Orthopedic Emergencies: Expert Management for the Emergency Physician

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Preface

Providers working in Urgent Care centers, Emergency Departments, Casualty Rooms, and Accident and Emergency (A&E) Departments are unlikely to work a single shift without seeing a patient with an orthopedic injury. Providers in these settings evaluate more patients with acute injuries than our sub-specialty colleagues, so it is imperative that we have a good understanding of how to diagnose and treat these acute injuries. Many textbooks have been written on this subject. Most are large tomes that are extremely indepth and designed for the orthopedic surgeon or a sports medicine physician, while others are designed for the beginner. Neither, though, is designed to be a good bedside reference to use as you care for the patient.

This orthopedic emergencies book has been designed to be a quick reference for the seasoned provider who is looking to refresh their memory as well as the junior medical student who needs to understand some of the key aspects of care. The authors have worked hard to provide Pearls and Key facts that can be used for quick review, and specific and detailed recommendations on how to treat the various conditions. Finally, we have worked with the publisher to make the book spiral bound so that it can be opened and laid flat to be used as a bedside resource when doing procedures and placing splints.

Each chapter is laid out with the description of the injury or fracture, a discussion on how to make the diagnosis, treatment recommendations, and then common complications that the patients should be informed of. Whenever possible we have recommended a definitive treatment plan. For conditions where treatment is more controversial we have recommended that you discuss the case with your local consultant.

This textbook is divided into sections based on the area of injury, but also includes a chapter on orthopedic infections, pediatric injuries, common procedures, and finally a chapter on splints that includes step-by-step instructions with photographs. The organization of the book is designed to make it easy to just read up on orthopedic injuries and also to be able to find the necessary information quickly during a busy shift.

The authors and editors hope that you find this textbook to be an invaluable resource that is frequently left in the last room you saw a patient in. We welcome suggestions and recommendations for future editions.

Best of luck caring for your injured patients.