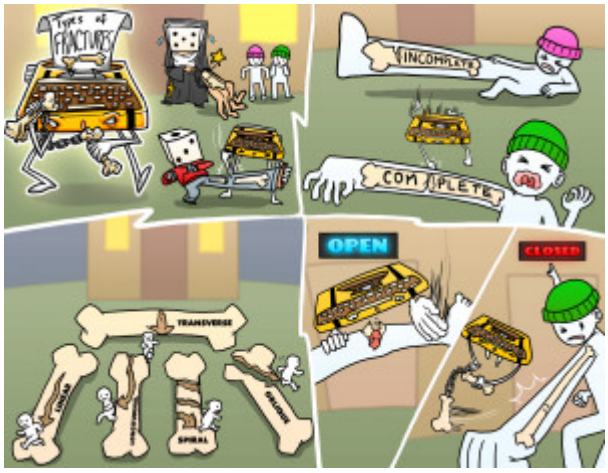
Types of Fractures

Fractures can be classified in various ways, as either displaced or nondisplaced; open or closed; complete or incomplete or according to the direction of the fracture line. Understanding the difference between the different types of fractures is important in order to provide proper care.



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Nondisplaced
Nun-dice with Nondisplaced fracture
The bone is still in alignment and the periosteum is intact. Examples are transverse, spiral, or greenstick.

Displaced
Dice with Displaced fracture
The two ends of the bones are separated from each other. Examples are comminuted and oblique.

Incomplete
Incomplete fracture
The fracture occurs across the bone shaft, but the bone is still in one piece and may be due to a bending or crushing force applied to the bone.

Complete
Complete fracture
This type of break is completely through the bone.

Closed
Closed fracture
The skin remains intact. Used to be called simple fracture.

Open
Open fracture
The skin is broken and bone and soft tissue can be seen. Used to be called compound fracture.

Direction of Fracture Line
Directions of Fracture Lines
This relates to the direction of the fracture, which can be linear, oblique, transverse, longitudinal, and spiral.

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