

Range Animal Hospital

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Pelvic Fracture Repair with Plates, Screws, Wires, Pins and External Fixation

- Multiple methodologies are used in pelvic fracture repair, alone and very often together.
- Strict attention to soft tissue, especially neurovascular injuries, urinary, and rectal trauma must be considered.
- In iliac fractures, the lateral and the ventral approaches have substantially replaced the dorsal approach to the pelvis. They are less invasive and often give more than adequate exposure for a secure repair. This is especially true of a ventral plate and screw repair.
- Acetabular fractures require CAREFUL attention to anatomic reduction, and are often nicely repaired with acetabular bone plates. The dorsal open approach to the hip joint gives nice exposure and further allows access to the ileum and ischium if they are also fractured.
- Complex fractures often require multiple techniques and staged operations.
- Sacroiliac luxations are nicely repaired with screw fixation. Some of these can be repaired with minimal invasion of the soft tissues.
- Since many of these patients have multiple and severe injuries with possible soft tissue trauma, some will have more extended hospital stays.
- We will coordinate postoperative aftercare with your hospital. Typical care includes:
 - A 2-5 day postoperative incision check.
 - A 10-12 day suture removal.
 - Additional care as required by the individual case.
 - Plate removal is usually unnecessary in pelvic fracture repair. The overlying musculature generally prevents chilling and contraction of the plate and its associated discomfort.
 - We will assist you in providing postoperative care as needed.
- Please send any preoperative laboratory tests and radiographs.
- Surgery is done daily as needed by each individual case.
- Call ASAP with your request for referral. It is appropriate to call Dr. Martinson after hours to aid in coordinating his schedule.
- Uncomplicated cases typically spend two nights in the hospital. Costs are \$1600 to \$2000 [January 2011]. Difficult cases will be representatively more. Ask for an estimate.