

Impactful Statements

Treatment of Clavicle Fractures

An impactful recommendation is one that offers the potential for current evidence to change care offered to patients. This influence can be due to one or more of the following:

- Evidence highlighting current variations in care that were previously unsupported by evidence
- Current evidence supporting a significant difference or change from current clinical practice or previously held "gold standard" care

The following impactful statements are based on the Treatment of Clavicle Fractures Evidenced-Based Clinical Practice Guideline:

1. In the setting of displaced, midshaft clavicle fractures in adults, higher union rates and better early patient reported outcomes are seen with operative treatment.
2. Bone stimulators with low-intensity pulsed ultrasound (LIPUS) should not be used for nonoperative management of acute mid-shaft clavicle fracture as they do not improve healing.
3. Lateral locking plates should be utilized over hook plates if operative fixation is being performed for lateral (Neer Type 2) clavicle fracture as there are better outcomes and lower complication rates.

The following guideline recommendations are the basis of the impactful statements:

1. Bone stimulators with low-intensity pulsed ultrasound (LIPUS) should not be used for nonoperative management of acute mid-shaft clavicle fracture as they do not improve healing.
2. Low-intensity pulsed ultrasound (LIPUS) should not be used for nonoperative management of acute mid-shaft clavicle fracture as it does not result in accelerated healing or lower rates of non-union.
3. Moderate evidence demonstrates that lateral locking plates may have fewer complications and better functional outcomes than hook plates for the treatment of lateral (Neer Type II) clavicle fractures in adults.