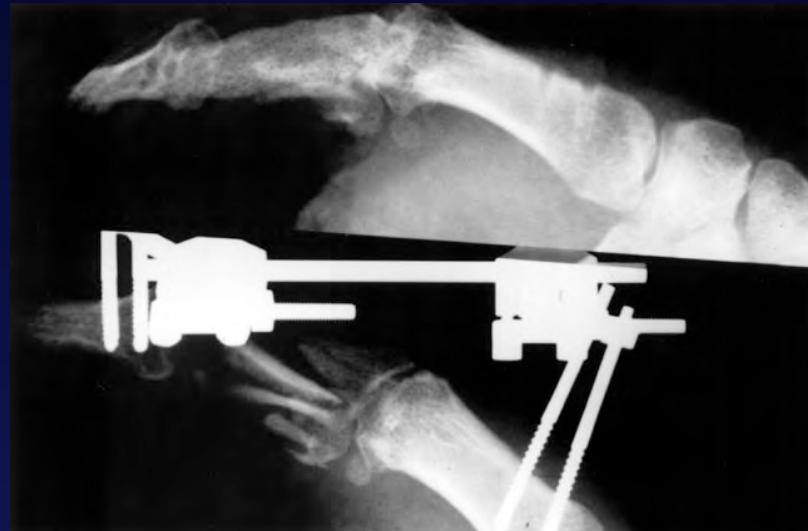


# First metacarpal fractures



# Advantages of external fixation

No surgical approach  
Less bone devascularization  
Easy hardware removal  
Good stability (Fitoussi 96)

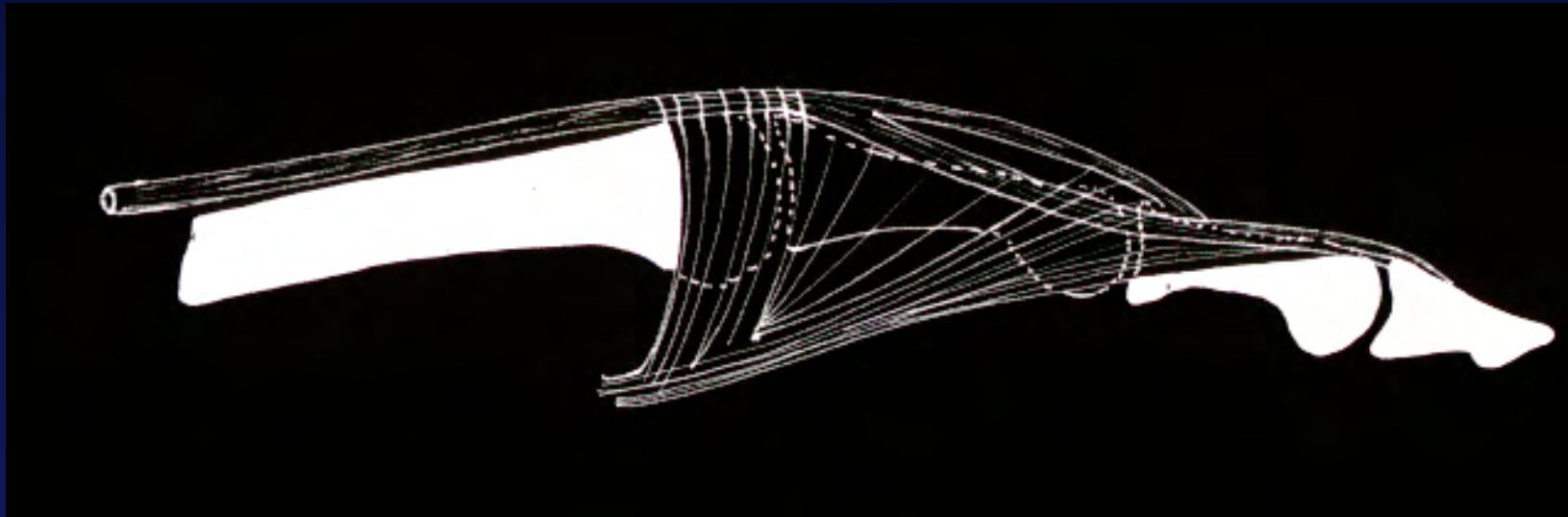


# External fixation





# Where to put the pins?



# FE : indications

- I, II & V easier than III & IV
- Compound fractures
- Bone loss
- Transitory stabilization

*Freeland 1987*

*Shearer 1992*

*Shehadi 1991*

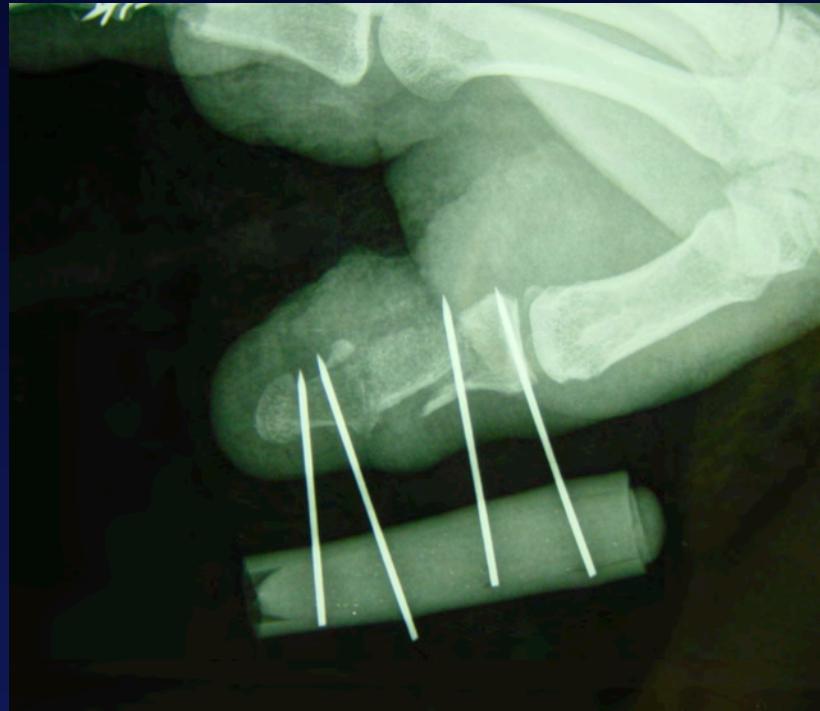
*Fricker 1996*

*Hochberg 1994*

*Drenth 1998*



# Pertes de substances osseuses



- Greffe osseuse non vascularisée
- En 1 (ou 2) temps

# Pathological fractures



# Open fractures



# Thank you



**Urgences Mains de l'Est Parisien**