

Letter to the Editor: Role of Arthroscopy in Pilon Fractures: How and When Do I Do It?

Jagprit Singh^{ORCID}

Journal of Foot and Ankle Surgery (Asia-Pacific) (2024): 10.5005/jp-journals-10040-1358

The clinical technique utilizing ankle arthroscopy demonstrated by Slocum et al.¹ in the reduction and fixation of pilon fractures is really interesting and makes innovative use of simple instruments to address these fractures. The use of simple prebent Steinmann pins for fracture reduction and the use of a vector drill guide to reduce central depressed fractures while simultaneously creating bone tunnels to graft the bone voids is innovation at its best. However, I would like the authors to highlight some aspects of this procedure:

- The authors have demonstrated that arthroscopic-assisted reduction can be combined with minimally invasive hardware fixation of fractures, but what is the ideal timing of fixation? Do the authors wait for the soft tissue swelling to settle down with the appearance of wrinkling, as done in conventional open techniques, or proceed irrespective of swelling?
- The authors have used standard anteromedial and anterolateral ankle portals for fracture reduction. Is there any indication or extended indication for the use of posterior portals?
- The authors have experience in arthroscopic-assisted reduction of fractures that adds to the accuracy of the procedure accompanied by minimal invasiveness. Does this fact contribute to patient satisfaction compared to procedures without arthroscopic assistance?

Department of Orthopaedics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India

Corresponding Author: Jagprit Singh, Department of Orthopaedics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India, Phone: +91 8360551525, e-mail: jagprit7singh7@gmail.com

How to cite this article: Singh J. Letter to the Editor: Role of Arthroscopy in Pilon Fractures: How and When Do I Do It? *J Foot Ankle Surg (Asia-Pacific)* 2024;11(4):203–203.

Source of support: Nil

Conflict of interest: None

At last, I thank the authors for beautifully demonstrating their method of using the arthroscopic technique in pilon fracture reduction and fixation.

ORCID

Jagprit Singh  <https://orcid.org/0009-0003-9528-4252>

REFERENCE

1. Slocum AM, Lui TH. Role of arthroscopy in pilon fractures: how and when do I do it? *J Foot Ankle Surg (Asia Pac)* 2024;11(2):80–83. DOI: 10.5005/jp-journals-10040-1328