

TABLE 27.—*Essential data on 25 fractures treated by external skeletal fixation, 17th General Hospital, 1944*

Fracture	Indication	Complications	Results
Radius, wrist, simple	Comminution		Union.
Radius, wrist, dislocation	Maintenance length and alignment at radial carpal joint.		Do.
Do	Vertical fracture, reduction not possible in plaster.		Union, full duty.
Radius, wrist, simple, comminuted	Comminution		Union.
Radius, ulna, simple	Elective		Do.
Radius, ulna, lower third, compound, comminuted.	Comminution	Irritation (no infection).	Nonunion ulna, delayed union radius.
Femur, compound, comminuted	do		Union.
Do	Comminution, bone loss, traction failure.	Osteomyelitis at site of pin.	Do.
Femur, distal third, compound, comminuted.	Comminution, rotation distal fragment, to supplement traction.		Do.
Do	do		Do.
Do	Rotation distal fragment		Unknown.
Do	Rotation distal fragment, to supplement traction.		Union.
Femur, compound, comminuted, into knee joint.	Fixation after resection of knee joint.		Do.
Femur, tibia, compound, comminuted, infected knee joint.	do	Infection about pin in tibia.	Do.
Femur, lower third into knee joint, tibia and fibula, compound, comminuted.	Fixation after resection of knee joint.		Union resected knee, nonunion tibia.
Femur, compound, comminuted, tibia and fibula into knee joint.	do		Union.
Femur, compound, comminuted, into knee joint.	do		Do.
Femur, lower third, simple	Traction failure in alignment of short distal fragment; supplemental to skeletal traction.	Mild irritation about proximal pin.	Do.
Femur, lower third, compound, comminuted.	Traction alone failure; supplemental to traction.		Do.
Femur, simple, mid shaft	Failure to control distal fragment in traction; supplemental to traction.		Do.
Do	Elective	Bowing, fascial slough at site of pin.	Delayed union. ¹
Femur, proximal third, compound, comminuted.	Traction failure; supplemental to traction.		Union.
Femur, supracondylar, compound, comminuted.	To correct rotation distal fragment; supplemental to traction.		Do.
Femur, condyles, compound, comminuted.	Fixation after resection of knee joint.		Do.
Compound dislocation, infection ankle joint.	Fixation after resection of ankle joint.		Unknown.

¹ After replacement by skeletal traction.