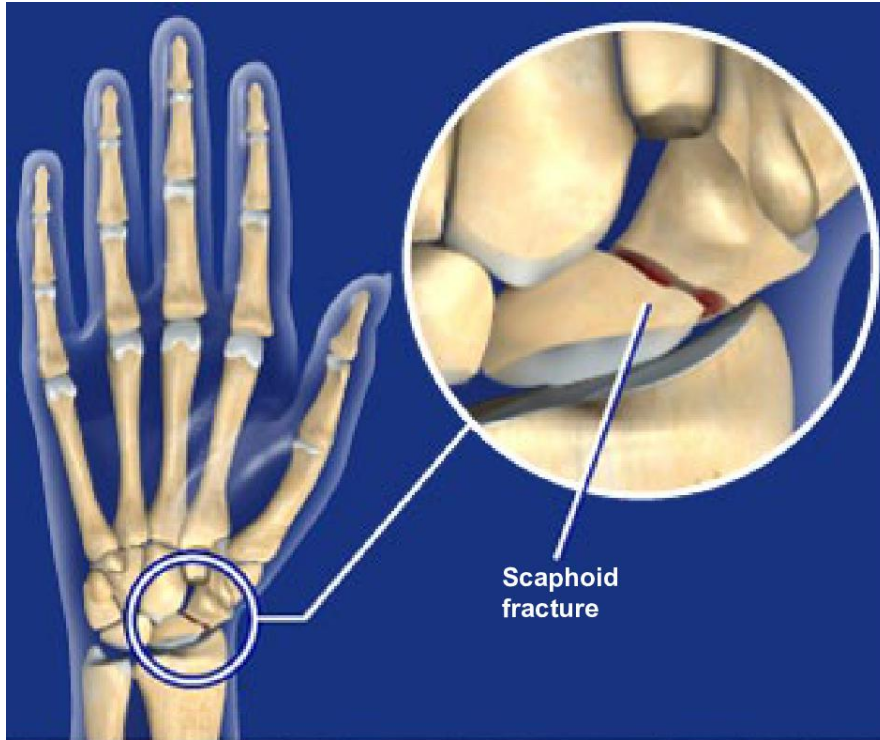




Scaphoid Fracture Open Reduction and Internal Fixation (ORIF)



Overview

This procedure stabilizes a fractured scaphoid bone with screw fixation. The scaphoid is an important carpal bone of the wrist, which is critical in coordinating motion of the other carpal bones and the radius.

Preparation

After anesthesia is administered, the patient is positioned so that the palmar side of the hand is visible to the surgeon. The hand and forearm are cleansed and sterilized and a tourniquet applied. An incision is made over the end of the wrist to fully expose the scaphoid.

Inserting the Screw

The surgeon realigns the fractured ends of the scaphoid. Using a fluoroscope for x-ray guidance, a guide wire is drilled down through the center of the scaphoid across the fracture. A screw is placed over the guide wire and carefully implanted across the fracture. The screw compresses the fracture as its threads pass the fracture line.

End of Procedure and Aftercare

The incision is closed and the wrist is bandaged. A splint or bulky dressing is applied and elevation is encouraged to control pain and swelling.

