

Range Animal Hospital

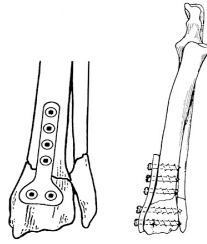
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Fracture Repair with Plates and Screws

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- This time tested procedure is well suited to many kinds of fractures.
 - Fracture repair with plate fixation has been somewhat forgotten in recent years as good techniques with external fixation and interlocking nails have developed. It is still the method of choice for many repairs, including radius, pelvic, and spinal fractures.
 - Complex, comminuted fractures can often be nicely reassembled with plate fixation and carefully placed cerclage wires.
 - While structural strength is important, we fully understand the concept that “it is better to be a gardener than a carpenter” in these repairs.
 - Plate fixation in conjunction with an IM Pin is a VERY strong repair and is very effective in eliminating axial torsion and maintaining bone length. Many severe, comminuted fractures are best repaired with this combination.
 - We will coordinate postoperative aftercare with your hospital. Typical care includes:
 - A 4-5 day postoperative incision check.
 - A 10-12 day suture removal.
 - A 2 to 2½ month postoperative exam with possible radiographs.
 - Possible plate removal after a year of healing may be necessary; at your hospital or ours, at your preference.
 - Please send any preoperative laboratory tests and radiographs.
 - Surgery is done daily as needed.
 - 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 one night in the hospital. Costs are \$1200 to \$1600 [January 2011]. Difficult cases will be representatively more. Ask for an estimate.