

Fifth and/or fourth metacarpal neck or head fracture

For patients aged 16 years and over

Disclaimer:

This is a clinical template; clinicians should always use judgement when managing individual patients

Patient details

Full name

DoB

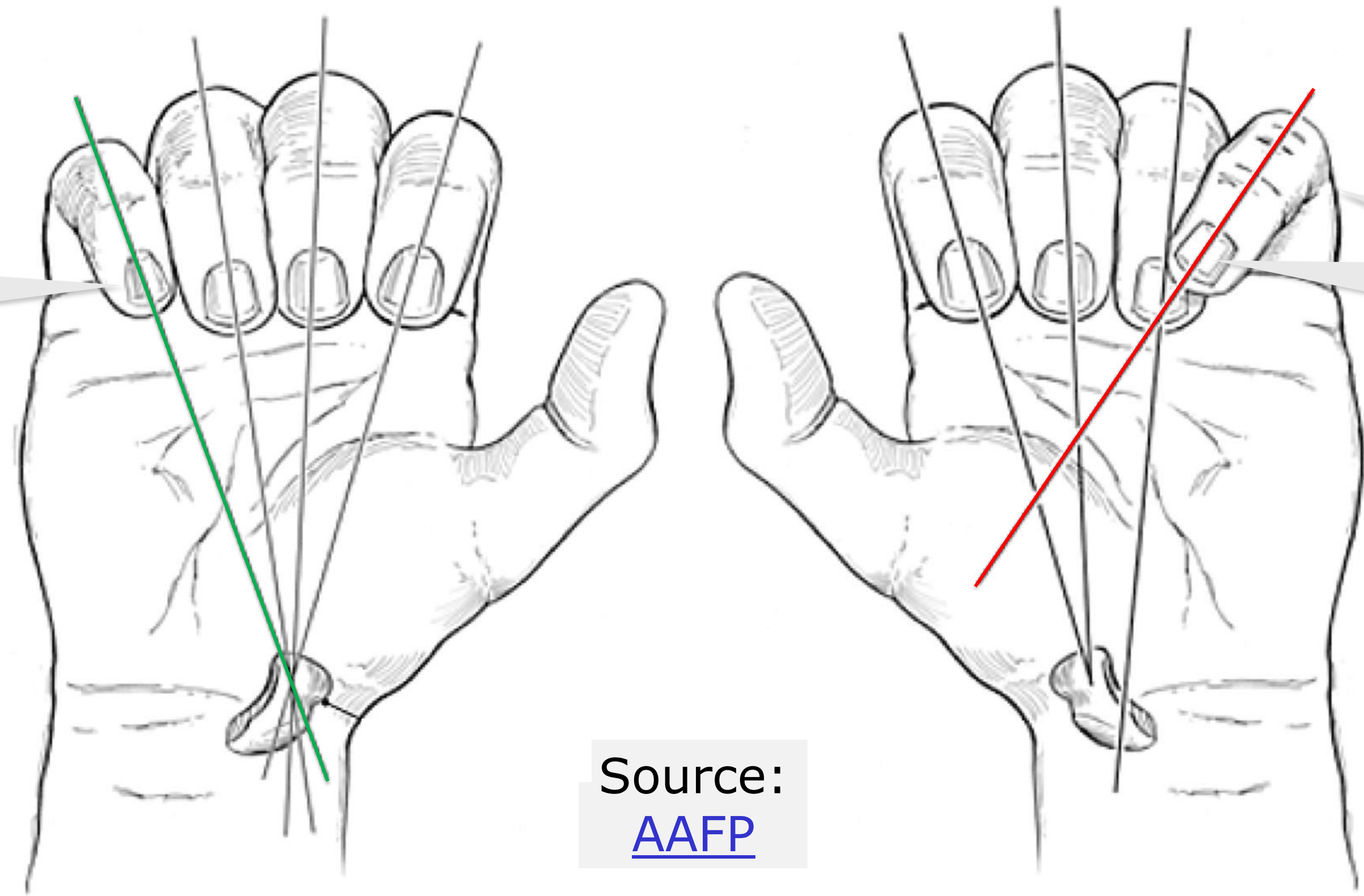
Unit number

(use sticker if available)

Source: [Cureus](#)



No rotational deformity
Impacted and volarly angulated



Source: [AAFP](#)

Rotational deformity
Oblique #

Source: [The Sports Medicine Review](#)



Document presence or absence of any

- Rotational deformity
- Neurovascular deficits
- Wounds, and whether they were due to impact with a person's mouth

- Rotational deformity
- Complex or unusual type (e.g. oblique neck # or comminuted, displaced # of the head)
- Complete off ending of distal part
- Open injuries

Manage as appropriate

Discuss with ED senior as needed; record name below

Need for surgery?

N

Y

Single fracture, on one side only?

N

Y

Using a NC device, obtain photographs to document any

- Rotational deformity
- Wounds

Mon 8am - Fri 8am?

Y

N

E-refer to on-call plastic surgical team

E-refer to on-call orthopaedic team

- For all open injuries, consider tetanus prophylaxis as appropriate and give IV antibiotics as per 'Microguide'
- If wound caused by impact with a person's mouth, complete [ED non-occupational BBV exposure proforma](#)

- Fit patient with a Bedford double finger splint of appropriate size and provide them with a further one so they can swap the splints weekly
- If significant hand swelling, fit poly sling with hand in a high position
- Print off the [5th or 4th metacarpal head/neck fracture PIL](#) and explain injury management plan; including that no follow-up will be needed
- Place **fracture clinic sticker** on the front sheet of the ED record
- Complete fracture clinic ICE referral, print and insert into ED record

Will discharge be safe?

Y

N

Discharge

Admit to appropriate team depending on presence or absence of additional injuries or illness (e.g. EDU/EFU/AFU)

Assessment was carried out by

Print name

Signature

Position

Date

Time completed