

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Algorithm	<b>POLICY TITLE:</b> Long Bone Fracture Guideline
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<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b> 09/2016	<b>REFERENCE NUMBER:</b> ALG-18

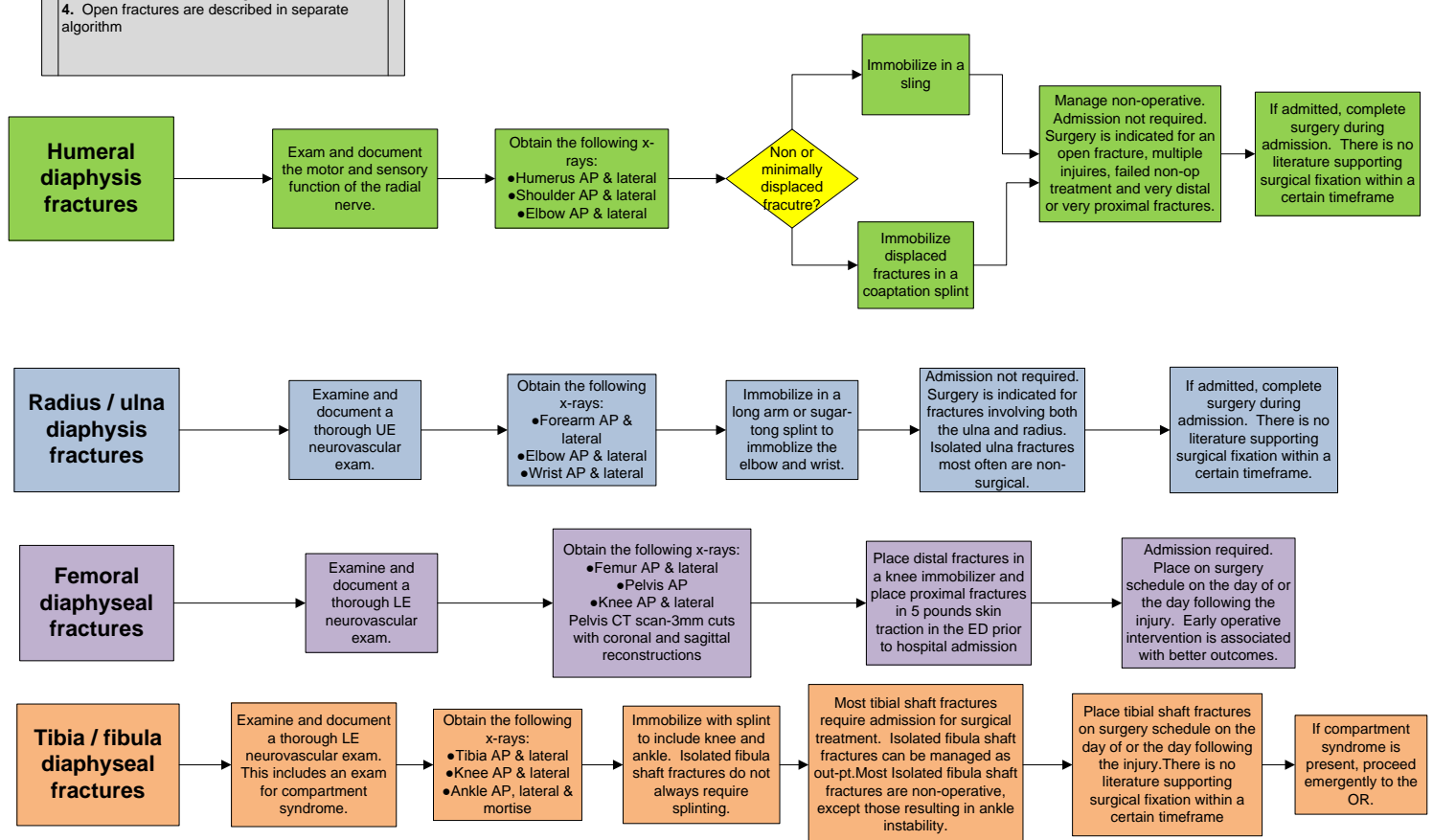
**PURPOSE:** To provide a framework for management of the patient with long bone fractures including Humeral Shaft Fractures, Radius/Ulna Fractures, Femoral Shaft Fractures and Tibia/Fibula Shaft Fractures.

**POLICY:**

**General principles for all diaphyseal fractures**

1. Imaging of the joint proximal and distal to the fracture is completed.
2. In-patient or out-patient treatment is decided on case-by-case basis by the Ortho trauma surgeon and ED MD.
3. Temporary stabilization in the ED is required before admission or discharge.
4. Open fractures are described in separate algorithm

## Long Bone Fracture Management



*These guidelines are designed for the general use of most patients, but may need to be adapted to meet the special needs*

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of a specific patient as determined by the patient's care giver.

## References:

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<sup>2</sup> Tornetta P 3rd, Kain MS, Creevy WR. Diagnosis of femoral neck fractures in patients with a femoral shaft fracture. Improvement with a standard protocol. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 2007 Jan;89(1):39-43. PubMed PMID: 17200308.

<sup>3</sup> Even JL, Richards JE, Crosby CG, Kregor PJ, Mitchell EJ, Jahangir AA, Tressler MA, Obrebsky WT. Preoperative skeletal versus cutaneous traction for femoral shaft fractures treated within 24 hours. *J Orthop Trauma.* 2012 Oct;26(10):e177-82. PubMed PMID: 22430522.

<sup>4</sup> Bone LB, Johnson KD, Weigelt J, Scheinberg R. Early versus delayed stabilization of femoral fractures. A prospective randomized study. *J Bone Joint Surg Am.* 1989 Mar;71(3):336-40. PubMed PMID: 2925704.

<sup>5</sup> Park S, Ahn J, Gee AO, Kuntz AF, Esterhai JL. Compartment syndrome in tibial fractures. *J Orthop Trauma.* 2009 Aug;23(7):514-8. doi: 10.1097/BOT.0b013e3181a2815a. PubMed PMID: 19633461.