

DISTAL FEMORAL FRACTURES



M. Brix/ Morten Schultz Larsen, MD

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, Odense University Hospital

Department of Clinical Research, University of Southern Denmark

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

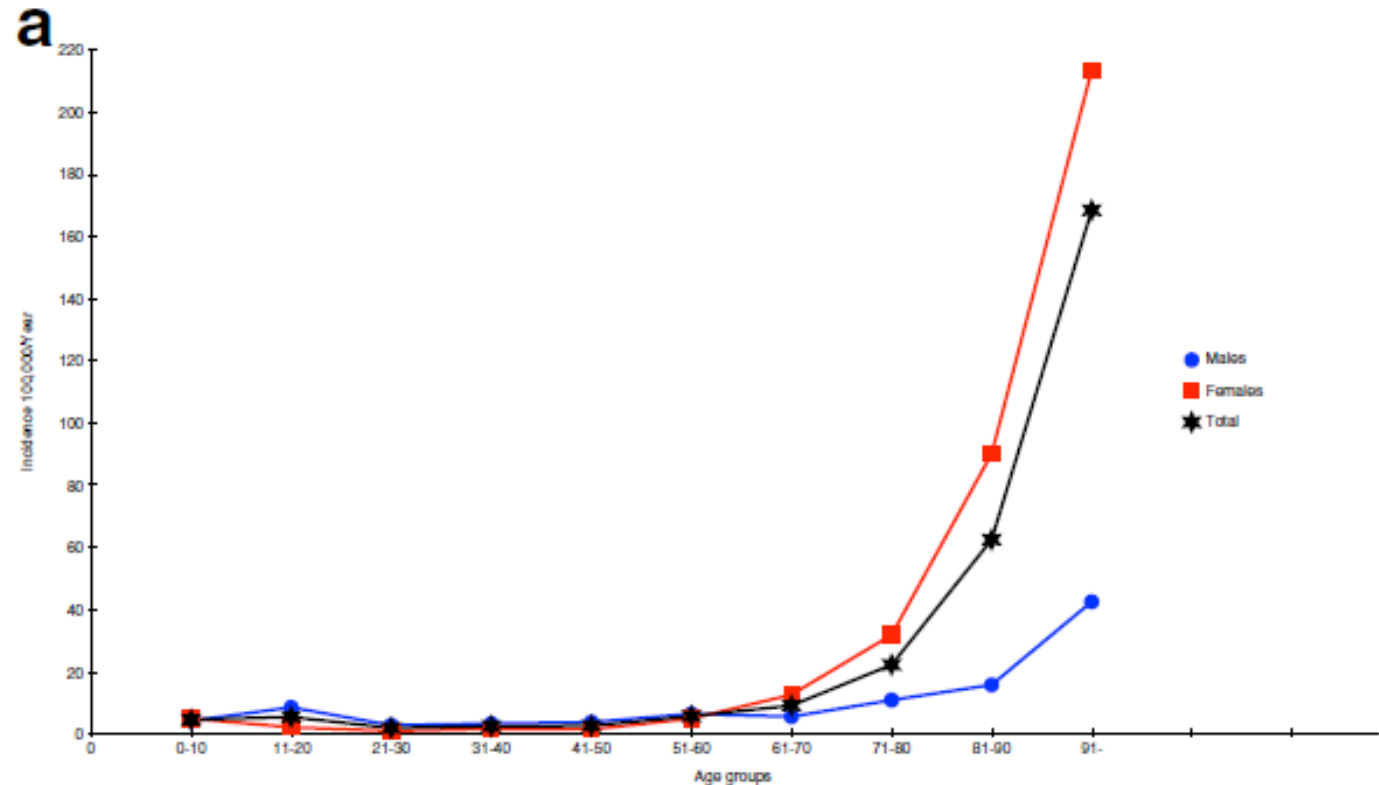
- Personality of the fracture
- Treatment goal
- Options for fixation
- Considerations regarding the choice for fixation
- Cases
- 4 learning points !



DISTAL FEMUR FRAKTUR DANISH POPULATION)

Elsoe R et al Int Orthop 2018

- Incidence: 9 per 100.000 per år
- Age: 62 år (72 for kvinder)
- Sex: 67% are females
- Most low energy fractures (97%)
- Simple fractures (33A1 and 33A2)
Most common

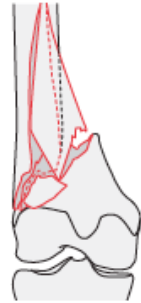
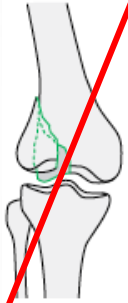
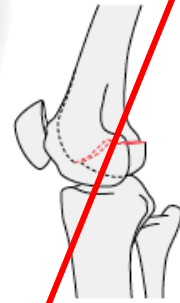


CLASSIFICATION

35-50%

18-30%

7-18%

33-A1	33-A2	33-A3	33-B1	33-B2	33-B3	33-C1	33-C2	33-C3
								
33-A extra-articular fracture			33-B partial articular fracture			33-C complete articular fracture		
33-A1 simple			33-B1 lateral condyle, sagittal			33-C1 articular simple, metaphyseal simple		
33-A2 metaphyseal wedge and/or fragmented wedge			33-B2 medial condyle, sagittal			33-C2 artic. simple, metaphyseal multifragmentary		
33-A3 metaphyseal complex			33-B3 frontal			33-C3 articular multifragmentary		

TREATMENT GOAL

- Stabil fixation, allowing early mobilisation and weightbearing
- Anatomical reduction and absolute stability intraarticular fractures
- Restore Length, axis and rotation
- Safe local biology (blood supply)



High Mortality

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Patient Mortality in Geriatric Distal Femur Fractures

Myers, Philip DO^{*}; Laboe, Patrick MD[†]; Johnson, Kory J. DO[‡]; Fredericks, Peter D. MD[§]; Crichlow, Renn J. MD^{*}; Maar, Dean C. MD^{*}; Weber, Timothy G. MD^{*}

[Author Information](#) ☺

Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma 32(3):p 111-115, March 2018. | DOI: 10.1097/BOT.0000000000001078

Overall mortality for distal femur fractures 13.4%
Surgical treatment
>2 days after injury = higher patient mortality.

LEARNING POINT #1

DISTAL FEMUR FRACTURE

HIGH MORTALITY (25%)

SURGERY < 48 HOURS REDUCES MORTALITY

Retrograde nailing
R



Most common options
For treatment

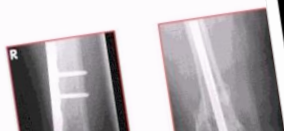
Locking Plate



EVIDENCE – PLATES VS NAILS

Locked Plating vs. Retrograde Nailing for Distal Femur Fractures: A Multicenter Randomized Trial, Tornetta et al. Presented at OTA 2013, Phoenix, AZ

- 33 A1-3, C1 fractures at 12 trauma centers
- 126 pts: 76 locked plates vs 80 nails
- No difference in pts or injuries



Indian Journal of Orthopaedics (2021) 55:646–654
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s43465-020-00331-z>

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Comparing Intramedullary Nailing Versus Locked Plating in the Treatment of Native Distal Femur Fractures: Is One Superior to the Other?

Jaclyn M. Jankowski¹ · Patrick S. Yoo¹ · Richard S. Yoo¹ · K. Shah¹ · David M. Keller¹ · Robinson E. Pires² · Frank A. Liporace¹ ·

No difference

(141)
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CURRENT CONCEPTS REVIEW

Locked Plating Versus Retrograde Intramedullary Nailing for Distal Femur Fractures: a Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Deepak Neradi, MS Orthopaedics¹; Praveen Sodavarapu, MS Orthopaedics¹; Karan Jindal, MS Orthopaedics¹; Deepak Kumar, MS Orthopaedics²; Vishal Kumar, MS Orthopaedics²; Vijay Goni, MS Orthopaedics³

FACTORS TO THINK ABOUT IN PLANNING SURGERY

- Patient characteristics
 - Age, comorbidity, function
- Bone quality
 - Osteoporosis
- Fracture type
 - Intra articular
 - Medial comminution
 - Periprosthetic (nails)
 - Very low fractures
- Surgical approach
 - Lateral vs anterior
 - Open vs minimally invasive

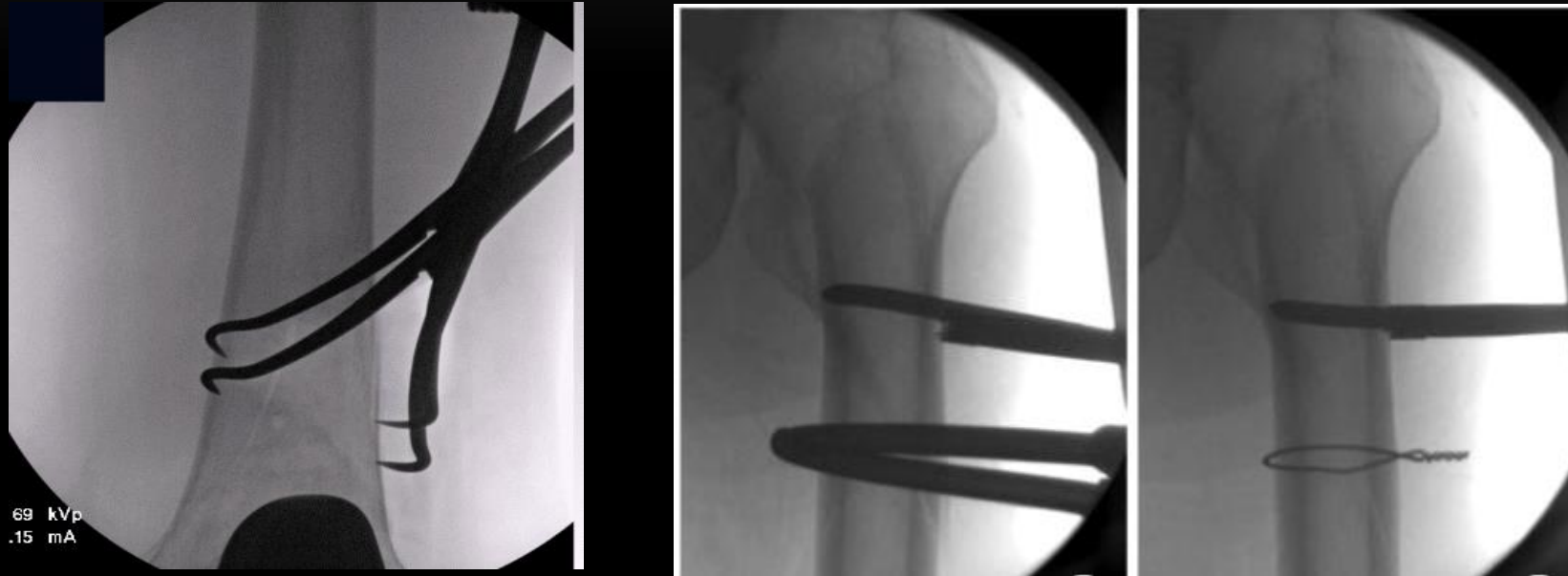


CASE

- Simple, extraarticular fracture



REDUCTION

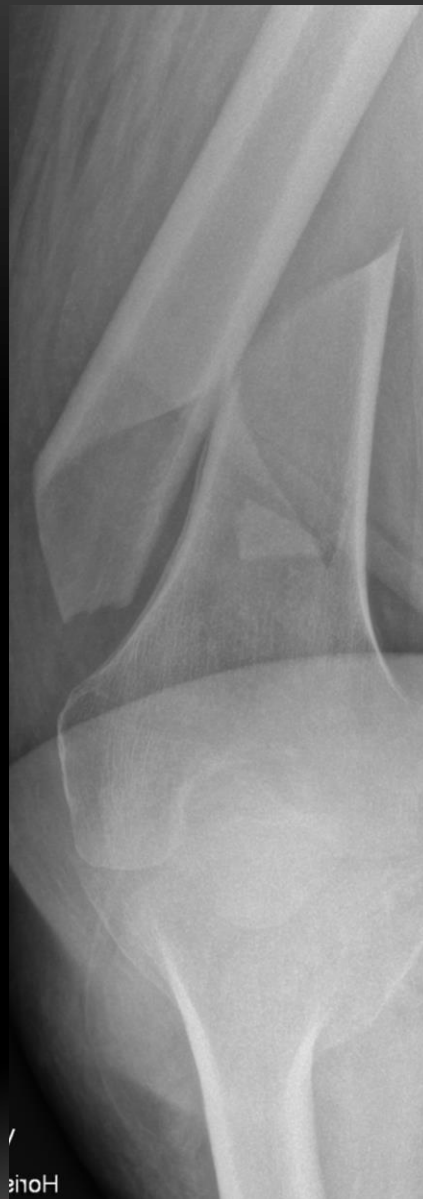


Direct

See fracture and reduction

Lag-screw or cerclage/wires BE AWARE OF THE LENGHT

FIXATION



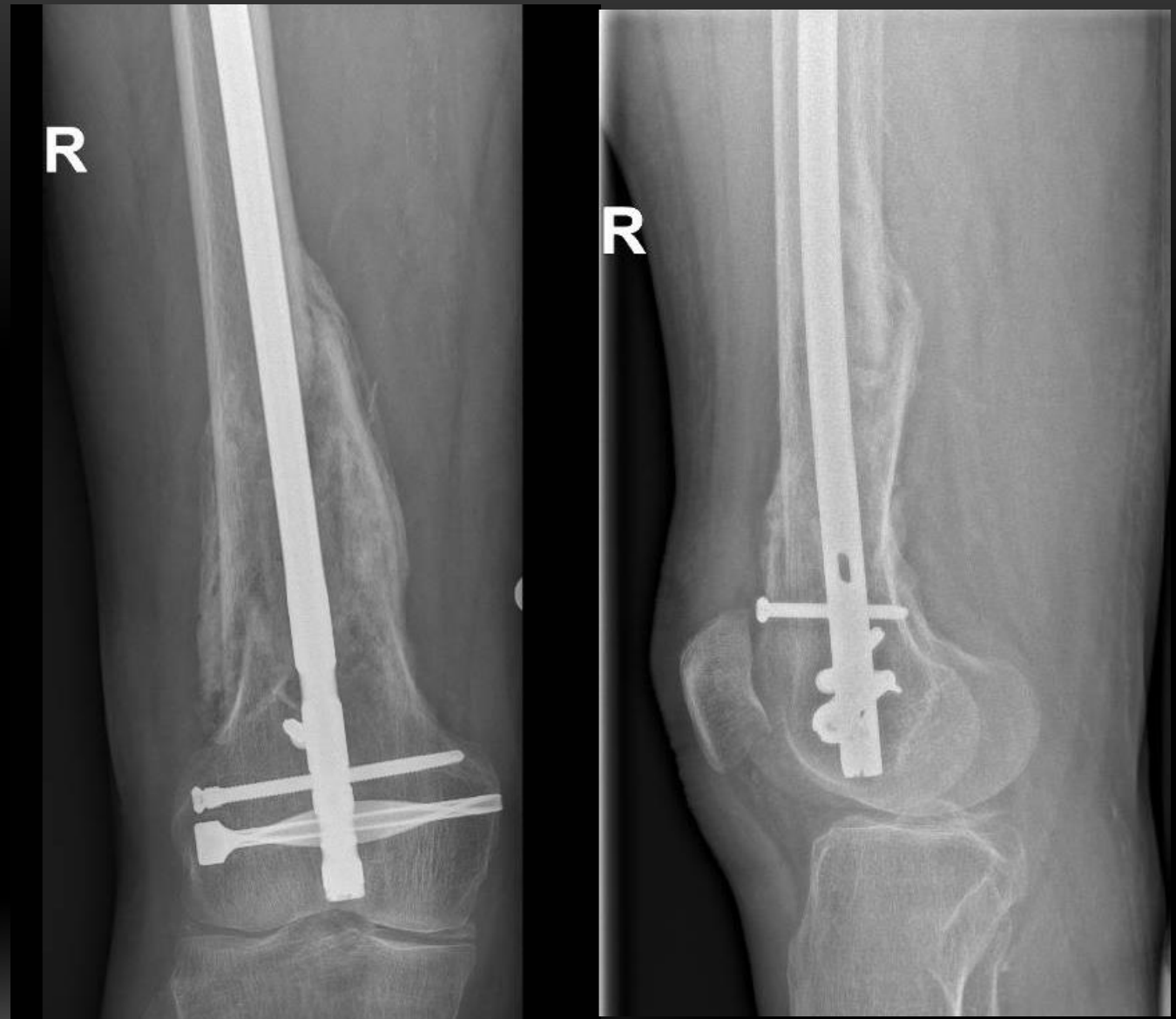
Metaphysial fracture and
medial cortex comminute:
Supplementary plate

Or.....





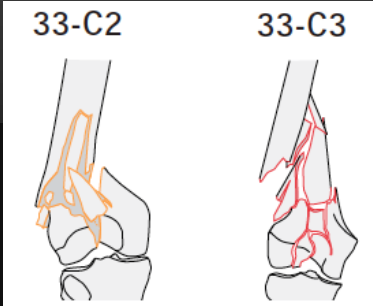
- Retrograde nailing
- Minimally invasive. Soft tissue friendly
- Load shearing device
- Soft tissues intact – facilitates indirect reduction
- Improved design extends indication



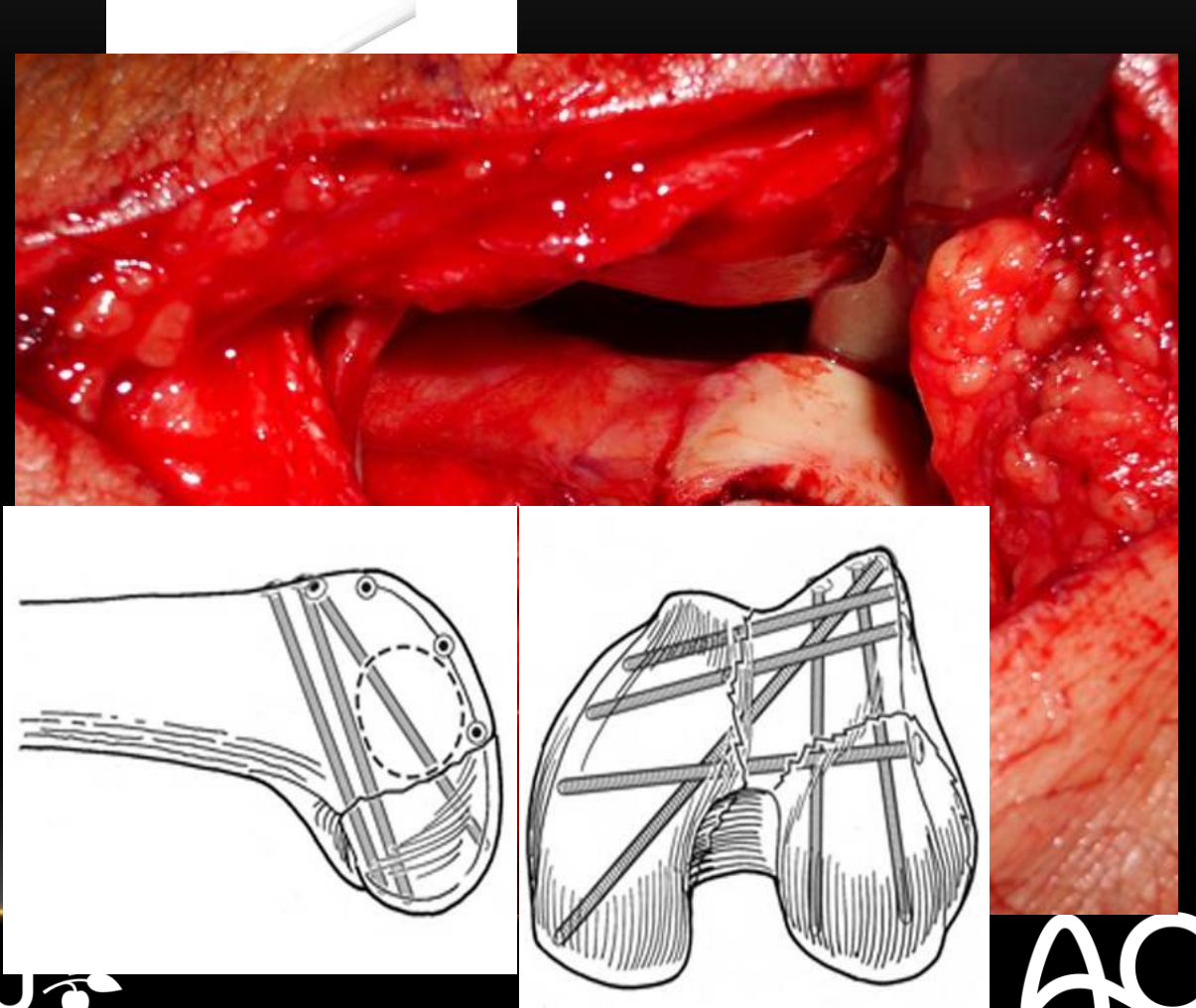
LEARNING POINT # 2

LOCKING PLATE ARE THE WORK HORSE, BUT
NAILING IS A BETTER OPTION IN SOME CASES

Metaphyseal comminuted – displaced or complex intra articular



- Locking plate
- Supine (traction)
- Big anterior midline skin incision
- Lateral para-patellar approach
- Open reconstruction joint
- Lateral locking plate
- Medial augmentation (plate)



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Syddanmark

PostOP



SOUTHERN DENMARK



4 Mo



AO
TRAUMA

LEARNING POINT # 3

INTRAARTICULAR FRACTURES DEMANDS OPEN
REDUCTION AND FIXATION WITH ABSOLUTE
STABILITY

CASE, 67-YEAR-OLD FEMALE, OSTEOPOROSIS



AFTER FEW DAYS, DISTAL FEMORAL REPLACEMENT



LEARNING POINT # 4

RESPECT LIMITATIONS – KNEE REPLACEMENT
CAN BE THE BEST OPTION IN SOME SEVERE
CASES

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Most elderly people, fast mobilisation saves lives
- Locking plate are work horse, But retrograde nailing is the best option in some cases
- Intraarticular fractures demands open reduction and stable fixation
- Respect limitations, knee replacement can be the best option in severe cases

