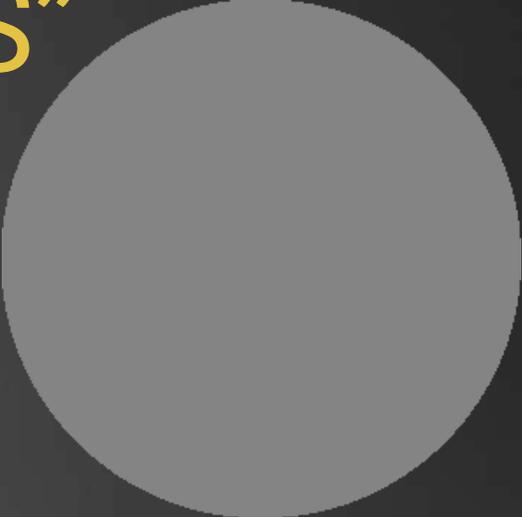




# “MID FACE FRACTURES”



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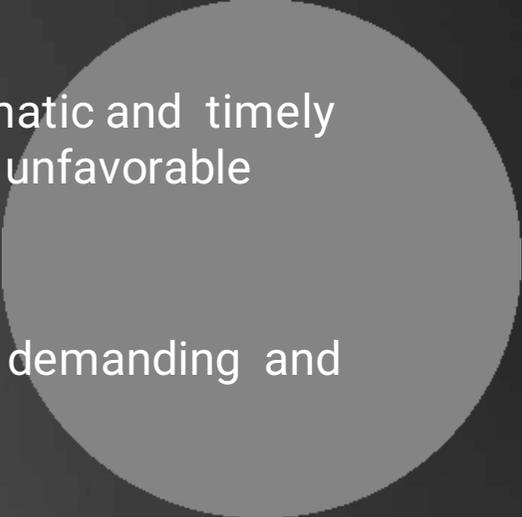
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- ❑ BONES OF MIDFACE
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- ❑ RADIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION
- ❑ MANAGEMENT



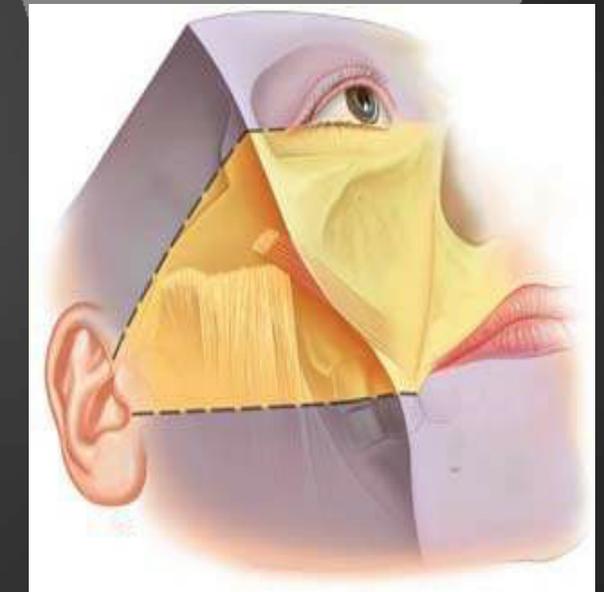
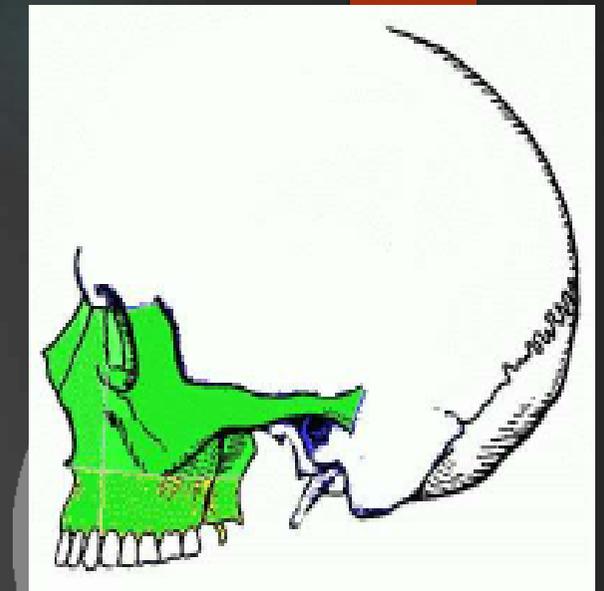
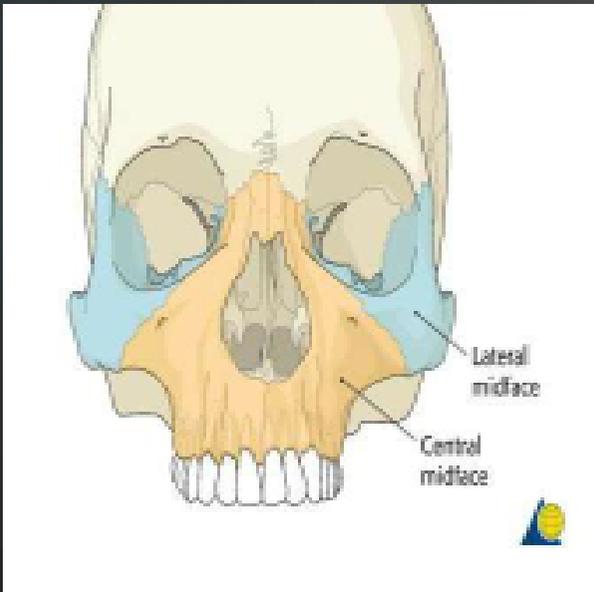
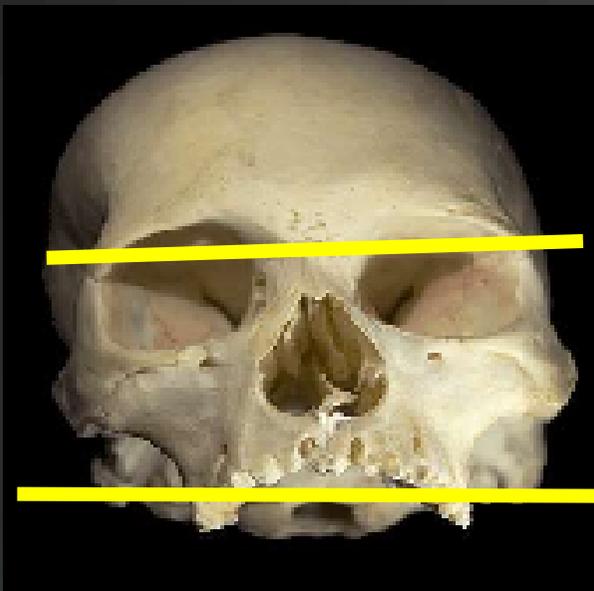
# INTRODUCTI ON

- ☒ Face is intimately related to self image.
- ☒ Facial features depend upon underlying bony frame work.
- The maxillofacial region has special importance because of its proximity to the all important brain-case as well as respiratory passages.
- ☒ The maxilla represents the bridge between the cranial base superiorly and the dentition inferiorly.
- ☒ Its intimate association with the oral cavity, nasal cavity, and orbits and the important structures adjacent to it make the maxilla a functionally and cosmetically important structure.
- ☒ It is a region responsible for senses like **vision, smell, hearing and taste and resonance of voice.**

- 
- 
- ⊠ Fracture of these bones is potentially life-threatening as well as disfiguring.
  - ⊠ Hence we being maxillofacial surgeons need to do systematic and timely repair of these fractures to correct deformity and prevent unfavorable sequelae.
  - ⊠ To reconstruct the face following trauma is highly demanding and requires uncompromising care.

# WHAT IS MID FACE??

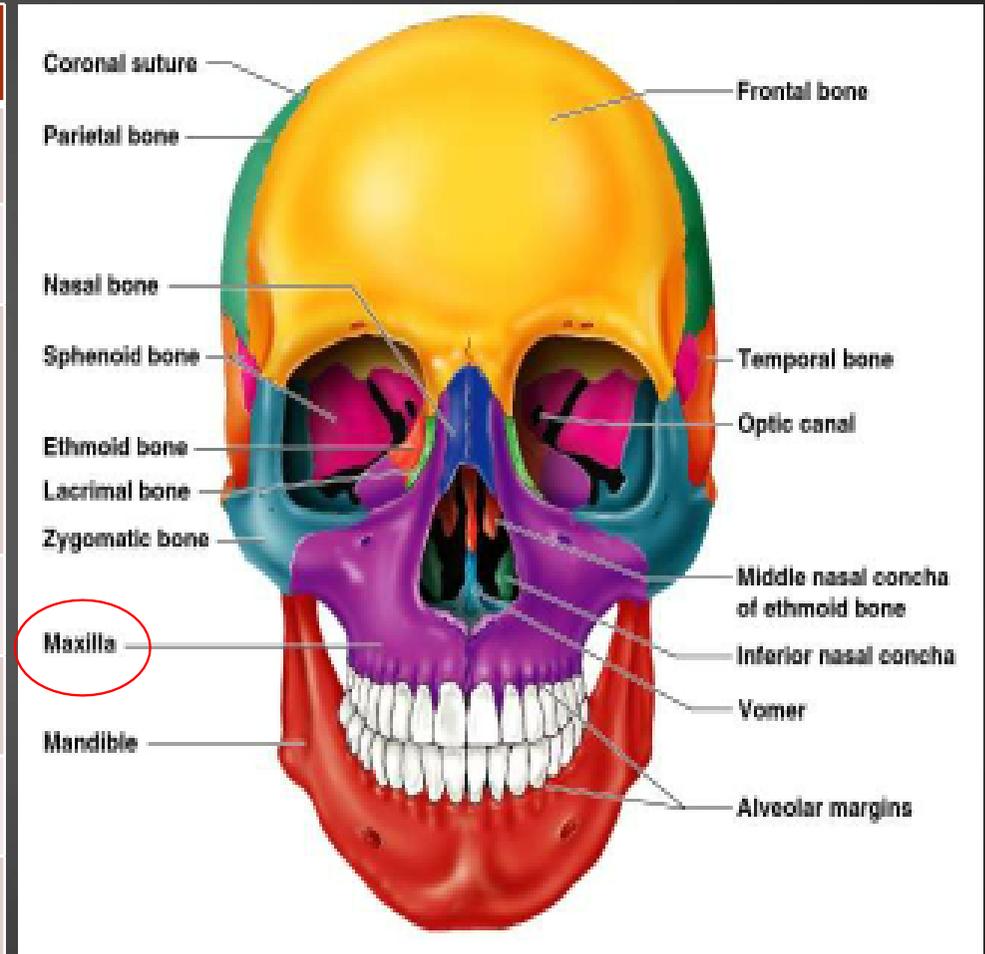
- ☒ Area between a superior plane drawn through the zygomaticofrontal sutures tangential to the base of the skull and an inferior plane at the level of the maxillary dental occlusal surfaces.
- ☒ These planes do not parallel each other but converge posteriorly at a level approximating that of the foramen magnum
- ☒ **Triangular** region with its widest dimension facing **anteriorly**.

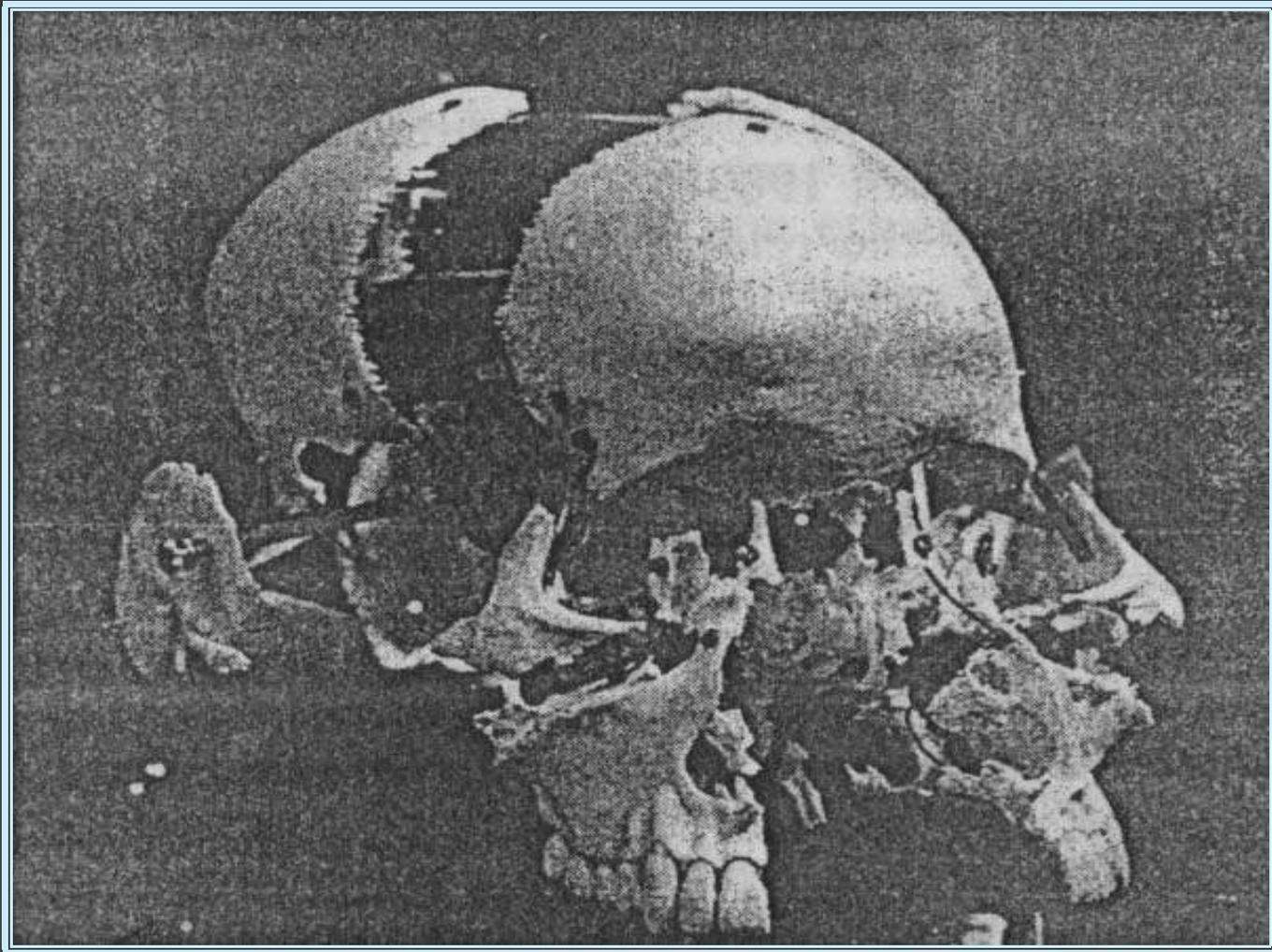


# BONES OF MIDFACE :

(17 BONES)

Paired Bones	Unpaired Bones
Maxilla	Vomer
Zygomatic bone	Ethmoid
Zygomatic process of temporal bone	Sphenoid (Pterygoid plates)
Palatine bone	
Nasal bone	
Lacrimal bone	
Inferior conchae	

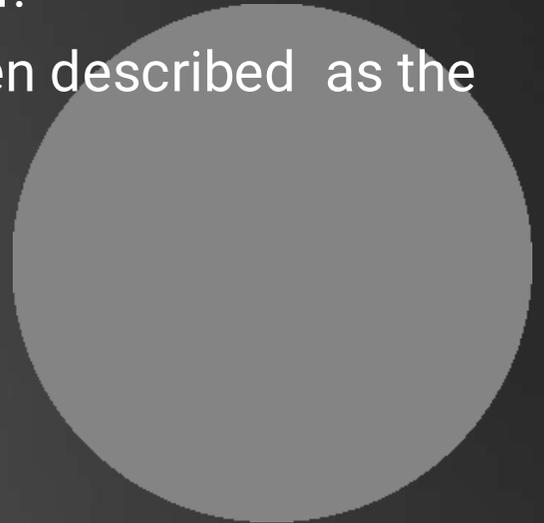




Anatomical specimen showing the disarticulated bones of the skull exploded and mounted to demonstrate their complex interrelationship.

## MECHANISM OF MIDFACE FRACTURE :

- ⊠ These facial bones in isolation are comparatively fragile but gain strength and support as they articulate with each other.
- ⊠ It is this strength gained from each other that has been described as the facial buttress by **Manson**.
- **Area of strength**
  - Vertical and horizontal pillars
  - Muscular attachment
- **Area of weakness**
  - Sutures
  - Lining tissues and air-filled cavities



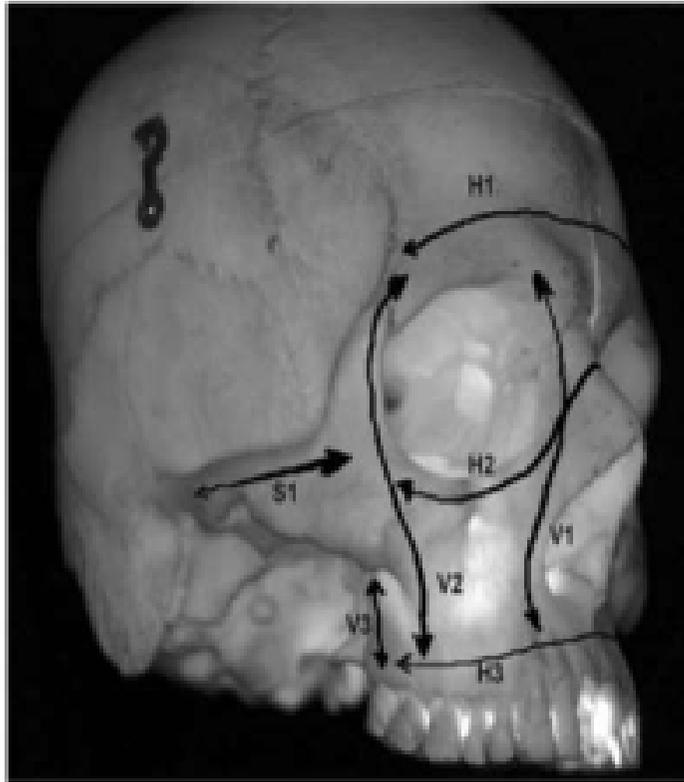
## Vertical buttress:

- nasomaxillary
- zygomaticomaxillary
- pterygomaxillary

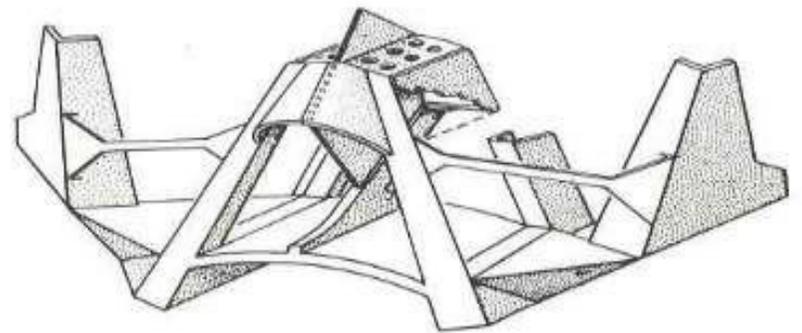
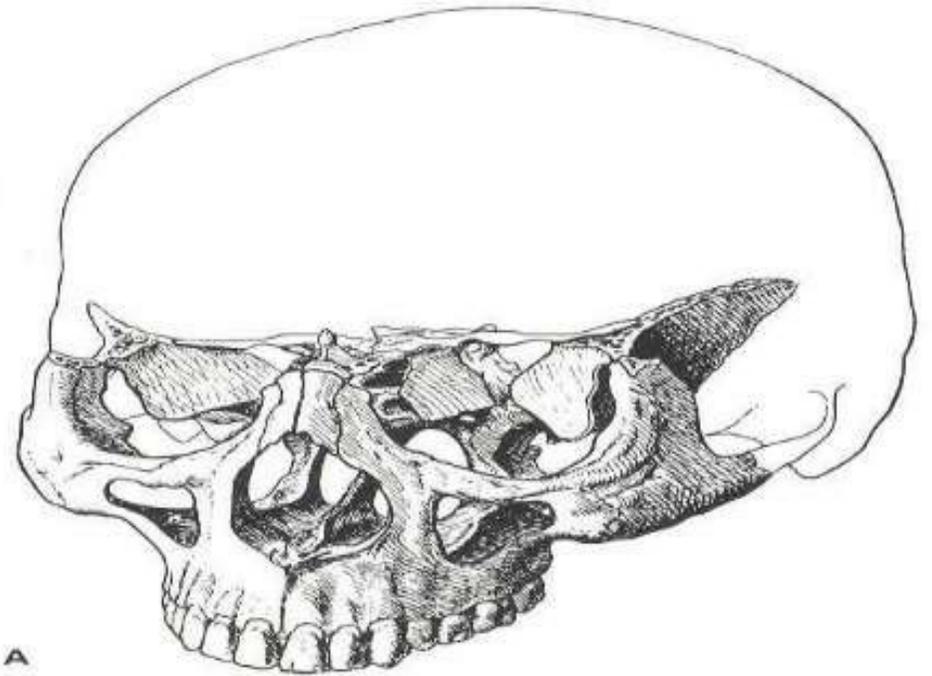
## Horizontal buttress:

- frontal bar (supra orbital rims)
- infra orbital rims
- maxillary palate

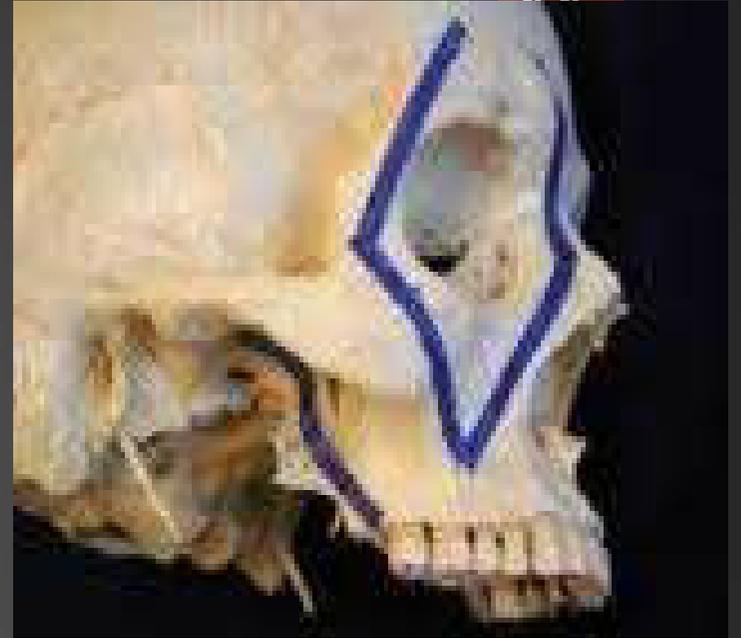
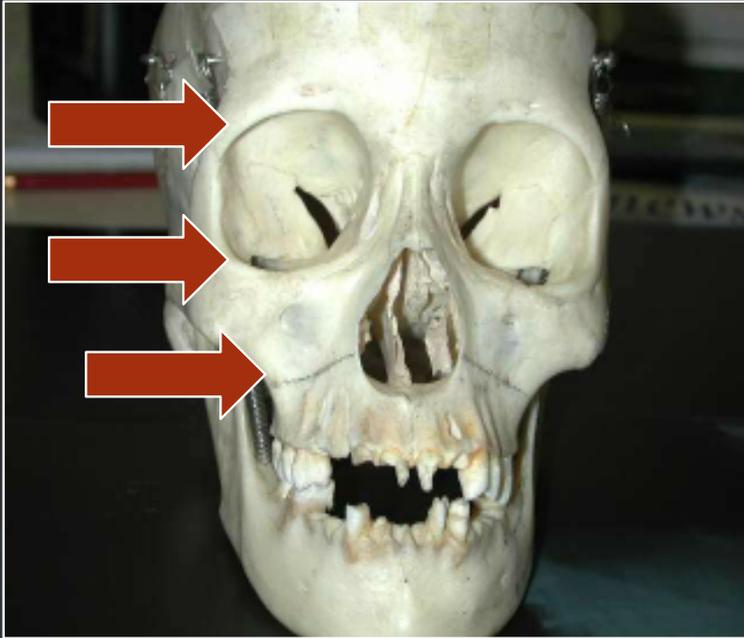




**Figure 1** Transilluminated skull demonstrating air-filled sinuses within the midface, reinforced by dense skeletal buttresses. The vertical pillars, i.e., the medial or nasomaxillary buttress ( $V_1$ ), lateral or zygomaticomaxillary buttress ( $V_2$ ), and posterior or pterygomaxillary buttresses ( $V_3$ ), dissipate forces directed toward the cranial base. The horizontal buttresses are oriented along the supraorbital rims ( $H_1$ ), intraorbital rims ( $H_2$ ), and dentoalveolar process and palate ( $H_3$ ), providing further structural support to the functional spaces of the eyes, nose, and mouth. The zygomatic arches provide the only sagittal buttresses ( $S_1$ ).



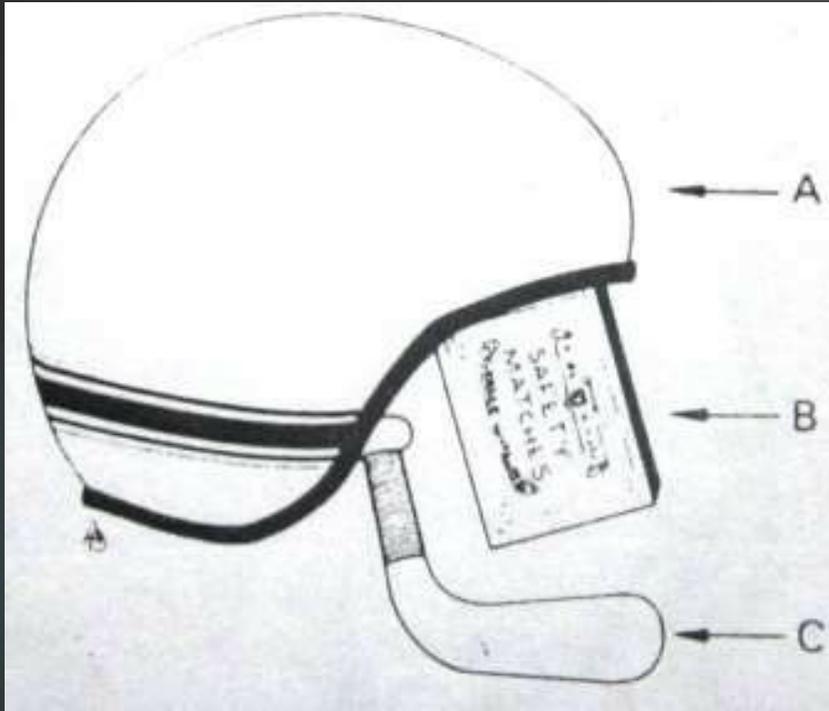
**Fig. 1.28** **A.** The bony pillars of the middle third of the facial skeleton remaining after removal of the thin connecting laminae of bone. **B.** The bony pillars represented as an architectural conception of the essential skeletal construction.



## Vertical and horizontal pillars:

Midface is forces in inferior superior directions. Poorly constructed to withstand lateral and frontal forces.

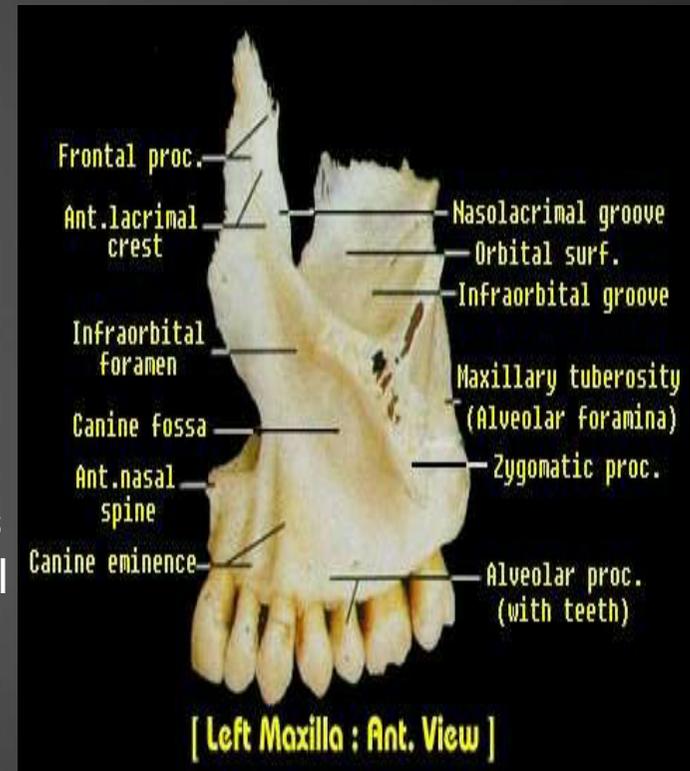
## ANATOMICAL CONSIDERATIONS:



- This structure is analogous to a matchbox sitting below and anterior to hard shell containing brain
- Act as cushion for trauma directed towards cranium from anterior or antero- lateral direction

# MAXILLA

- ☒ The maxilla consists of a central body and four processes namely the frontal, zygomatic, alveolar and palatine process. The body is hollowed out and contains the maxillary sinus.
- ☒ It is pyramidal shaped with the base being the medial surface facing the nasal cavity and the apex being elongated into the zygomatic process. It has an orbital or superior surface which forms the floor and rim of the orbit, a malar or anterolateral surface which forms part of the cheek and a posterolateral or infratemporal surface which contributes to the infratemporal fossa. The base is rimmed inferiorly by the alveolar process.

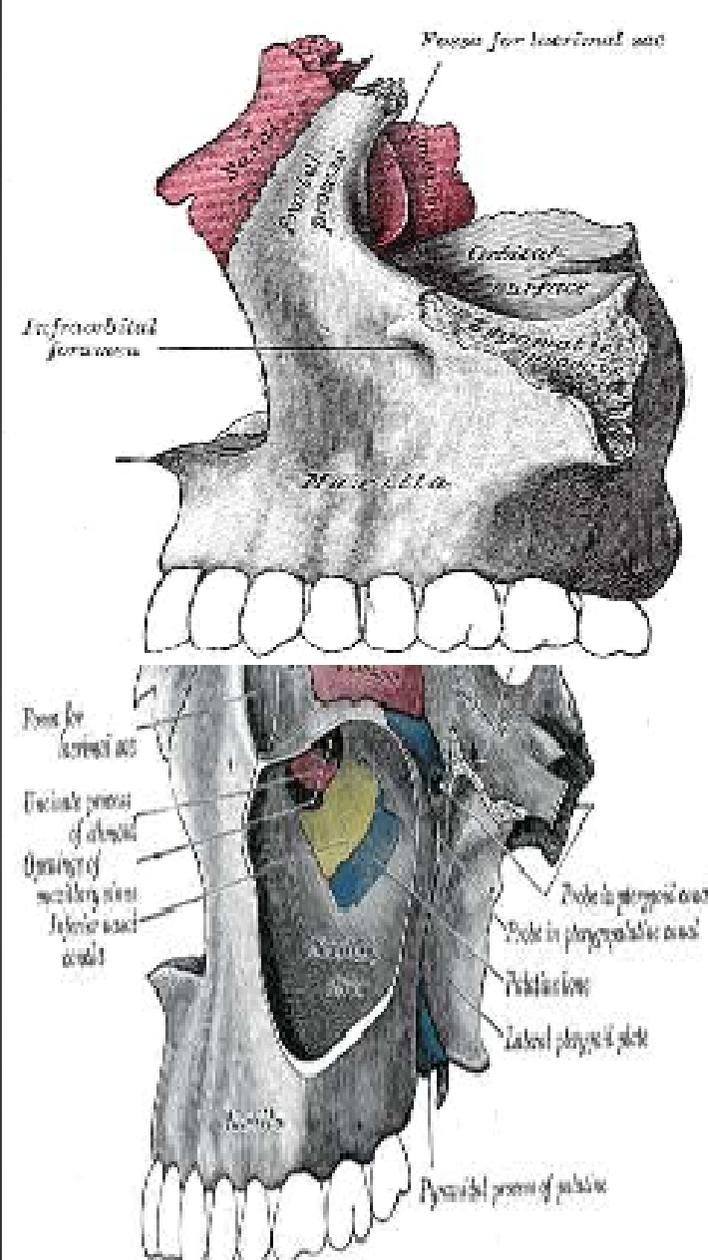


⊠ The **alveolar process** houses the dental arch with the sockets varying in size according to the teeth. The **palatine process** is a horizontal process and medially articulates with the palatine process of the opposite maxilla which posteriorly it articulates with the horizontal plate of the palatine bone.

⊠ The **zygomatic process** is an extension of the anterolateral surface of the body which contributes to the zygomaticomaxillary suture.

⊠ The **frontal process** projects upward to articulate with the maxillary process of the frontal bone as well as the nasal bone anteriorly and the lacrimal bone posteriorly.

⊠ It encloses a cavity **maxillary sinus**.



# ZYGOMA

- ⊠ The name zygoma is derived from the word meaning a yoke (i. e. a structure that connects various parts together).
- ⊠ It is often described as a diamond or pyramidal shaped bone
- ⊠ The posterior surface contributes to the temporal fossa.
- ⊠ Projecting superiorly is the frontal process which articulates with the zygomatic process of the frontal bone in front and greater wing of sphenoid behind to form the lateral wall and rim of the orbit.
- ⊠ Posterolaterally the temporal process articulates with the zygomatic process of the temporal bone to form the zygomatic arch.
- ⊠ Inferiorly and it broadly articulates with the maxilla to form the inferior orbital rim and contributes to the orbital floor as well as the zygomaticomaxillary buttress



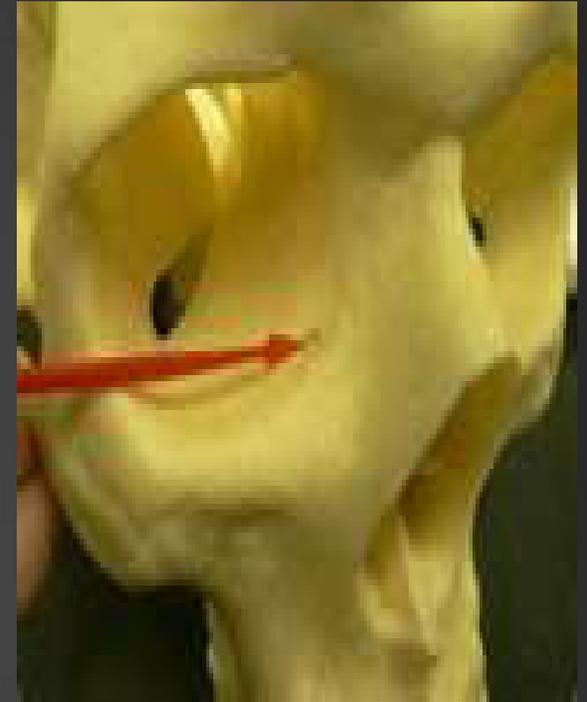
# NASAL BONES

The paired quadrilateral bones form the upper part of the bridge of the nose and articulate with the frontal process of the maxilla laterally and with each other in the midline. Superiorly they articulate with the frontal bone.



# LACRIMAL BONES

- ❑ Each lacrimal bone is irregularly rectangular forming part of the medial wall of the orbit.
- ❑ They articulate posteriorly with the paper thin (lamina papyracea) part of the ethmoid, superiorly with the frontal bone and inferiorly with the body of the maxilla.
- ❑ The sharp orbital vertical lacrimal crest continues inferiorly to form the lacrimal hamulus, with its concave portion housing the lacrimal sac.



# HISTORY :

- ⌘ The first clinical examination of a maxillary fracture was recorded in 2500 BC.
- ⌘ In 1822 Charles Fredrick William Reiche provided the first detailed description of maxillary fractures.
- ⌘ In 1823 Carl Ferdinand van Graefe described the use of a head frame for treating a maxillary fracture.

# HISTORY:

- ⊠ In 1901 , Rene Le Fort published his landmark work, a three-part experiment using 32 cadavers.
- ⊠ The heads of the cadavers were subjected to low velocity forces; the soft tissue were then removed and the bones were examined.

# HISTOR Y

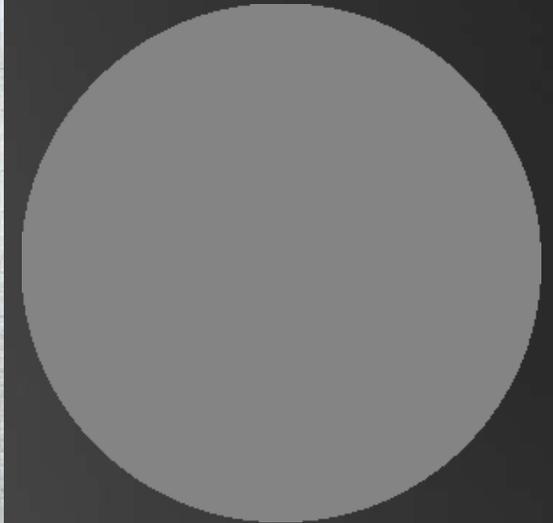
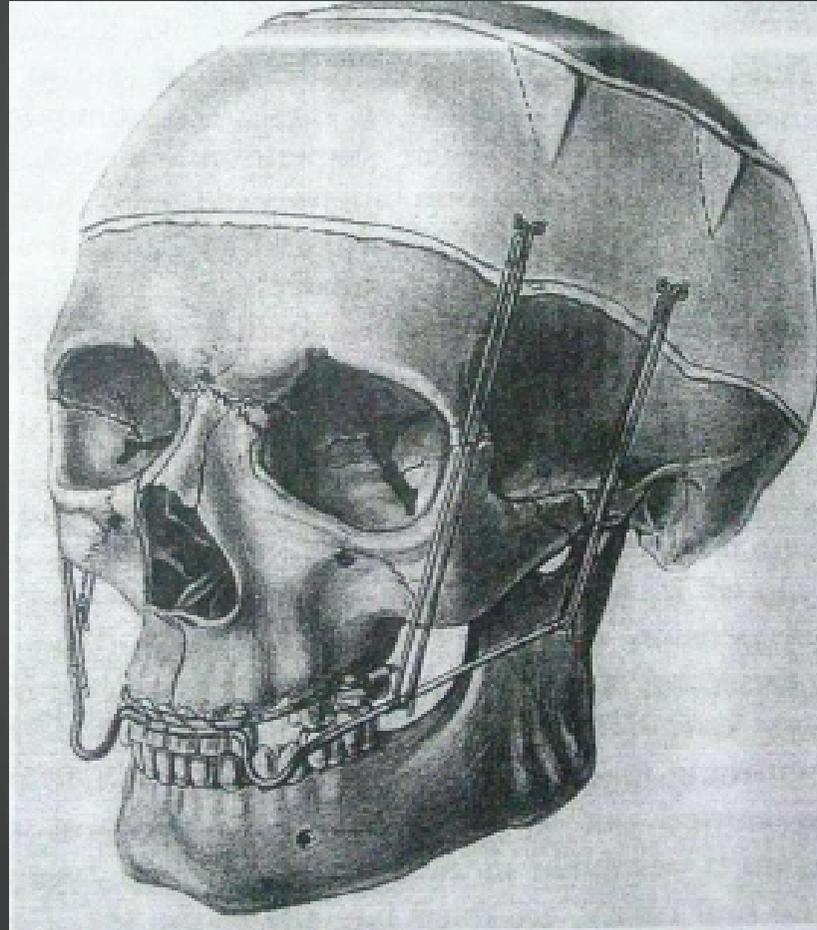
⊠ Le Fort noted that generally face was fractured and the skull was not. He then stated

that fractures occurred through three weak lines in the facial bony structure. From

these three lines the Le Fort classification system was developed.

## External Fixation

Craniomaxillary fixation- Wassmund's(1927) maxillary splint with side bars attached to a head cap



# ETIOLOGY:



- ▣ Assault
- ▣ RTA
- ▣ Alcohol and Drug abuse
- ▣ Gunshot wounds
- ▣ Sports
- ▣ Falls
- ▣ Industrial accidents



# Classification

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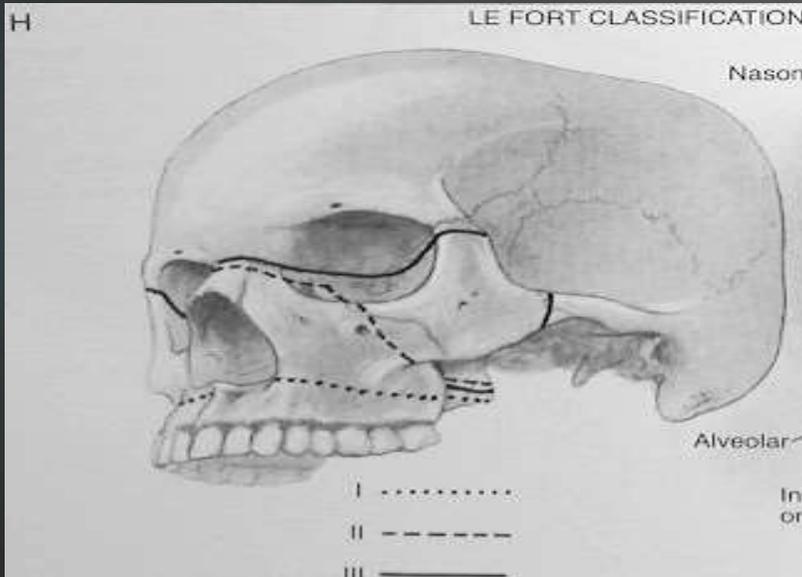
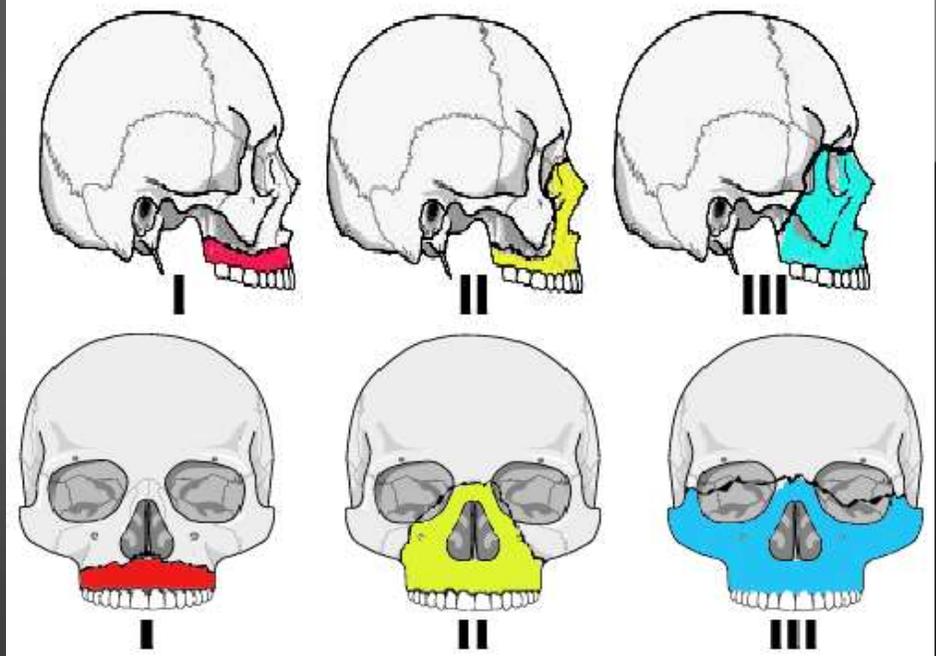
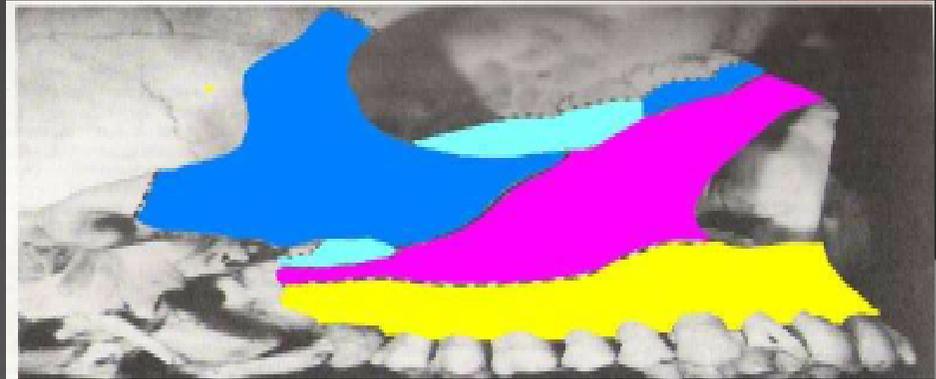
1. ALPHONSO GUERIN(1886)
2. RENE LE FORT FRACTURE CLASSIFICATION (1901)
3. ROWE AND WILLIAM CLASSIFICATION (1985)
4. MODIFIED LE FORT CLASSIFICATION (MARCIANI,1993)
5. ERICH'S CLASSIFICATION (1942)



# 1) Rene Le Fort classification (1901):

Le Fort classification:

- Le Fort I
- Le Fort II
- Le Fort III



### 3. Rowe & william's classification :

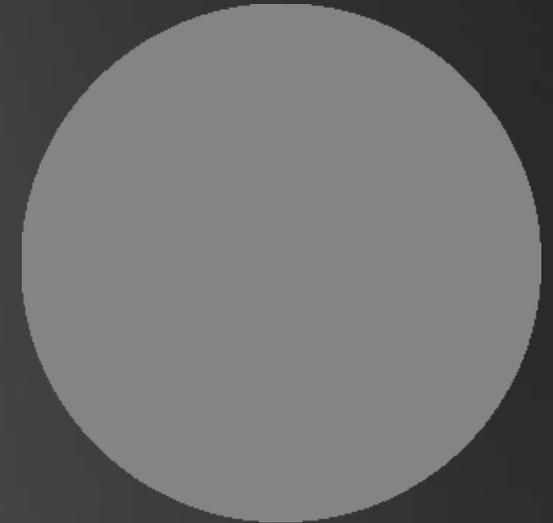
#### ☒ A – FRACTURES NOT INVOLVING DENTOALVEOLAR COMPONENTS

##### 1. Central region

- a- fracture of nasal bone &/or nasal septum
  - lateral nasal injuries
  - anterior nasal injuries
- b. fractures of frontal process of maxilla
- c. fractures of type a & b which extend into ethmoid bone
- d. fractures of type a ,b ,c which extends into frontal bone

##### 2. Lateral region-

Fractures involving zygomatic bone, arch & maxilla excluding dentoalveolar component



⌘ B –FRACTURES INVOLVING DENTOALVEOLAR COMPONENT

1. Central region

a-dentoalveolar fractures

b-lefort I (subzygomatic fractures)

2. Combined central & lateral region

a-high level

b-LeFort III with midline split

c-LeFort III with midline split + fracture of roof of orbit or frontal bone



## Limitations of the lefort classification

- The LeFort classification has proven to be less satisfactory to describe more complex fracture patterns, comminuted, incomplete, combination maxillary fractures or to describe fractures of the part bearing the occlusal segment.

## 2) Marciani modification of Le Fort:

### LE FORT I: LOW MAXILLARY FRACTURE

Le Fort I (a) Le fort I -multiple segment

### LE FORT II:PYRAMIDAL FRACTURE

Le Fort II (a) : le fort II + nasal

Le Fort II (b) : le fort II (a) + ethmoid

### LE FORT III: CRANIOFACIAL DYSJUNSTION

Le Fort III (a) : Le Fort III + nasal fracture

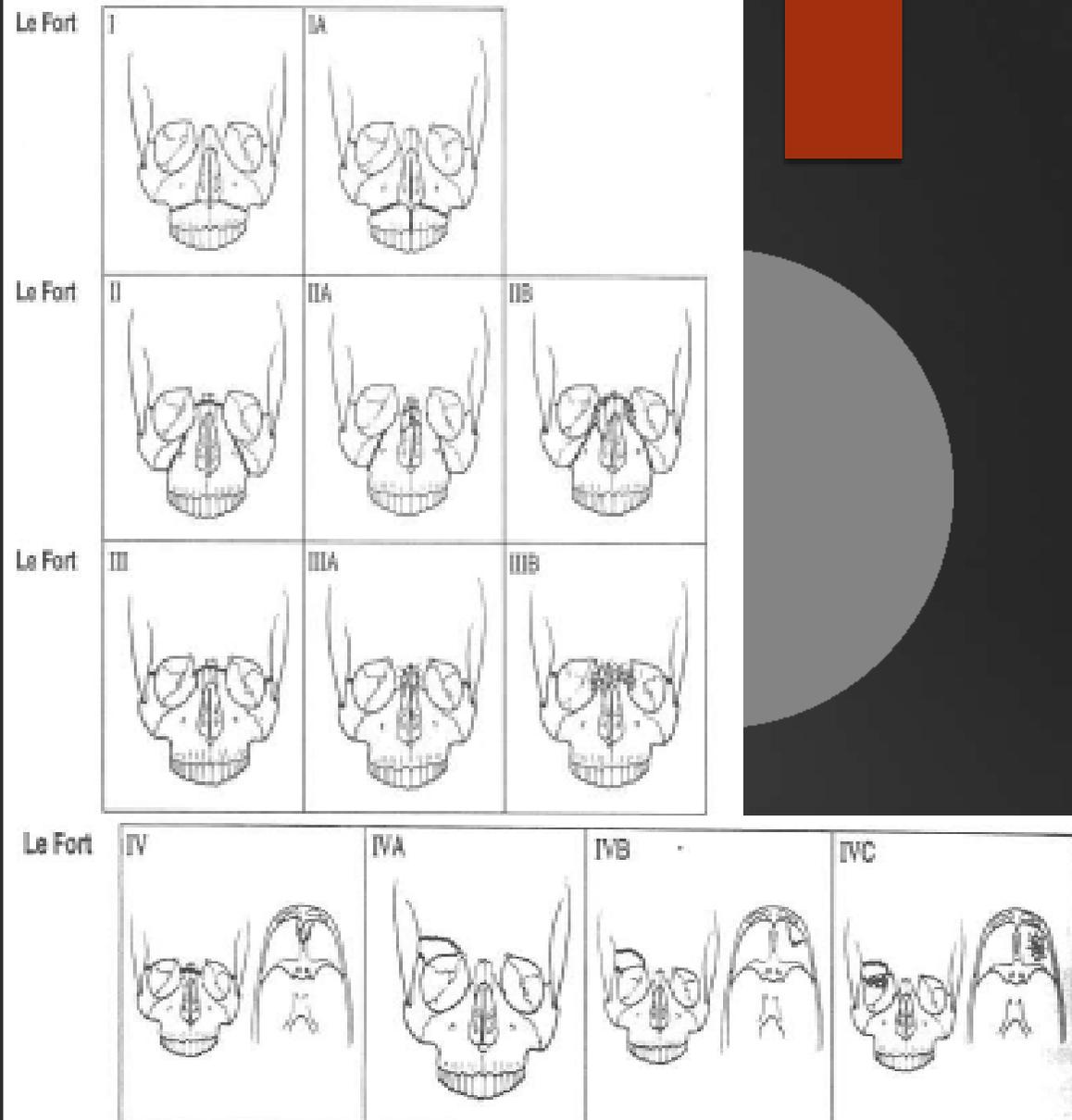
Le Fort III (b) : Le Fort III (a) + ethmoid

### LE FORT IV: LE FORT II OR LE FORT III WITH CRANIAL BASE

*Le Fort IV (a)* : Le Fort IV with supraorbital rim

*Le Fort IV (b)* : Le Fort IV + anterior cranial base

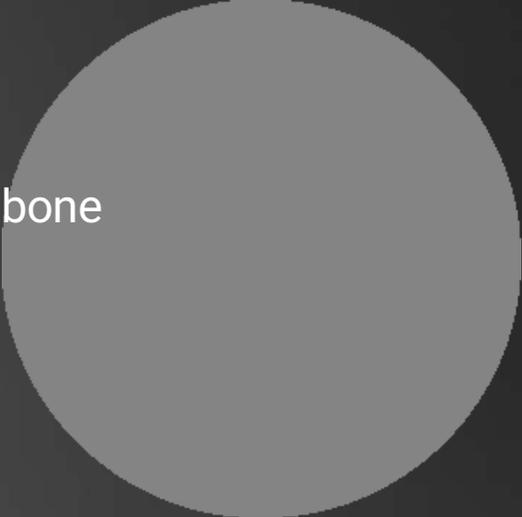
*Le Fort IV (c)* : Le Fort IV (b) + le fort IV(a)



# PREVALENCE OF MID-FACE FRACTURES

S

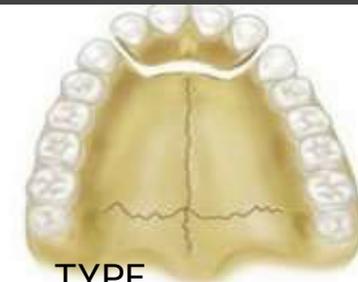
Fracture Type		Prevalence
Zygomaticomaxillary complex (tripod fracture)		40 %
LeFort	I	15 %
	II	10 %
	III	10 %
Zygomatic arch		10 %
Alveolar process of maxilla		5 %
Smash fractures		5 %
Other		5 %

- 
- 
- ⊠ Erich's classification (1942)
    - ⊠ Horizontal, pyramidal, transverse
  - ⊠ Classification based on relationship of fracture line to zygomatic bone
    - ⊠ Subzygomatic, suprazygomatic
  - ⊠ Classification based on level of fracture line
    - ⊠ Low, mid, high level fractures

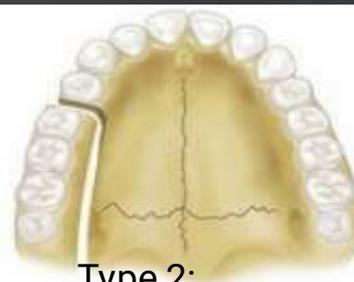
PALATAL  
FRACTURE:



Handrickson M, Clark n,  
Manson P, Palatal fracture  
classification, patterns and  
Treatment with rigid internal  
fixation: Plast reconstr surg  
101(2):319-332,1998



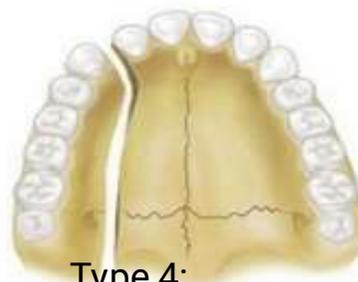
A TYPE  
Anterior alveolus



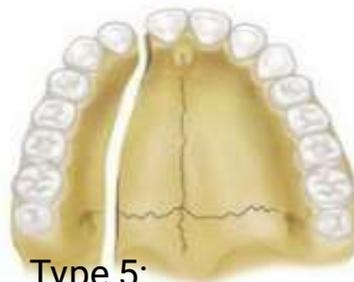
B Type 2:  
posterolateral



C Type 3:  
sagittal



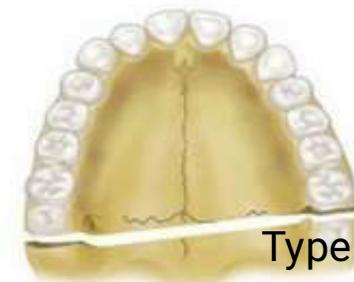
D Type 4:  
parasagittal



E Type 5:  
ParaAlveolar



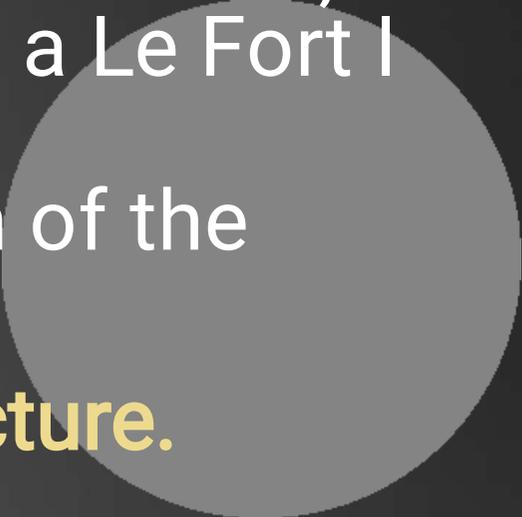
F Type 6:  
Complex/comminuted



G Type 7:  
transverse

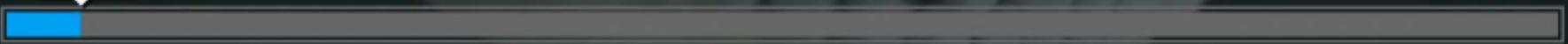
LEFORT



- 
- 
- ⊠ A violent force applied over a more extensive area, **above the level of the teeth** will result in a Le Fort I Fracture.
  - ⊠ Which is not confined to smaller section of the alveolar bone
  - ⊠ **Low-level fracture, a subzygomatic Fracture.**
    - ⊠ Guerin's fracture
    - ⊠ Horizontal fracture
    - ⊠ Floating fracture



00:01



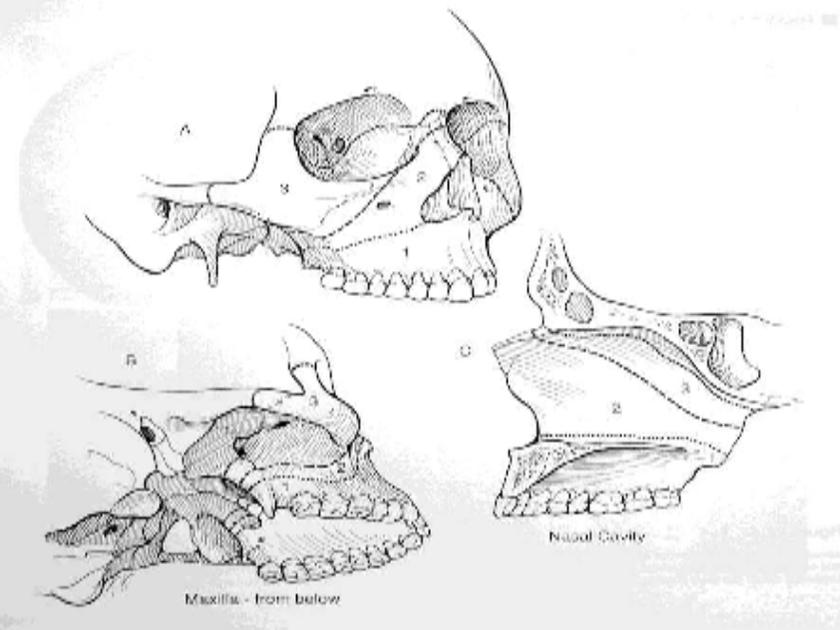


## LEFORT 1 : Fracture line:

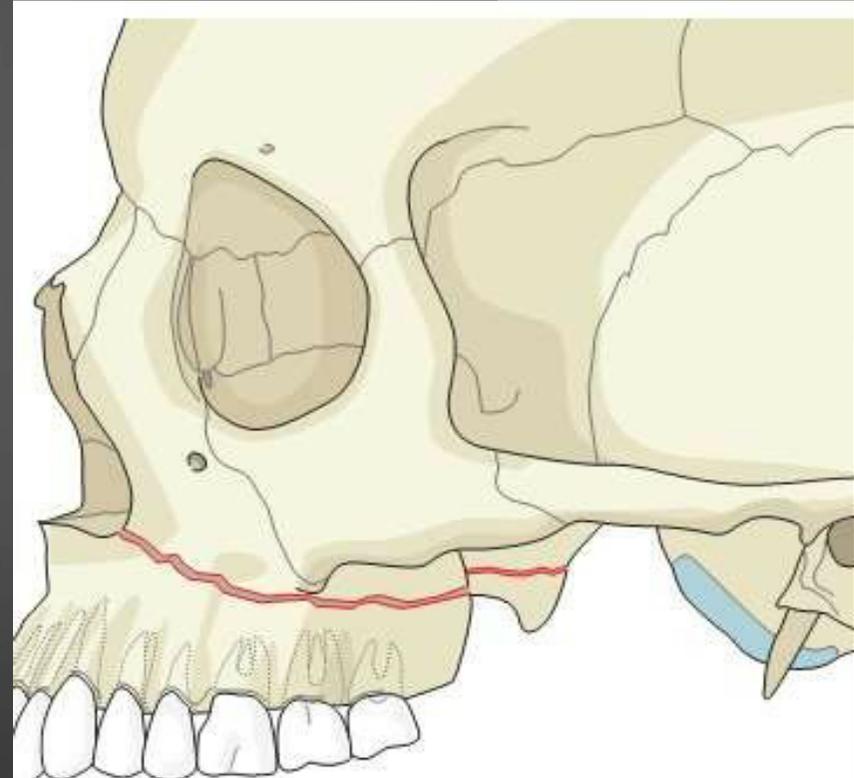
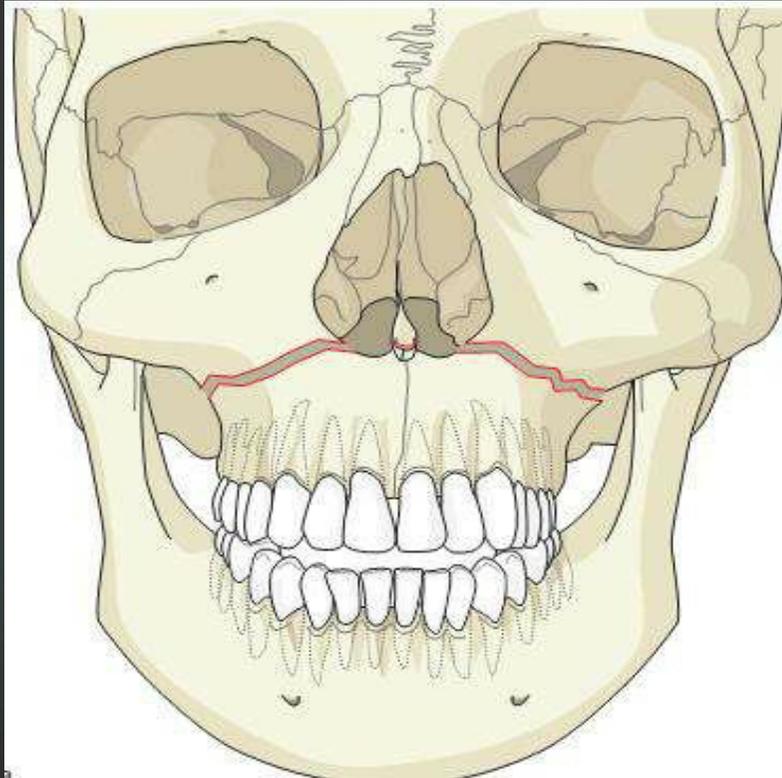
**1<sup>st</sup> line** : starts from the lateral border of the piriform aperture passes above the nasal floor, then it goes posteriorly above the canine fossa going backward below the zygomatic buttress coming on the posterior wall of the maxilla, where it rises abruptly crossing the pterygo-maxillary fissure & breaks the pterygoid plates in lower 1/3 & upper 2/3 parts.

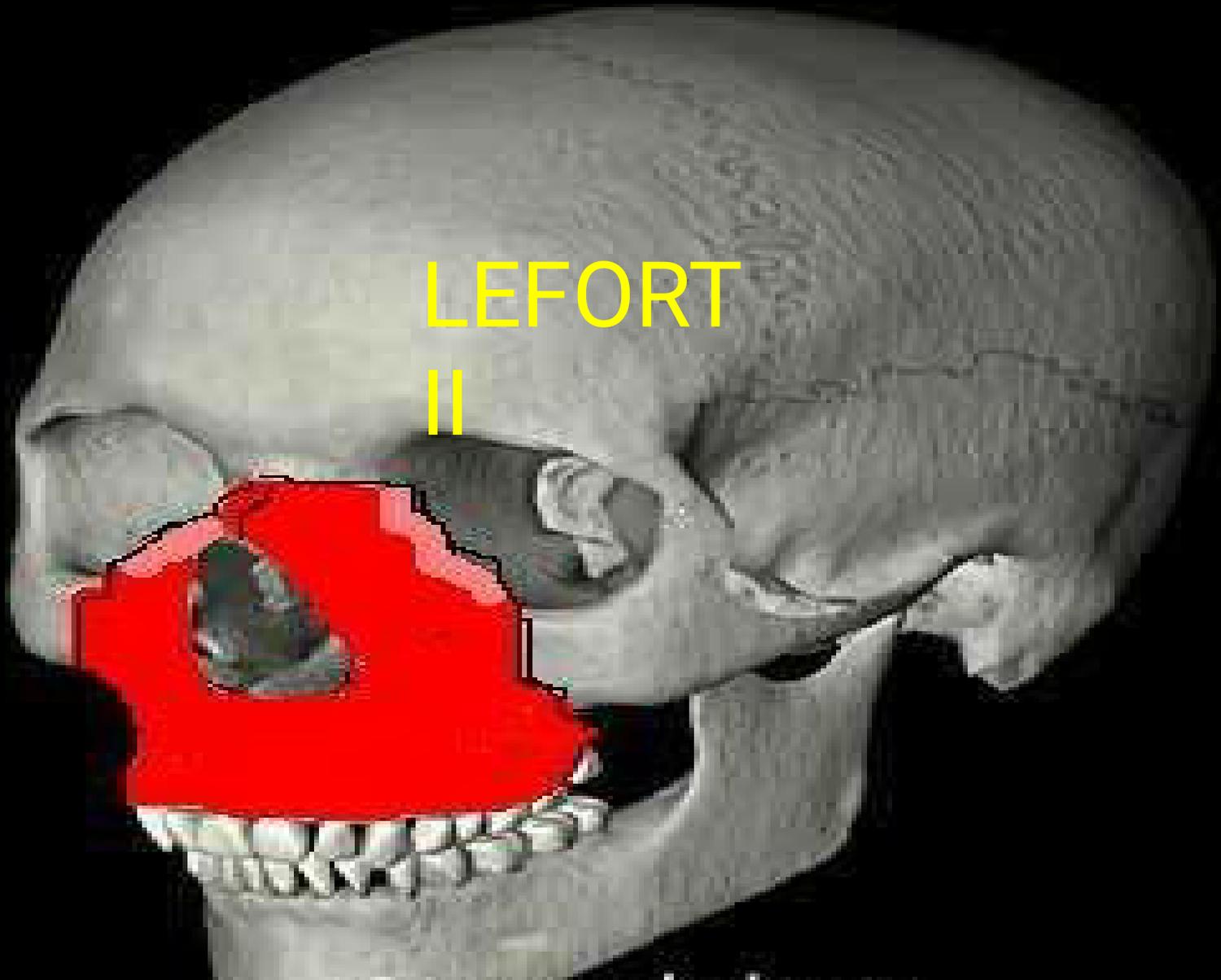
**2<sup>nd</sup> line** : starts from same starting point and also passes along the lateral wall of nose and subsequently joins the lateral line of # behind the tuberosity.

**3<sup>rd</sup> line** : detaches the nasal septum from anterior nasal spine upto vomer bone.



- ⊠ A typical Lefort-I fracture is always **bilateral** with the fracture of lower **third of** **nasal septum**.
- ⊠ It can also occur as **unilateral** fracture
- ⊠ Lefort-I may occur as a single entity or in association with Lefort-II & III #.





LEFORT  
II

# LEFORT

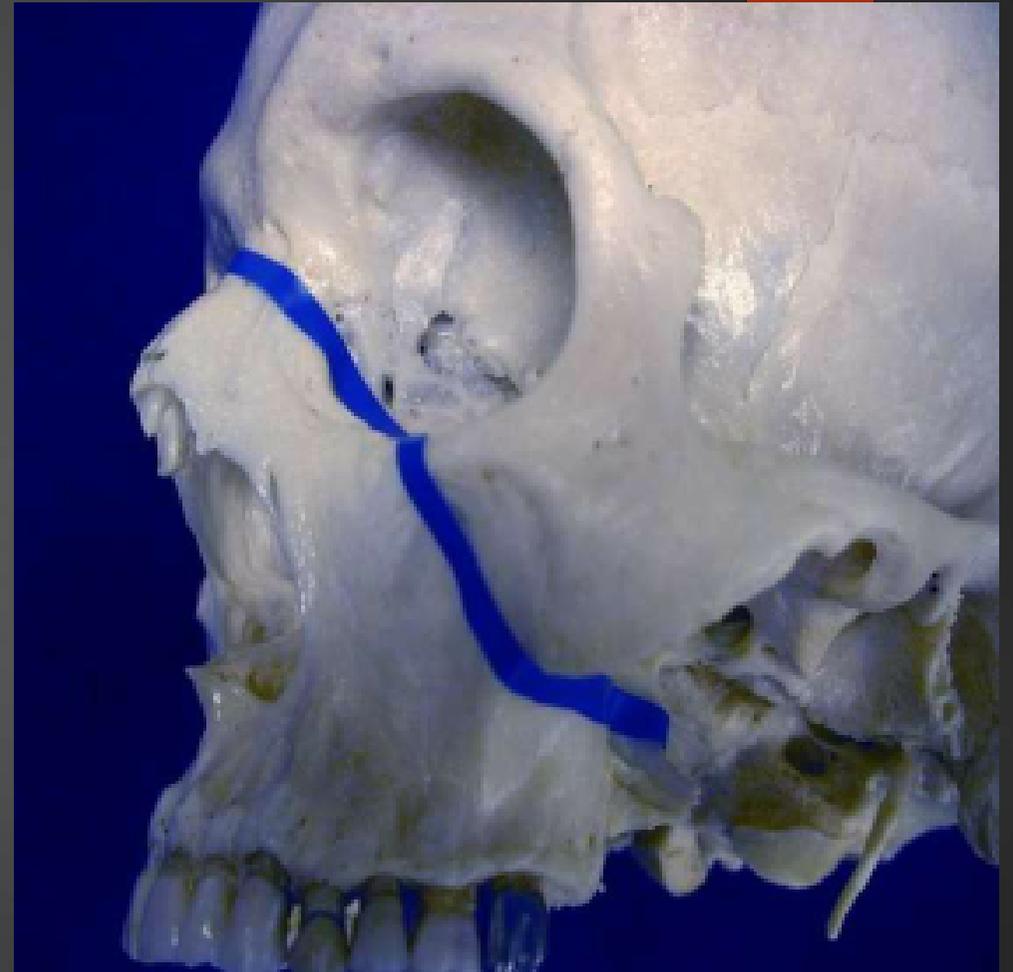
II or

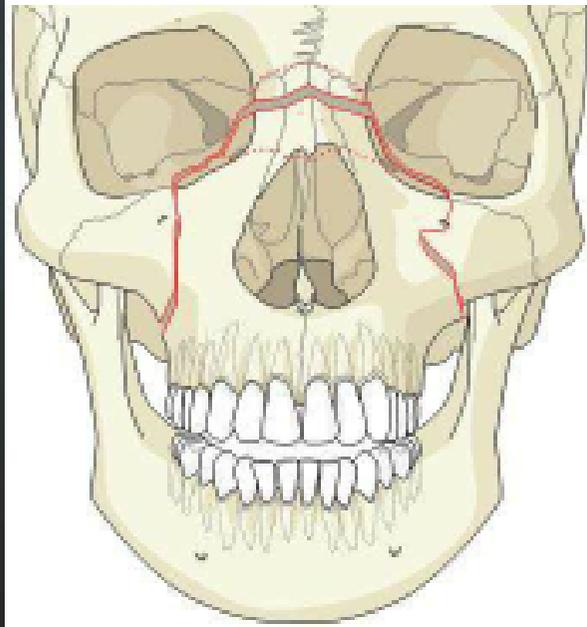
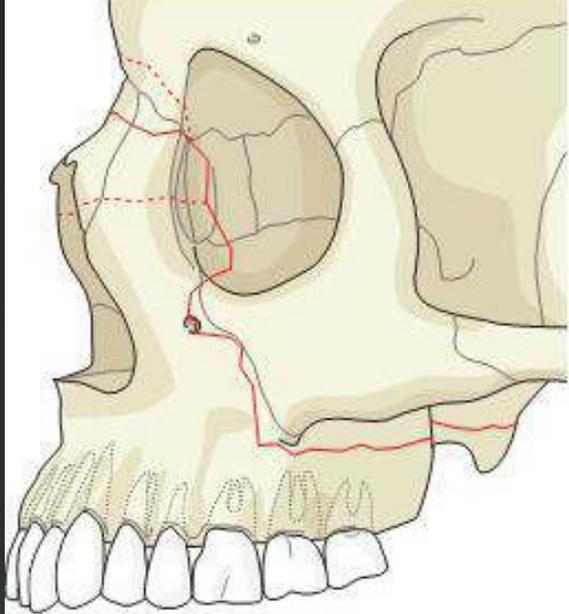
- Pyramidal fracture or subzygomatic fracture
- Violent force, usually from anterior direction, sustained by the central region of the middle third of the facial skeleton over an area extending from the glabella to the alveolar margin results in a fracture of a pyramid shape.
- The force may be delivered at the level of the nasal bones.



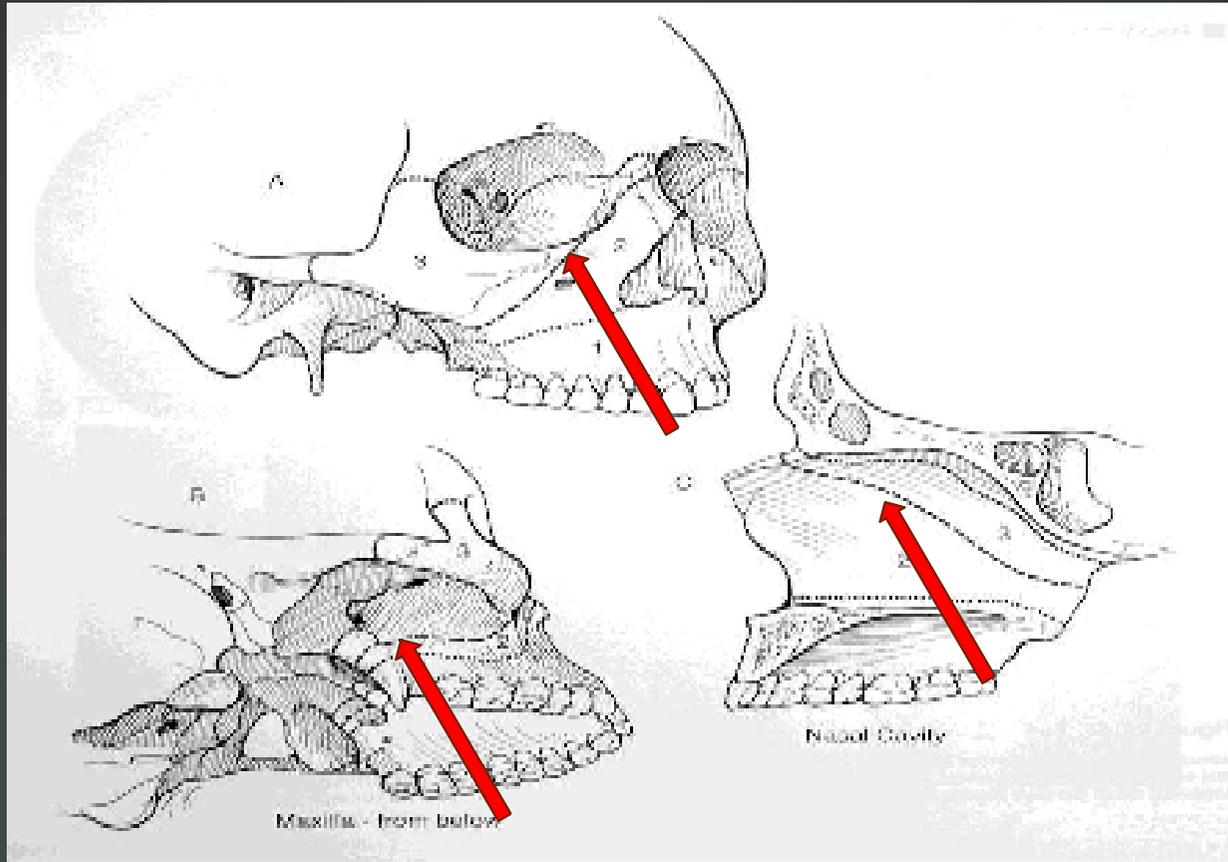
# FRACTURE LINE

- ✘ it starts just below the frontonasal suture bilaterally
- ✘ Runs from the thin middle area of the nasal bones down either side.
- ✘ Crossing the frontal processes of the maxillae into the medial wall of each orbit.
- ✘ Within each orbit, the fracture line crosses the lacrimal bone behind the lacrimal sac.





- ⊠ Before turning forwards to cross the infra- orbital margin slightly medial to or through the infra-orbital foramen.
- ⊠ The fracture now extends downwards and backwards across the lateral wall of the antrum below the zygomatic-maxillary suture.
- ⊠ Divides the pterygoid lamina about halfway up.



LE FORT 2: Fracture  
Line

LEFORT  
III



## LEFORT

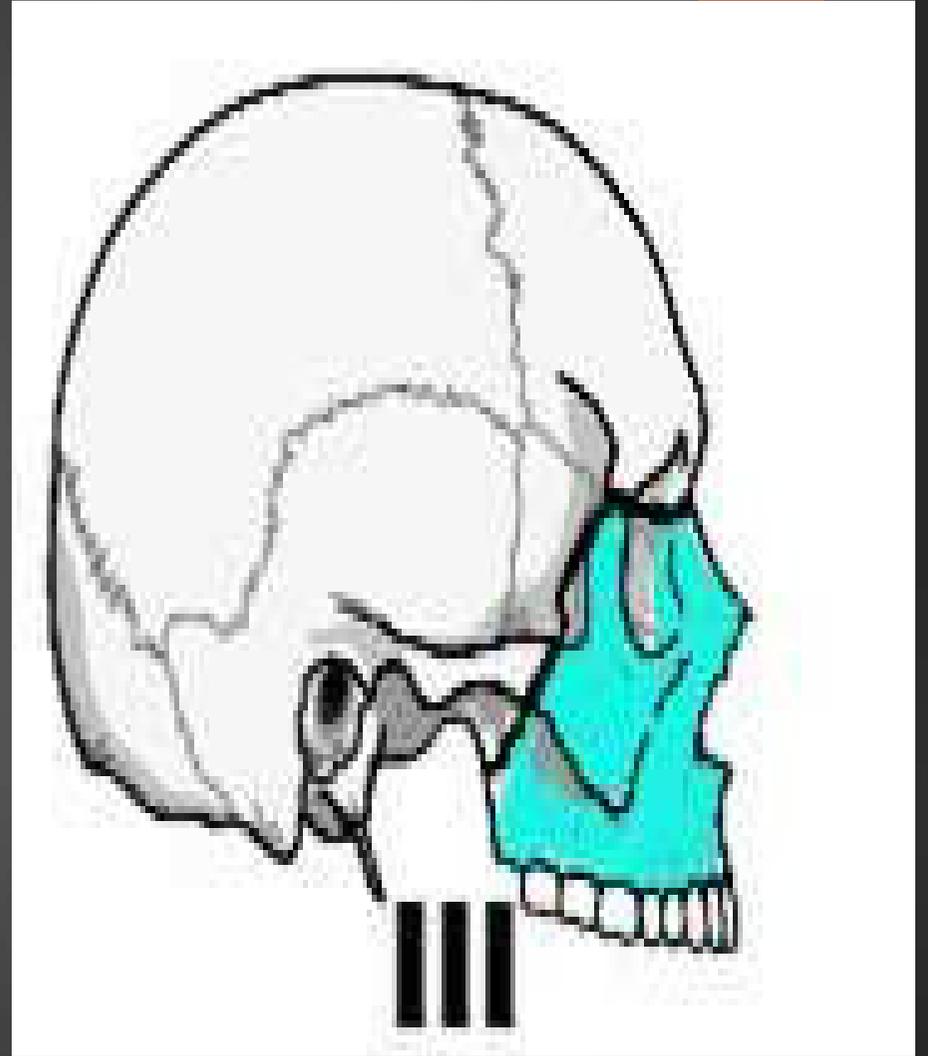
### III

- ⊠ **Suprazygomatic or transverse fracture or high level fracture.**
- ⊠ The line of fracture extends above the zygomatic bones on the both sides as a result of trauma being inflicted over a wider area, at the orbital level.



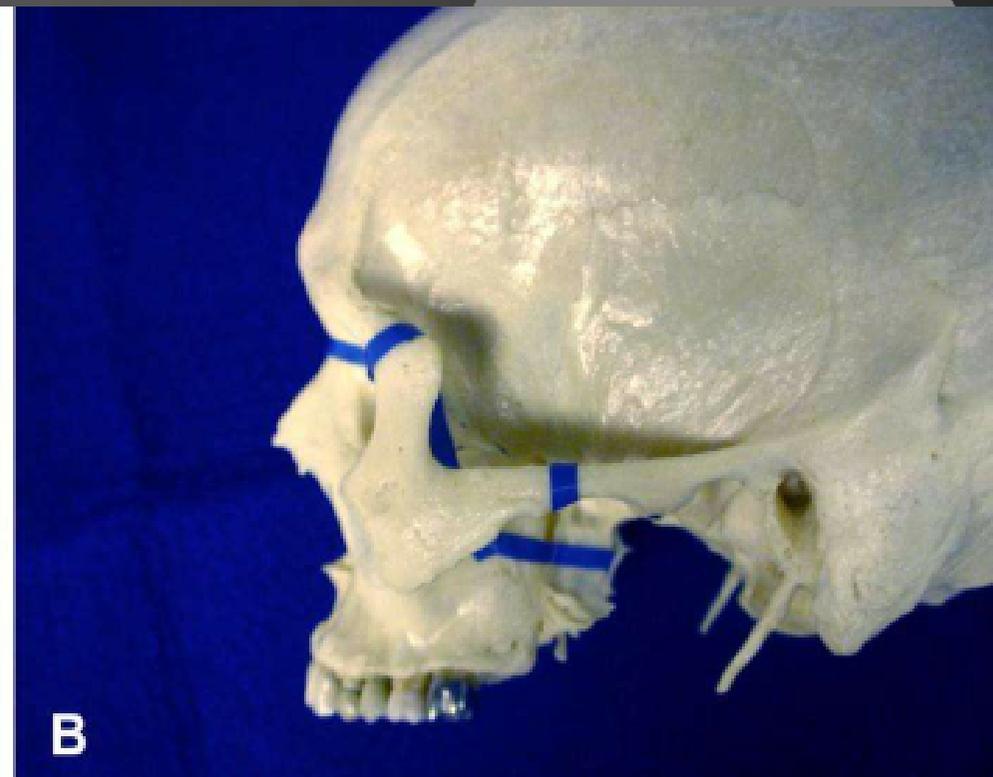
# Mechanism of LF3

- Initial **#:** impact is taken by the zygomatic bone resulting in depressed fracture.
- Then because of the severe degree of the impact, the entire middle third will then hinge about the fragile ethmoid bone.
- The impact will then be transmitted on the contralateral side resulting laterally displaced zygomatic fracture of the opposite side.

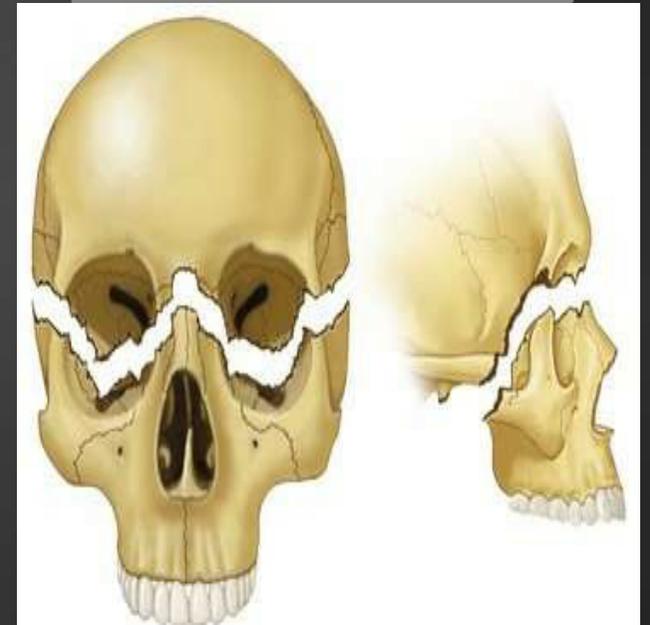
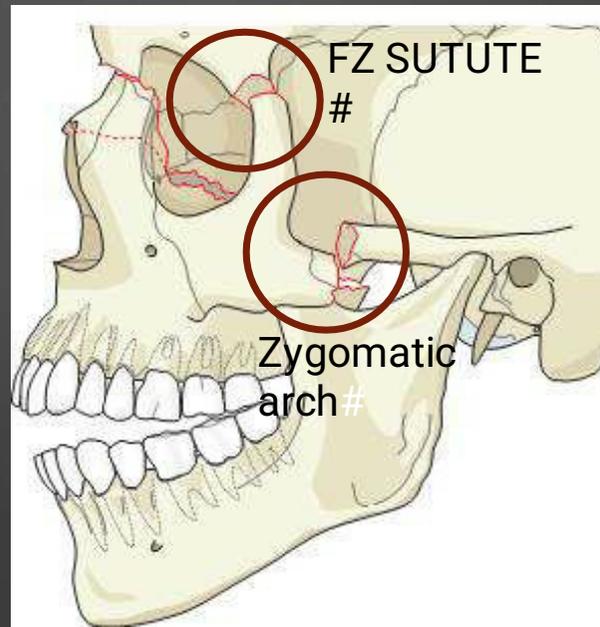
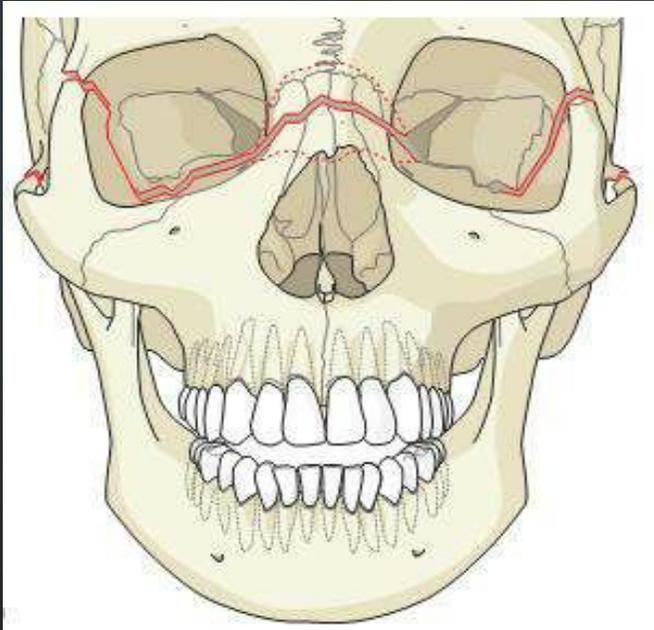


# THE FRACTURE

- ☒ Runs from near the frontonasal suture transversely backwards, parallel with the base of the skull and involves the full depth of the ethmoid bone, including the cribriform plate.
- ☒ Within the orbit, the fracture passes below the optic foramen into the posterior limit of the inferior orbital fissure.



- ❑ From the base of the inferior orbital fissure the fracture line extends in two directions:
- ❑ Backwards across the pterygo-maxillary fissure to fracture the roots of the pterygoid laminae.
- ❑ Laterally across the lateral wall of the orbit separating the zygomatic bone from the frontal bone by fronto-zygomatic suture.
- ❑ The entire mid-facial skeleton becomes detached from the cranial base.



# CLINICAL ASSESSMENT OF

## MIDFACE FRACTURES

- ☒ Extra-oral & Intra-oral examination.
- Inspection.
- Palpation.



## Extra-oral examination

### *Inspection of midface-*

- ⊠ Swelling & Facial Asymmetry.
- ⊠ Bruising of upper lip and lower half of mid-face.
- ⊠ Circum-orbital Ecchymosis ( bilateral = Raccoon's eye)
- .
- ⊠ Subconjunctival Hemorrhage.
- ⊠ Periorbital Oedema.

## Extra-oral examination

- ⊠ Cerebrospinal fluid rhinorrhoea
- ⊠ Lengthening of Midface
- ⊠ Depressed midface (dish face)
- ⊠ Saddle shaped depression of nose
- ⊠ Enophthalmos
- ⊠ Proptosis
- ⊠ Diplopia

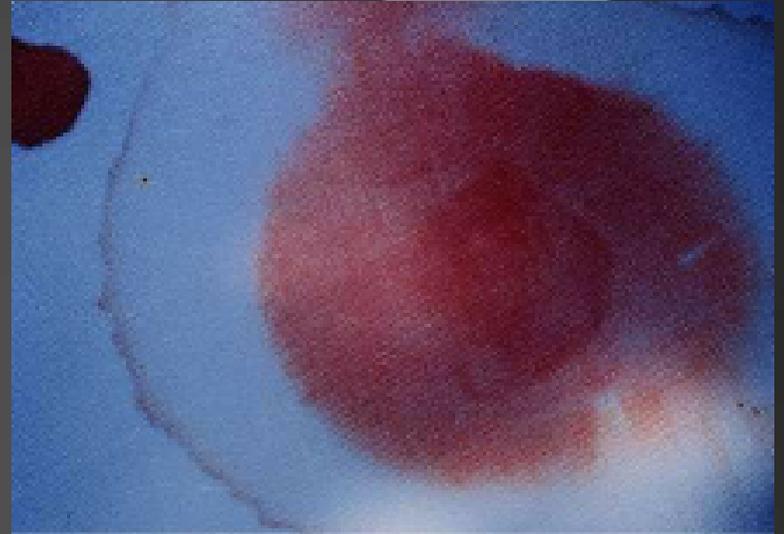


## ☒ Cerebrospinal Fluid Rhinorrhoea

-Watery nasal or postnasal salty discharge.

CSF content assessment- most reliable

$\beta$ 2 Transferrin isoenzyme- most diagnostic  
(pathognomonic of  
CSF)



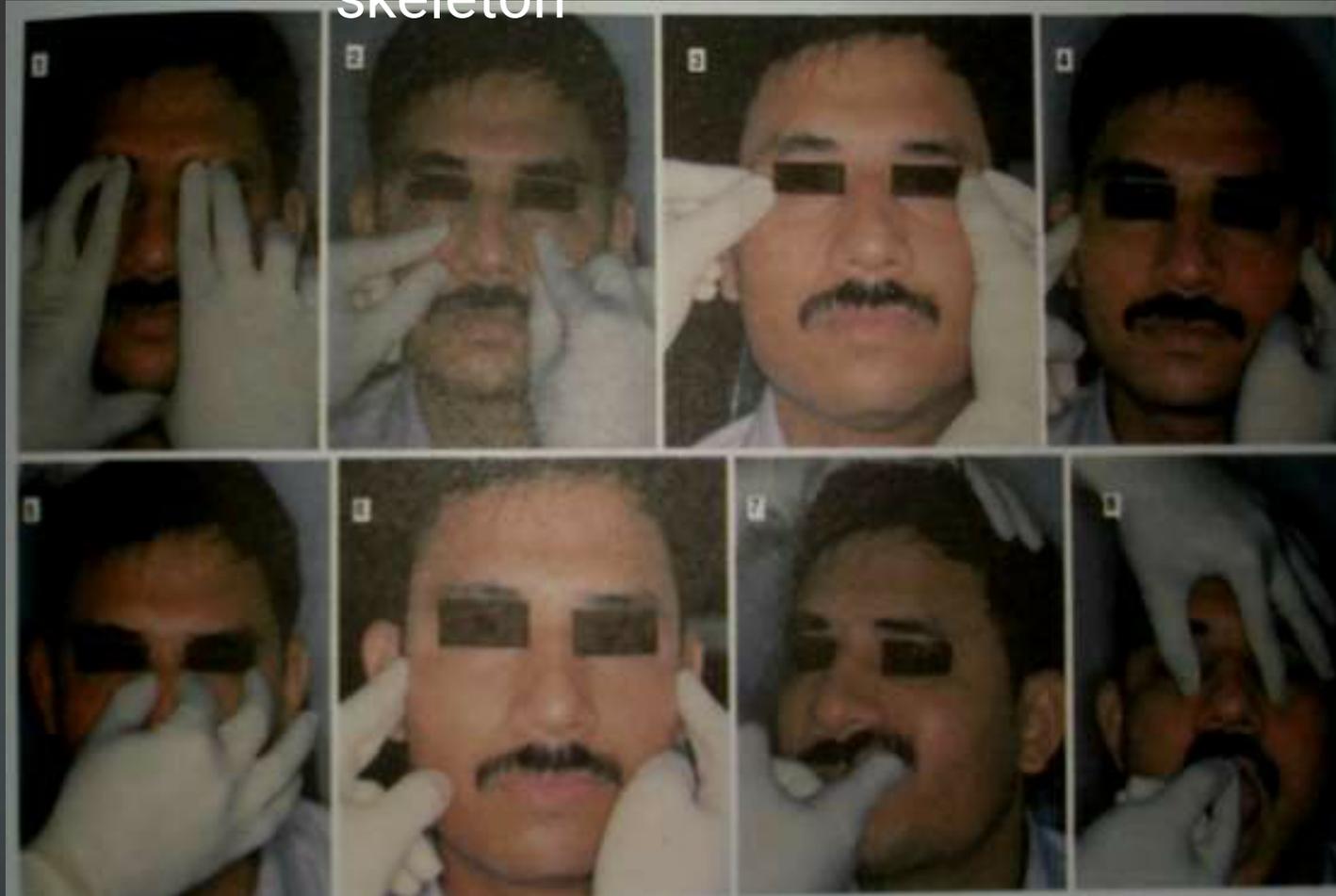
"HALO" sign

# Palpation -

1. Subcutaneous Emphysema – Crepitus
2. Tenderness
3. Step Deformity
4. Abnormal Mobility of bone
5. Impairment of sensation



# Palpation of facial skeleton



# Intra-oral examination

## Inspection

1. Disturbed occlusion (posterior occlusal gagging , open bite)
2. Haematoma intraorally over root of zygoma
3. Haematoma in palate (Guiren's sign)
4. Fractured cusps of teeth
5. Midline diastema

# LEFORT- I FRACTURE

*Clinical  
features:*

# □ Inspection :

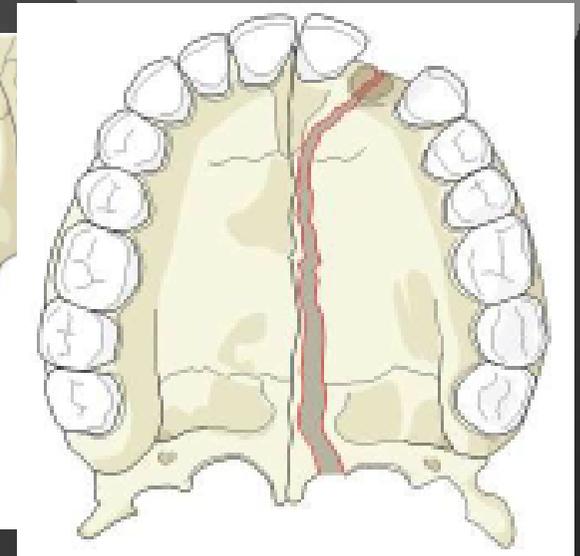
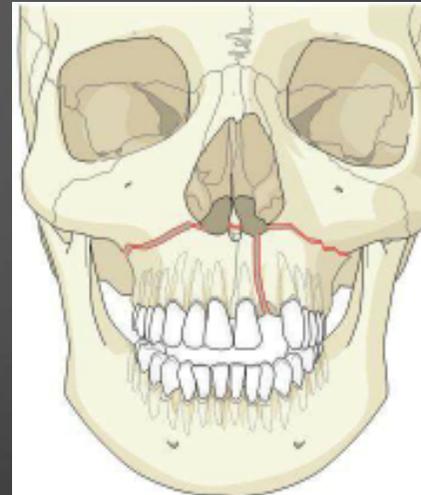
- ⊠ Slight swelling and edema of the lower part of the face along with the upper lip swelling
- ⊠ Ecchymosis in the labial and buccal vestibule, as well as contusion of the skin of the upper lip may be seen
- ⊠ Bilateral nasal epistaxis may be observed



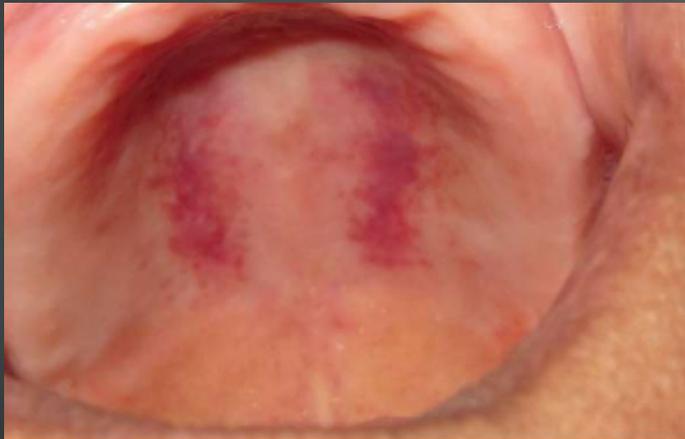
- ⊠ The patient may develop open bite if the fractured segment is mobile , due to posterior gagging of occlusion.



- ⊠ Sometimes fracture of the palate can also be associated with Le Fort I fracture.



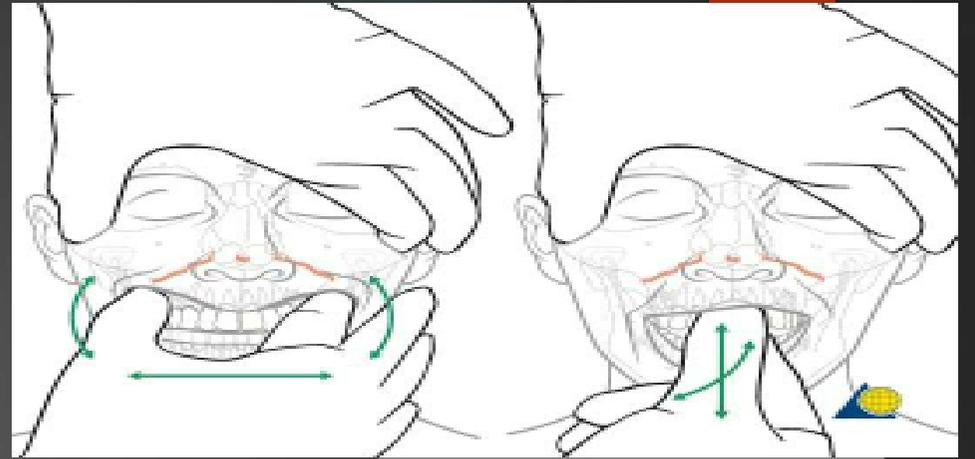
- ⊠ Occlusion may be disturbed, difficult mastication
- ⊠ Pain while speaking and moving the jaw



- **GUERIN sign:** ecchymosis of palate , bilateral greater palatine foramen.

## PALPATION :

- ⊠ In Le Fort I, the teeth and maxilla are mobile (floating maxilla), but the nose and upper face is fixed.
- ⊠ Sometimes there will be upward displacement of the entire fragment, locking it against the superior intact structures, such a fracture is called as **impacted or telescopic** fracture.
- ⊠ Percussion of the maxillary teeth results in distinctive 'cracked-pot sound',
  - ⊠ No tenderness and mobility of the zygomatic arch and bones.



## Common features of LF2&3:

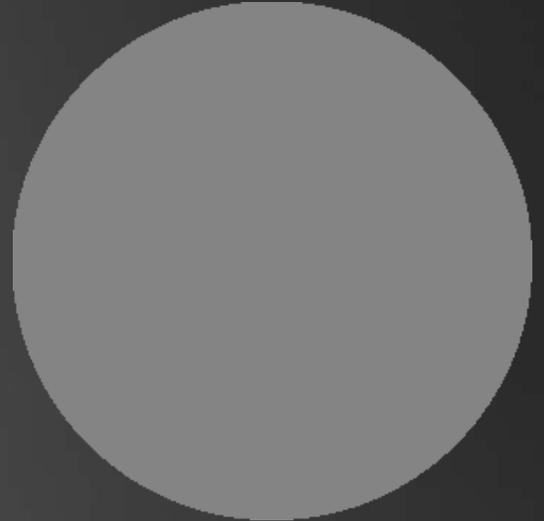
- ⊠ Gross edema of soft tissue
- ⊠ Bilateral circumorbital ecchymosis
- ⊠ Bilateral subconjunctival hemorrhage
- ⊠ Obvious deformity of the nose
- ⊠ Nasal bleeding and obstruction
- ⊠ CSF leak rhinorrhea
- ⊠ Dish-face deformity
- ⊠ Limitation of ocular movement
- ⊠ Possible diplopia and enophthalmos
- ⊠ Retropositioning of the maxilla with anterior open bite
- ⊠ Lengthening of the face
- ⊠ Difficulty in mouth opening
- ⊠ Mobility of the upper jaw
- ⊠ Occasional hematoma of the palate
- ⊠ Cracked-pot sound on percussion

## SPECIFIC FEATURE OF LF2#:

- ⊠ Step deformity at infra-orbital margin
- ⊠ Anesthesia of midface
- ⊠ Nasal bone moves with mid-face as a whole

## SPECIFIC FEATURE OF LF3#:

- ⊠ Tenderness and separation at FZ suture
- ⊠ Tenderness and deformity of zygomatic arch
- ⊠ Depression of ocular level and pseudoptosis



# LEFORT- II FRACTURE

Clinical  
features:

## LEFORT II FRACTURE

### Clinical features -

⊠ The resulting gross edema of the middle third gives an appearance of "moon face" to the patient.

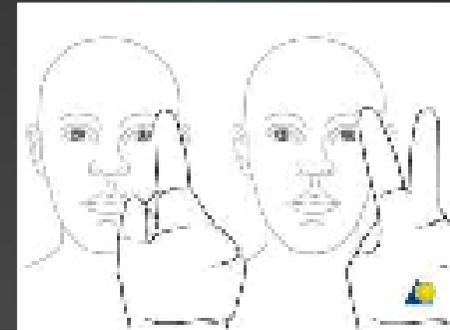


- Depressed nasal bridge,
- Dish shape deformity.

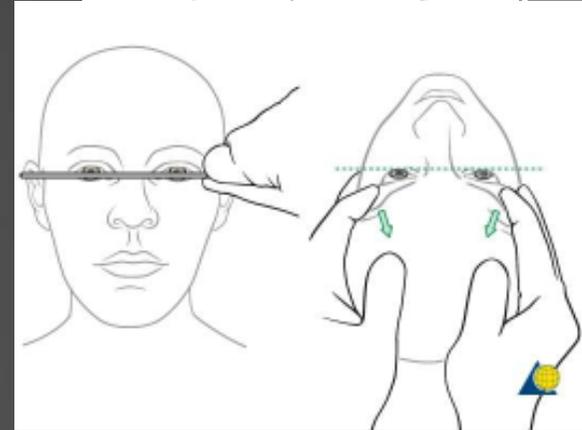
- ❑ CSF rhinorrhoea is possible and should be looked for.
- ❑ Bilateral circumorbital ecchymosis giving an appearance of 'raccoon eyes' is invariably seen in the fractures of both Le Fort II and Le Fort III.
- ❑ Subconjunctival hemorrhage develops rapidly in the area adjacent to the site of injury.(mostly in medial half )



⊠ Diplopia may be seen in cases of orbital floor injury.



⊠ Pupils are at level unless there is gross unilateral enophthalmos.



⊠ Anaesthesia or paraesthesia of the cheek as a result of injury to the infraorbital nerve due to the fracture of the inferior orbital rim.

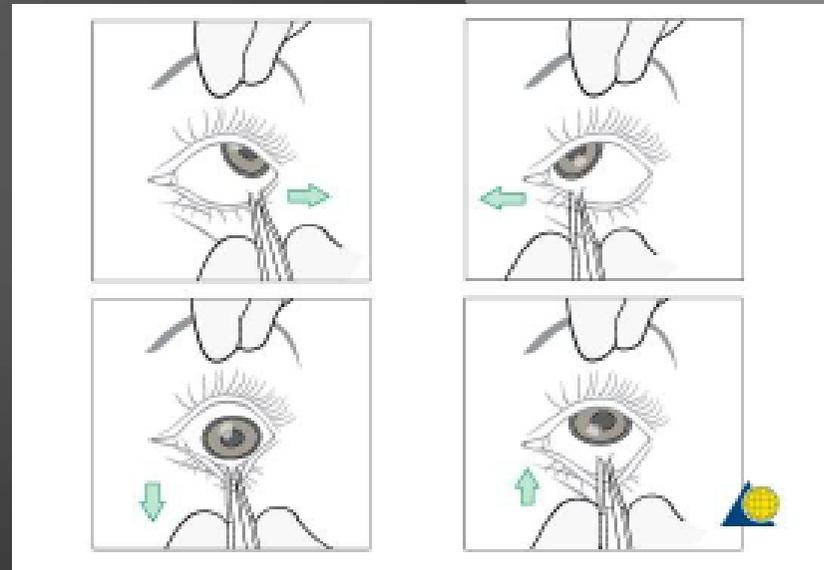
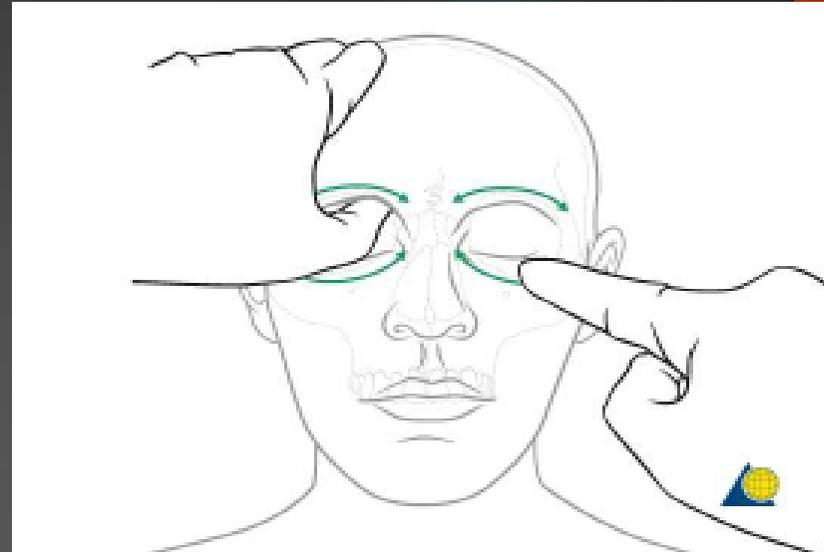
- ⊠ On intraoral examination, retropositioning of the whole maxilla and gagging of the occlusion are seen.
- ⊠ Hematoma formation is seen in the buccal sulcus opposite to the maxillary first and second molar teeth as a result of fracture of the zygomatic bone



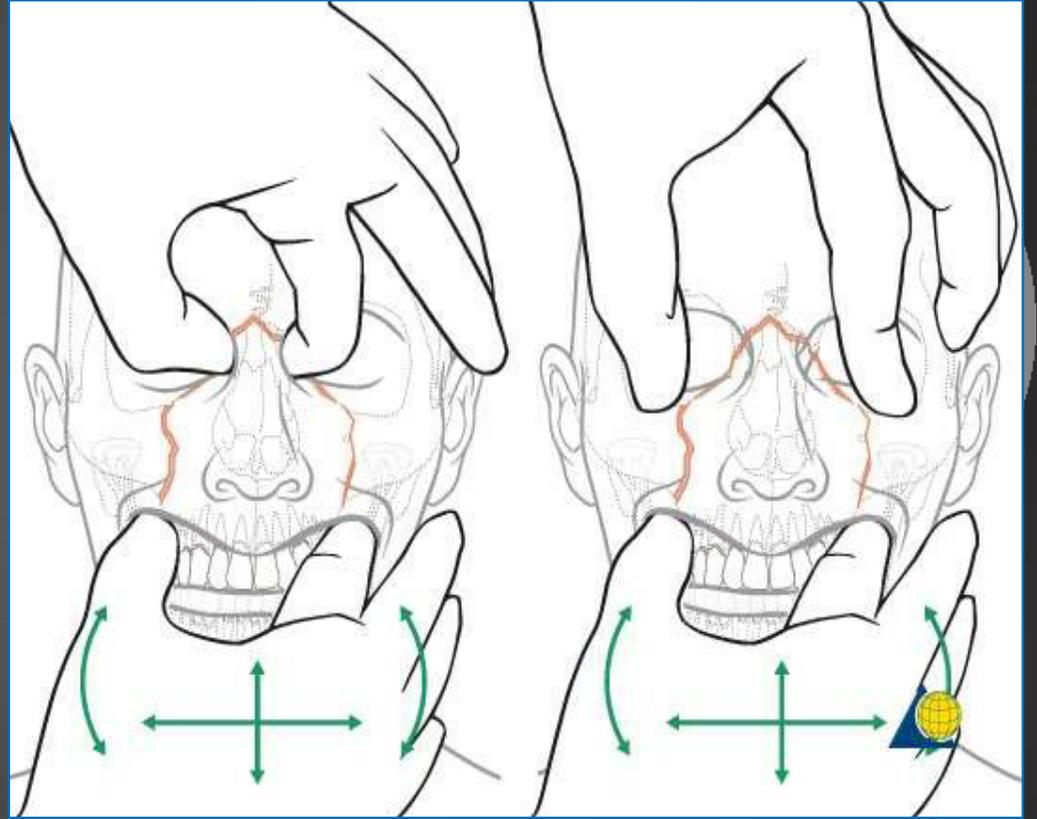
## *Extraoral palpation of LFII:*

- ⊠ Step deformity at the infraorbital rims or frontonasal junction is noticed.

- ⊠ Orbital wall fractures can cause entrapment with limitation of ocular movement.



- ⊠ When maxillary teeth are grasped, the mid-facial skeleton moves as a pyramid and the movement can be detected at the infraorbital margin and the nasal bridge.



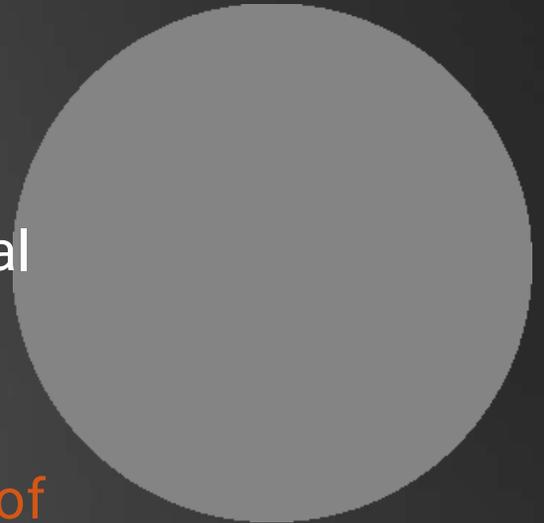
# LEFORT- III FRACTURE

Clinical  
features:

## LE FORT III FRACTURE

### Clinical features -

- ⊠ Gross oedema of the face.
- ⊠ Bilateral circumorbital ecchymosis with subconjunctival hemorrhage.
- ⊠ Characteristic 'dish face' appearance with **lengthening of the face.**



⊠ 'Hooding of eyes' may be seen due to separation of the

frontozygomatic suture.

⊠ Deformity of the zygomatic arches.

⊠ Difficulty in opening the mouth, inability to move lower jaw.

⊠ CSF rhinorrhoea.

⊠ Depression of orbital floor

⊠ 'Battle's Sign'



Figure 2—"Donkey face" deformity typical of Le Fort III fracture.

⊠ Tenderness and often separation of the

bones at the frontozygomatic suture.

⊠ Mobility of the whole of facial skeleton as a single unit.

⊠ When lateral displacement has taken place tilting of the occlusal plane and gagging of one side is



# Radiographic Examination :

## 1. plain Radiograph

- ☒ Min 2 radiograph
- ☒ 90\* to eachother

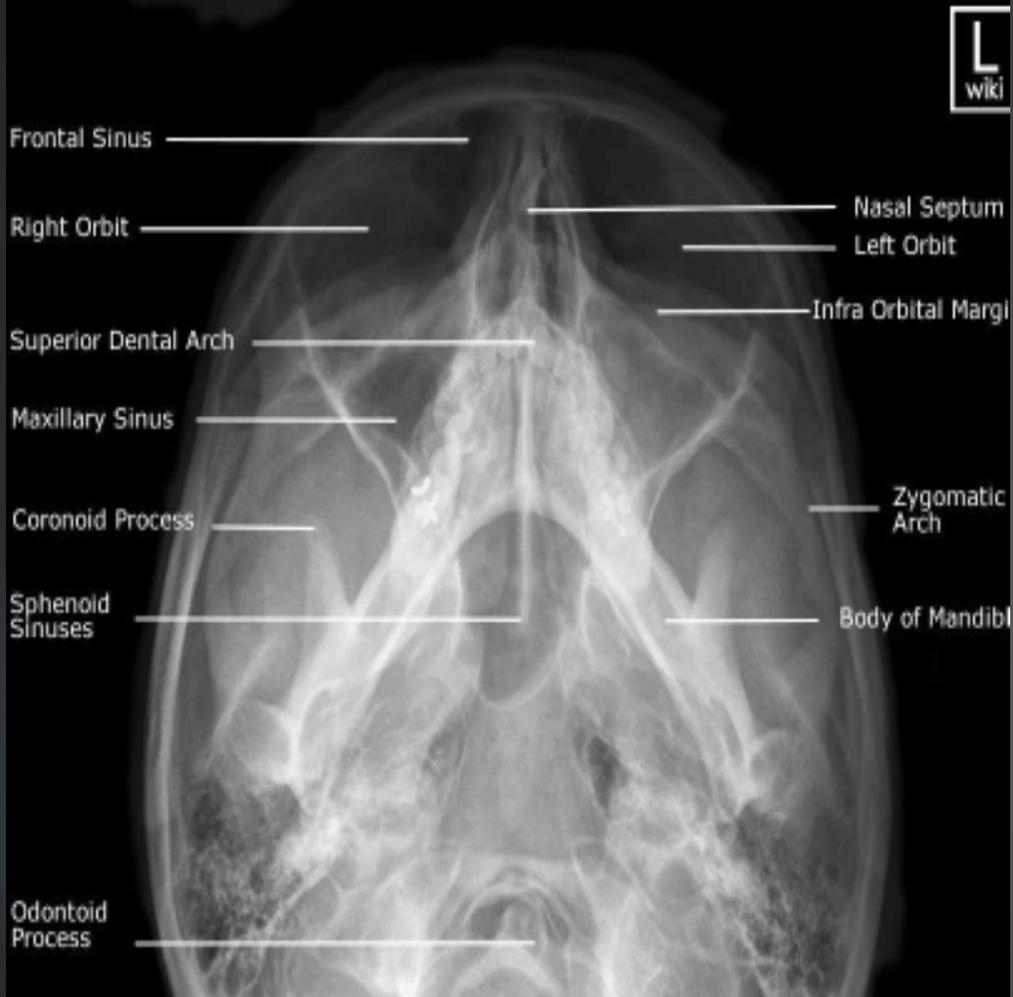
## 2. CT SCAN

- ☒ Coronal and axial view
- ☒ 3d reconstruction

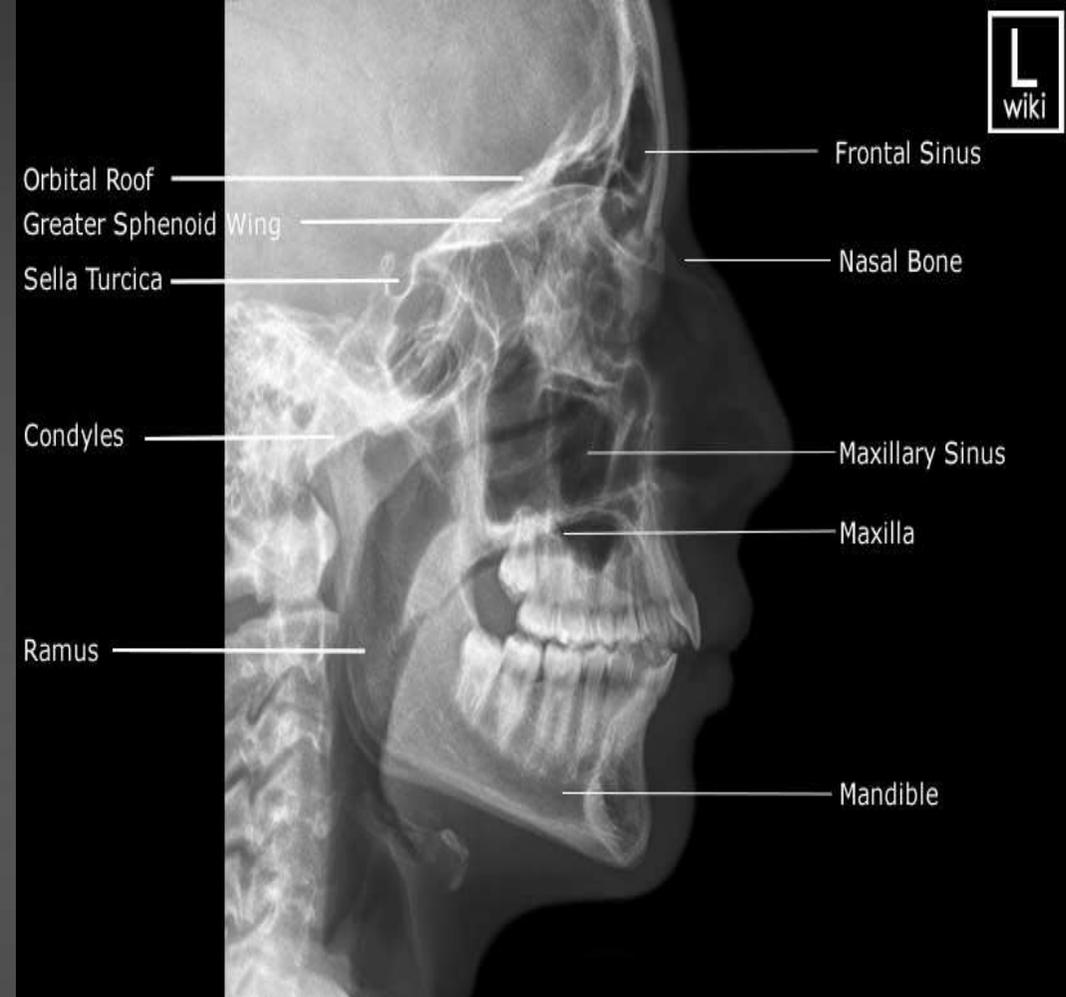


- ⊠ Opg
- ⊠ Lateral view
- ⊠ 15/30 degrees occipitomenital view
- ⊠ Submentovertex view
- ⊠ Cranial postero anterior view.
- ⊠ PA view (Water's View)



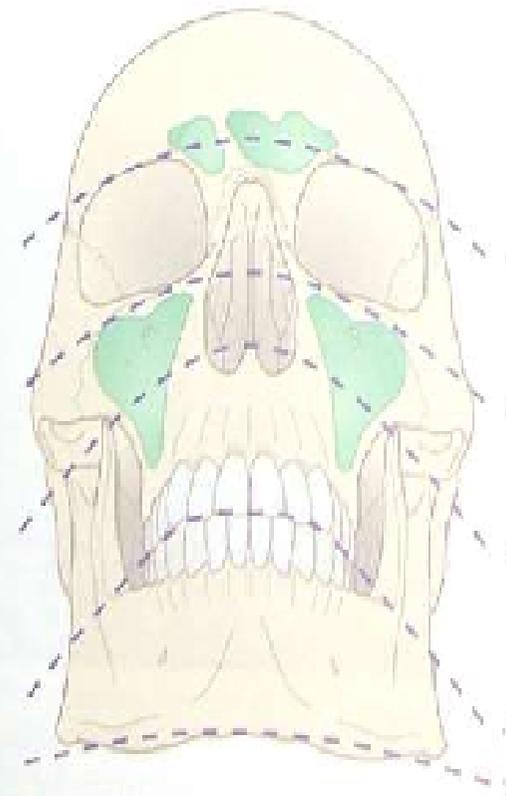
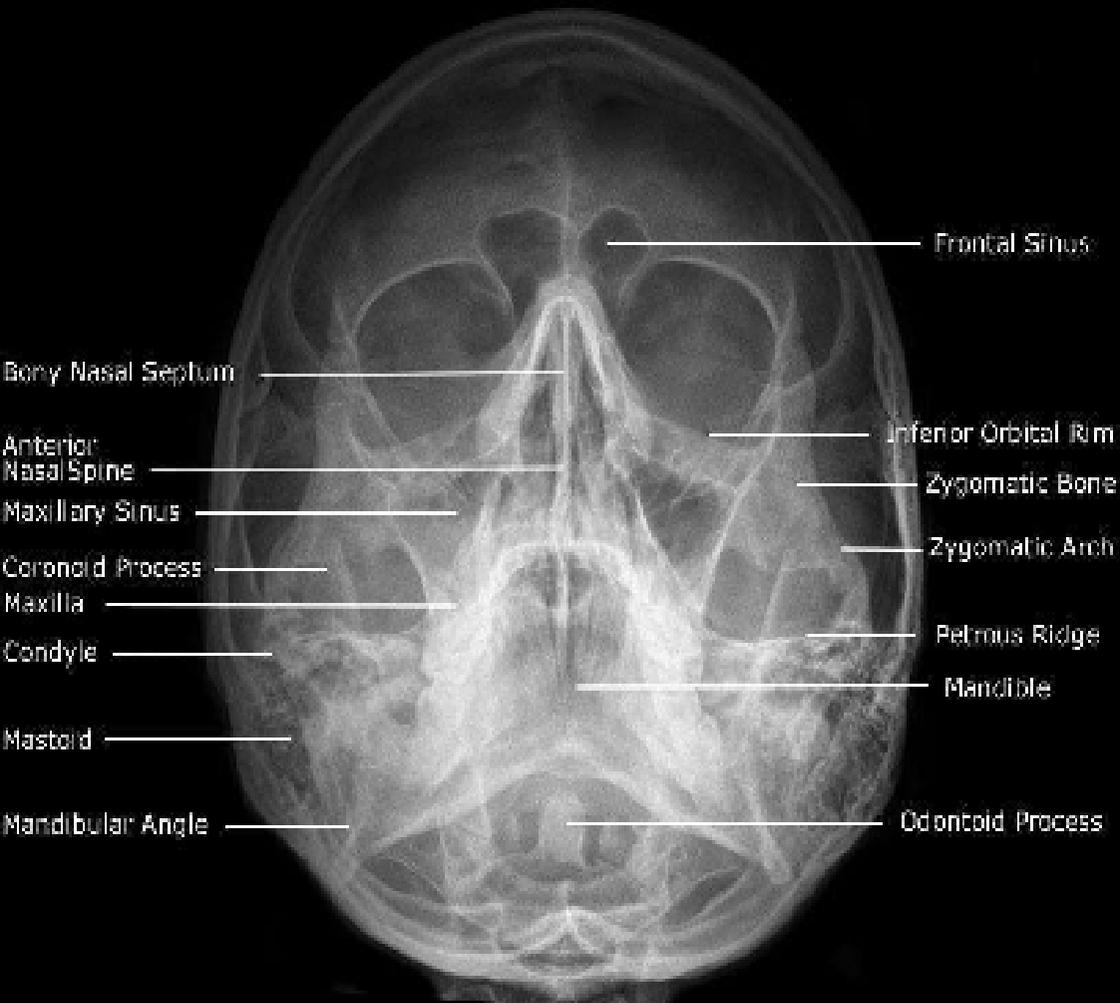


30 DEGREE  
SUBMENTOVERTEX (NORMAL)



LATERAL  
VIEW

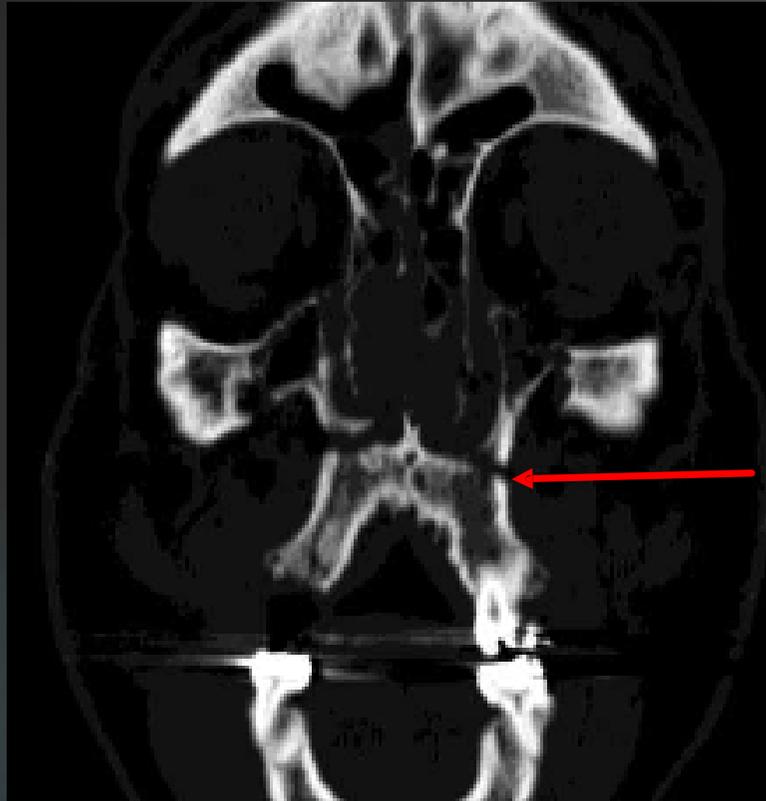
# Mc Grigor's /Campbell's line



1. Frontozygomatic suture & superior orbital rim
2. Zygomatic arches & inferior orbital rim
3. Condyl & coronoid processes
4. Occlusal plane
5. Inferior border of mandible

Fig. 5.16: Campbell's and Trapnell's lines.

WATER'S VIEW  
NORMAL

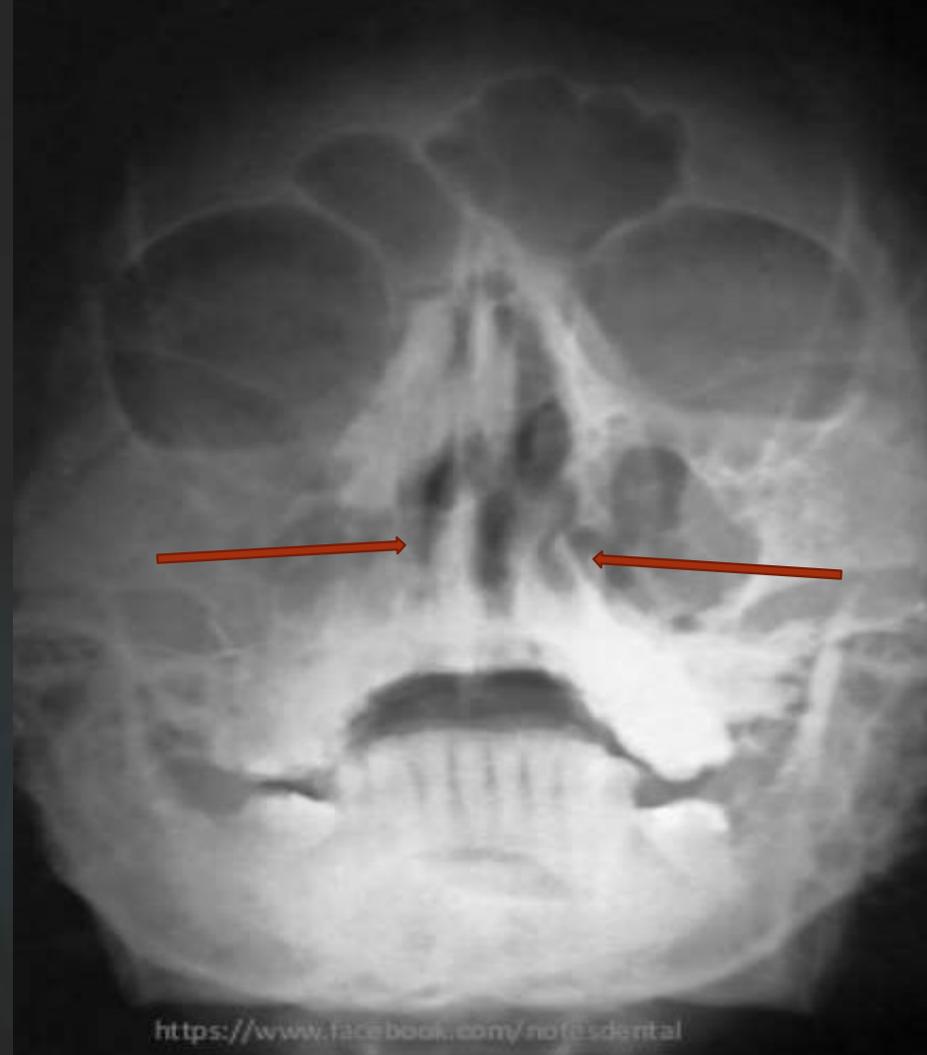


Coronal CT demonstrating a right Le Fort I fracture and a left Le Fort II fracture.

## CT - SCAN

# LEFORT- I FRACTURE

*radiographic  
features:*



## Water's View

*The most comprehensive single projection display*

Excellent view of

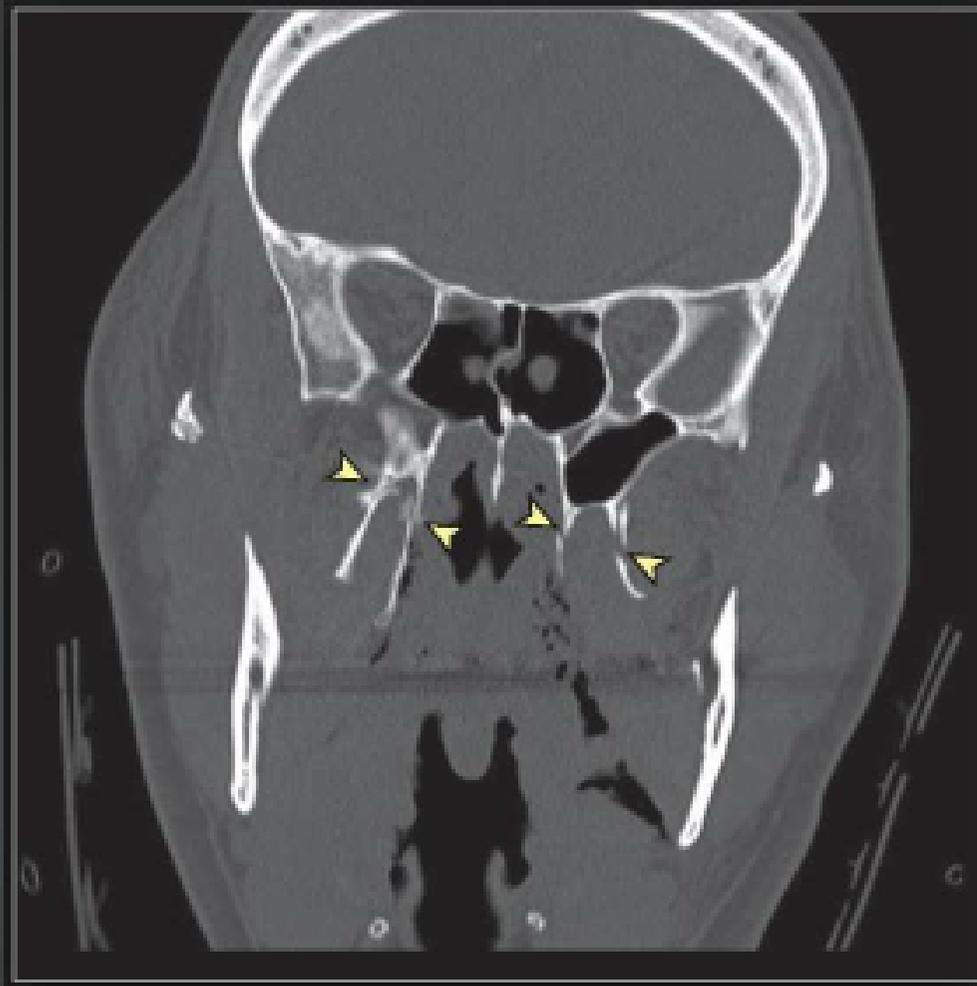
- Maxilla
- Maxillary sinuses
- Zygoma
- Zygomatic arches
- Rims of orbits, esp. floor
- Nasal bones

LEFORT I – Waters  
view



- 1.Arrowheads: Bilateral Maxillary Sinus Air Fluid Levels
- 2.Arrows: Fractures of Lateral Walls of Maxillary Sinus

CT findings - axial section



Pterygoid Plate Fractures in lefort I



# 3D - CT



WI\_3250771  
Segmented



WI\_3250771  
Segmented

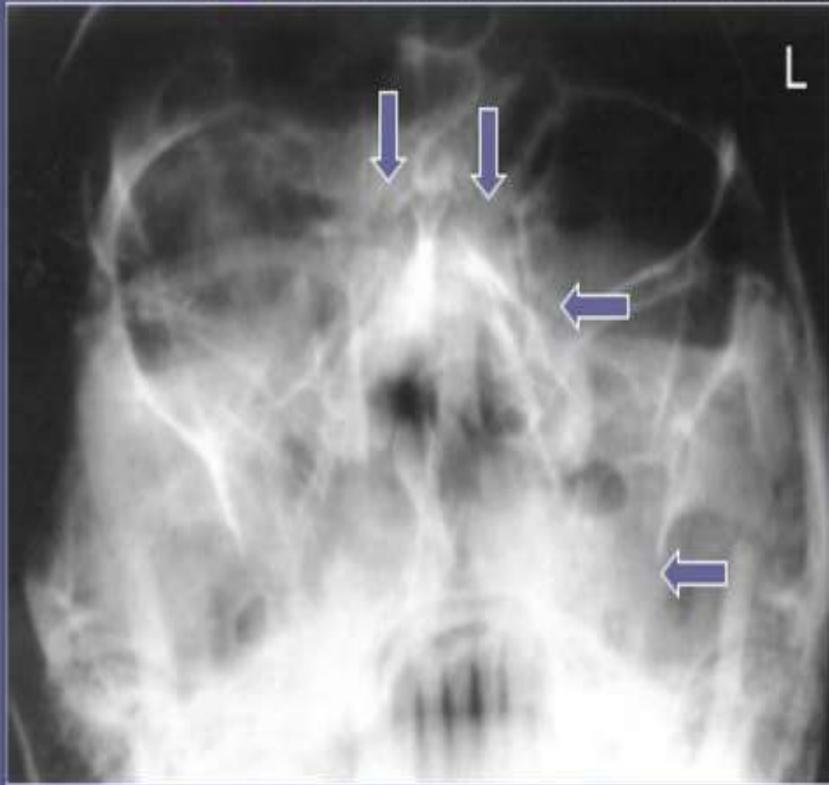


WI\_3250771  
Segmented

# LEFORT- II FRACTURE

*radiographic  
features:*

## *Le Fort Type II*



**Le Fort II midfacial fracture:** fracture lines extend obliquely through nasofrontal sutures, through the medial and inferior aspects of both orbits and the lateral walls of both maxillary sinuses (PA view).

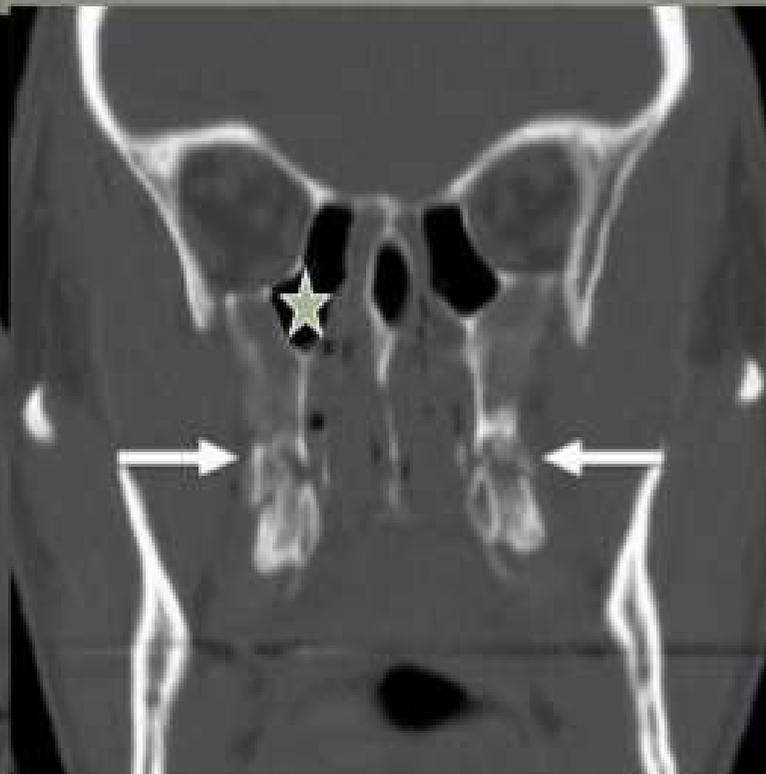
- *Pyramidal fracture across nasal bones and frontal processes of maxilla, extending laterally through lacrimal bones, inferior rim of orbit near zygomaticomaxillary suture, lateral walls of maxilla and pterygoid plates.*
- *Increased width of frontonasal suture.*
- *Radiolucent cleavage lines.*
- *Step defect in orbital rim.*
- *Sinus shadows obscured by hemorrhage.*
- *Disruption in dental occlusion.*

## CT findings - coronal section



Open Arrows: inf orbit fx

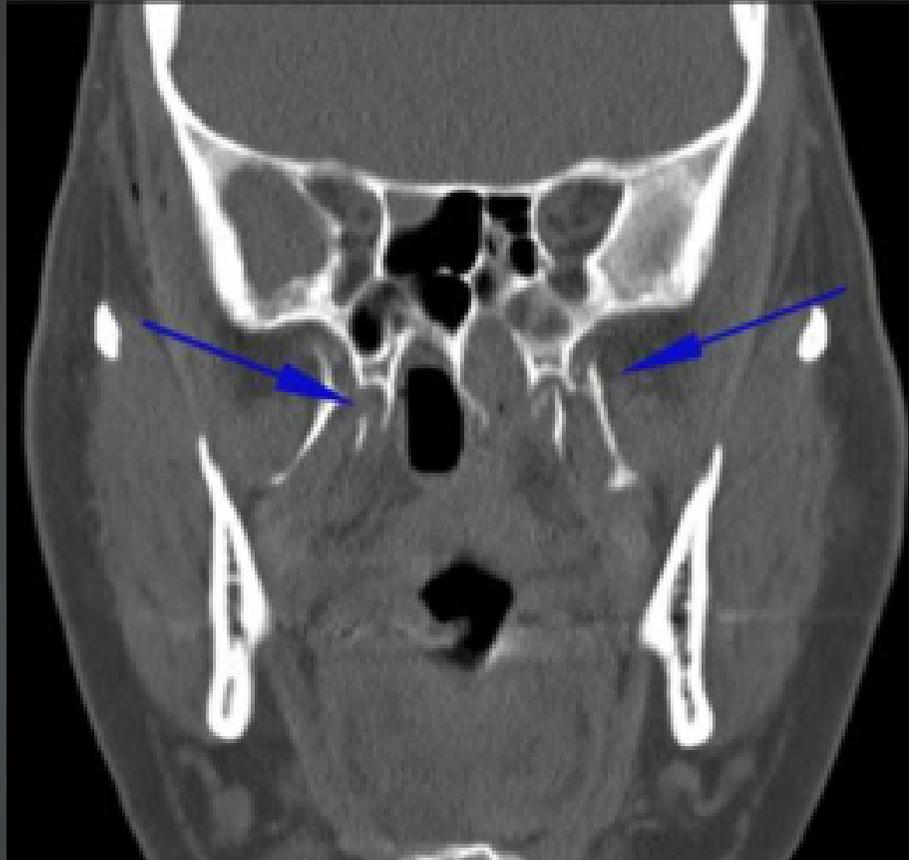
Closed Arrow: no fx to ant/lat nasal margin=no lefort I fx



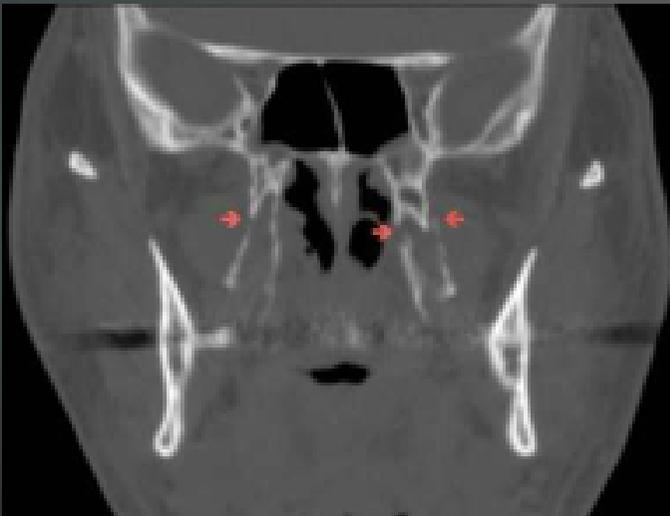
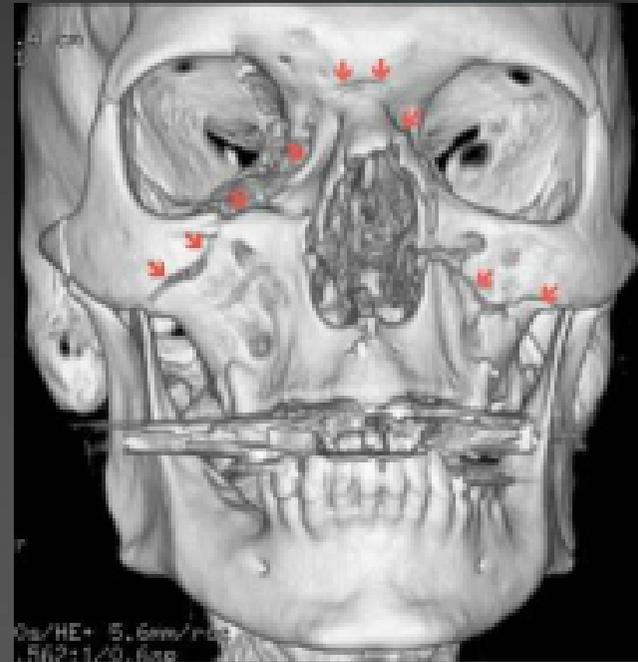
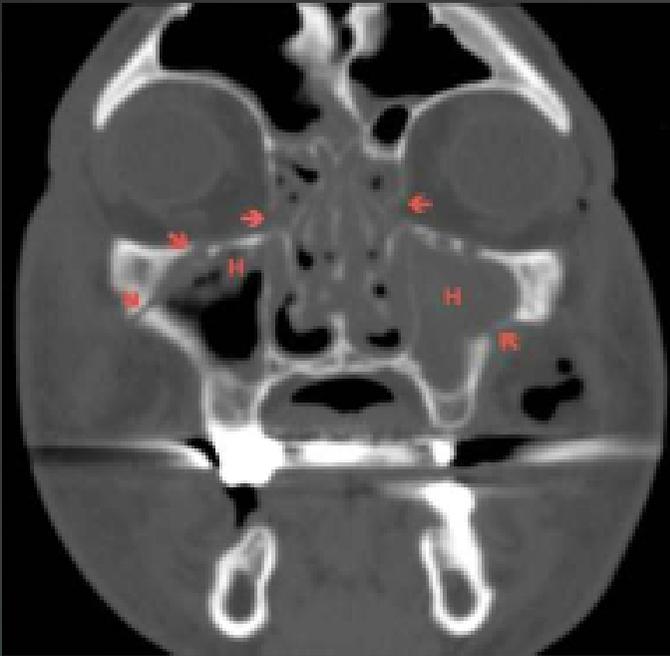
Star: Inferior orbit fx

Arrow: B/l pterygoid fxs

## CT findings - axial section

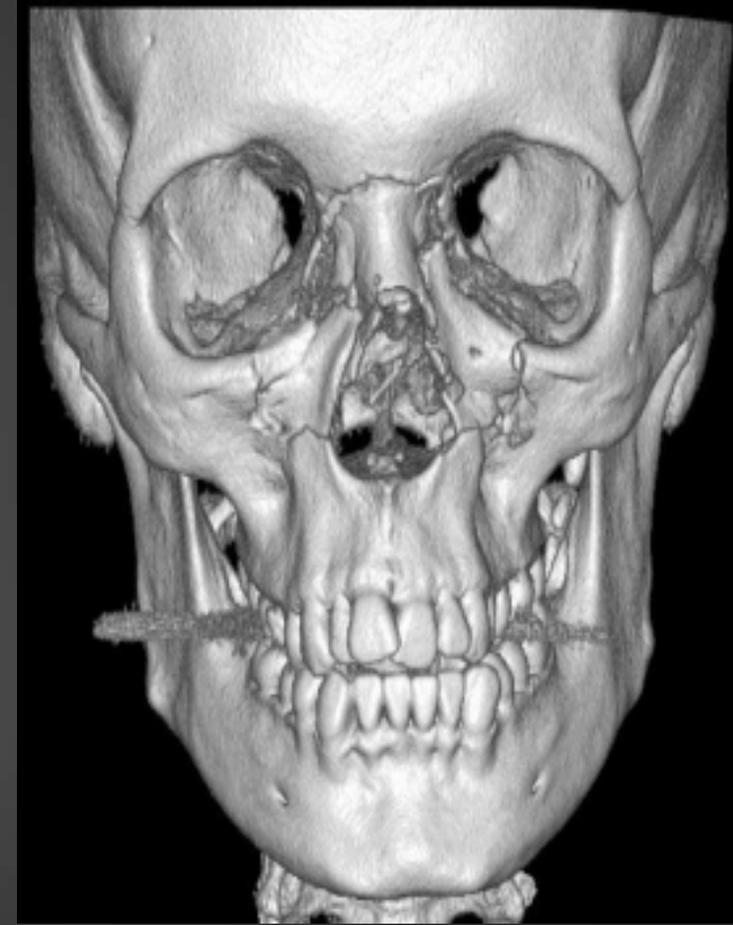


The blue arrows show bilateral fracture of the pterygoid processes, which is a common association in all three types of Le Fort fractures.



Middle age man in motor vehicle accident. Fracture lines are demonstrated in red arrows.

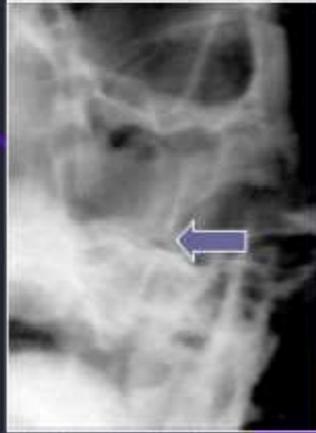
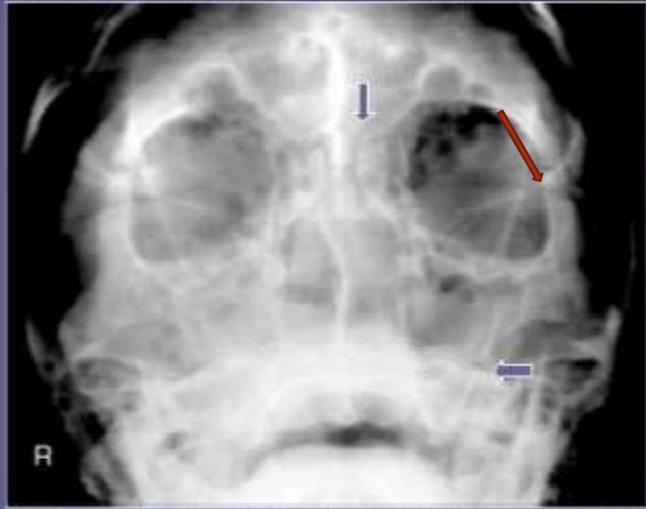
## 3D - CT



Three-dimensional reconstruction of a patient with right Le Fort I fracture and a left Le Fort II fracture

# LEFORT- III FRACTURE

*radiographic  
features:*

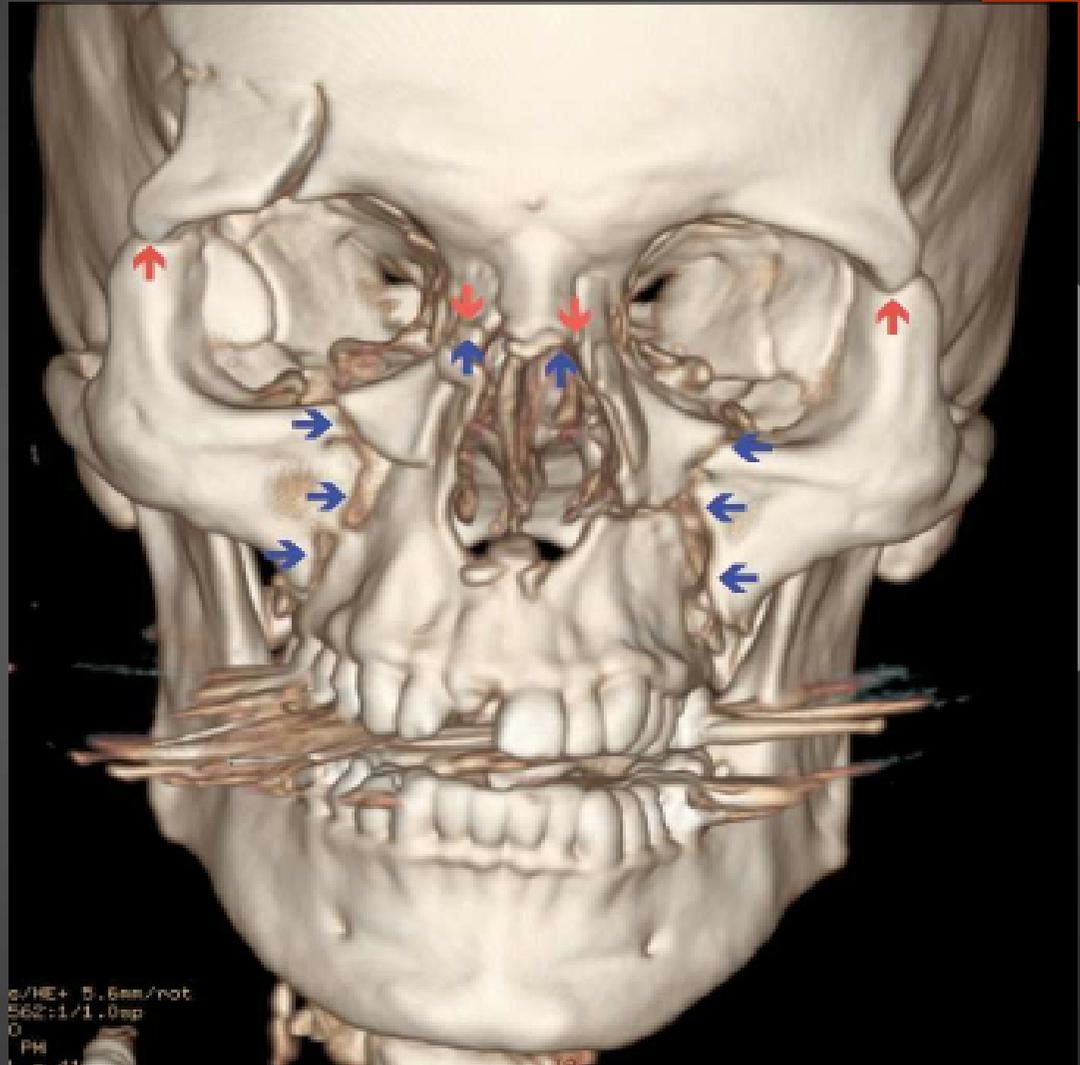


**Le Fort III midface fractures: PA view shows fractures of lateral walls of both maxillary sinuses with concomitant opacification of the sinuses. Glabella and right zygomaticofrontal sutures also evidence fracture lines.**



**Blowout fracture of right orbital floor indicated by thickening of roof of maxillary sinus (PA tomographic view) – see arrow.**

32-year-old man, driver in a motor vehicle accident.





**MANAGEMENT**





1. **Emergency care & Stabilization -  
( First aid and resuscitation )**

2. **Initial Assessment and Early  
care-**

3. **Definitive Treatment-**

4. **Rehabilitation -**



# STAGE I - Emergency care & Stabilization



1. Maintenance of airway.
  2. Control of hemorrhage.
  3. Prevent or control shock.
  4. C-Spine stabilization.
  5. Control of life-threatening injuries.
- 

Head injuries, chest injuries, compound limb fractures, intra abdominal bleeding.



**A**irway maintenance with cervical spine protection

**B**reathing and ventilation

**C**irculation with hemorrhage control

**D**isability: Neurologic status

**E**xposure/**E**nvironmental control: Completely undress the patient, but prevent hypothermia

## Emergency Care

### A) Airway Maintenance -

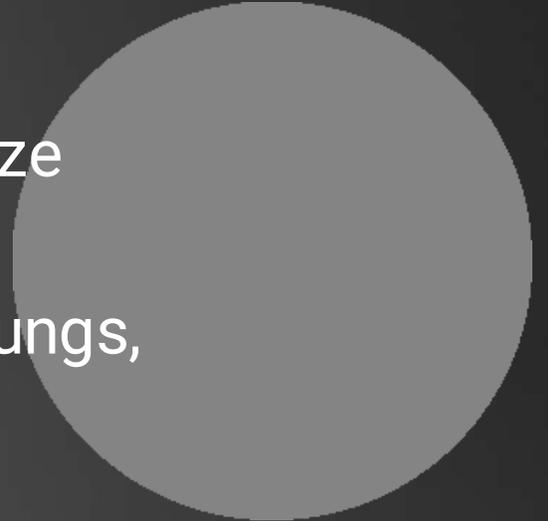
- ☒ Existence & identification of obstruction.
- ☒ Manually clear fractured teeth, blood clots, dentures.
- ☒ Endotracheal intubation if needed.

#### NOTE:

- ☒ Altered level of consciousness is the most common cause of upper airway obstruction.

## B) Breathing and ventilation

- ⊠ Airway patency alone does not ensure adequate ventilation
- ⊠ Adequate gas exchange is required to maximize oxygenation and carbon dioxide elimination
- ⊠ Ventilation requires adequate function of the lungs, chest wall, and diaphragm



## C) Circulation & hemorrhage control

- ⊠ Hemorrhage is most common cause of shock after injury.
- ⊠ Multiple injury patients have hypovolemia.
  - Monitor vital signs closely.
- ⊠ Goal is to restore organ perfusion.

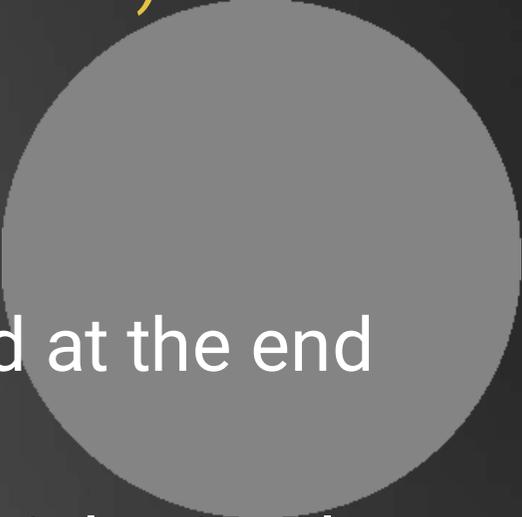


## Treatment of Blood Loss & Shock

- ⊠ External bleeding controlled by direct pressure over bleeding site.
- ⊠ Gain prompt access to vascular system with IV catheters.
- ⊠ Fluid replacement:
  - ⊠ Ringer's Lactate
  - ⊠ Normal saline
  - ⊠ Transfusion.



## D) DISABILITY (NEUROLOGIC EVALUATION)

- 
- ⊠ A rapid neurologic evaluation is performed at the end of the primary survey
  - ⊠ The Glasgow Comma Scale (GCS) is a quick, simple method for determining the level of consciousness

## Glasgow Coma Scale

Action	Score
<b>Eye opening</b>	
Spontaneously	4
To speech	3
To pain	2
None	1
<b>Motor response</b>	
Obeys	6
Localizes pain	5
Withdraws from pain	4
Flexion to pain	3
Extension to pain	2
None	1
<b>Verbal response</b>	
Oriented	5
Confused	4
Inappropriate	3
Incomprehensible	2
None	1

PATIENT SCORE  
DETERMINES CATEGORY OF  
NEUROLOGIC IMPAIR

SCORE

>15 = NORMAL

13-14= MILD INJURY

9-12 = MODERATE INJURY

3-8 = SEVERE INJURY

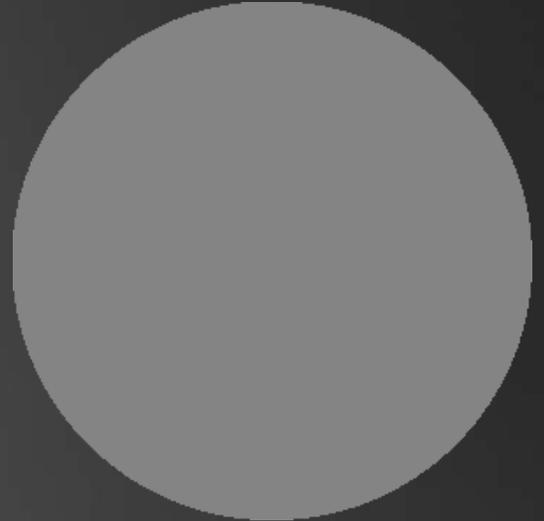
## E) EXPOSURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

- ⊠ The patient should be completely undressed
- ⊠ usually by cutting off his or her garments to facilitate a thorough examination and assessment

The patient's body temperature is more important than the comfort of the healthcare providers.

## Stabilization of associated injuries

- ⊠ C-spine injury is primary concern with all maxillofacial trauma victims.
  - ⊠ Signs/symptoms of C-Spine injury
    - ⊠ Neurologic deficit.
    - ⊠ Neck pain.



## Stabilization of associated injuries

- ⊠ C-spine injury suspected:
  - ⊠ Avoid any movement of neck
  - ⊠ Establish & maintain proper immobilization until vertebral fractures or spinal cord injuries ruled out
    - ⊠ **Lateral C-spine radiographs**
    - ⊠ **CT of C-spine**
    - ⊠ **Neurologic exam**



## STAGE II. Initial Assessment and Early care

- ⊠ Emergency care has stabilized patient.
- ⊠ Initial stabilization of fractures.
- ⊠ Debridement & dressing of soft tissues.
- ⊠ Physical exam & history.
- ⊠ Laboratory tests.
- ⊠ Clinical & Radiographic Assessment of Patient. Diagnosis of maxillofacial injuries.
- ⊠ Pre-operative planning.



## STAGE II. Initial Assessment

- **Pre-operative planning**
  1. Need for Tracheostomy
  2. Surgical Approaches to Midface
  3. Whether 'Open' or 'Closed' methods of reduction are to be employed.
  4. Necessity for & type of Maxillary fracture Fixation.

## STAGE II. Initial Assessment

- Pre-operative planning
- ⊠ Surgical Approaches to Midface



# Pre-operative planning

- ⊠ *Principle of treatment for Mid face #:*
- ⊠ *CONSERVATIVE*
- ⊠ *OPERATIVE/SURGICAL: REDUCTION and FIXATION*

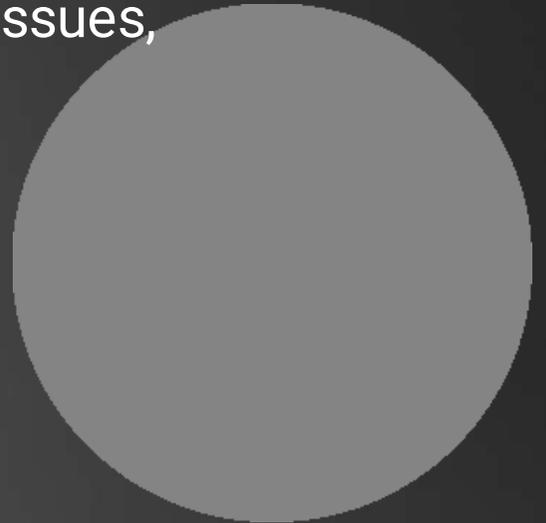


## ⊠ Indications for Closed Reduction:

- ⊠ Non displaced fracture,
- ⊠ Grossly comminuted fractures,
- ⊠ Fractures exposed by significant loss of overlying soft tissues,
- ⊠ Edentulous maxillary fractures,
- ⊠ In children with developing dentition.

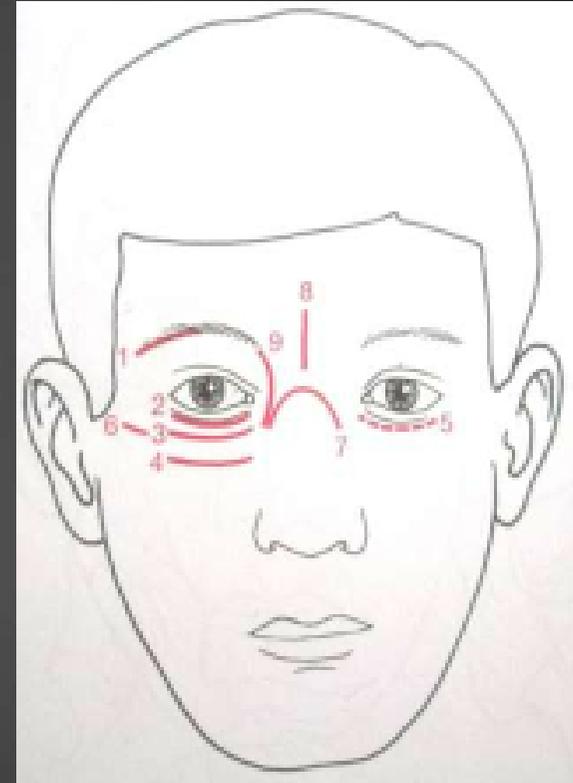
## ⊠ Indications for open reduction:

- ⊠ Displaced fractures,
- ⊠ Multiple fractures of the facial bones,
- ⊠ Fractures of the edentulous maxilla with severe displacement,
- ⊠ Delay of treatment and interposition of soft tissues between non-contacting displaced fracture segments, Specific systemic conditions contraindicating IMF.



# Incisions for exposure of LeFort fracture

1. Supraorbital eyebrow incision (LeFort SIII)
2. Subciliary incision (LeFort II & III)
3. Median lower lid (LeFort II & III)
4. Infraorbital incision (LeFort II & III)
5. Transconjunctival (LeFort II )
6. Zygomatic arch
7. Transverse nasal (LeFort II & III)
8. Vertical nasal incision (LeFort II & III)
9. Medial orbital incision.
10. Intra-oral vestibular incision. (LeFort I)



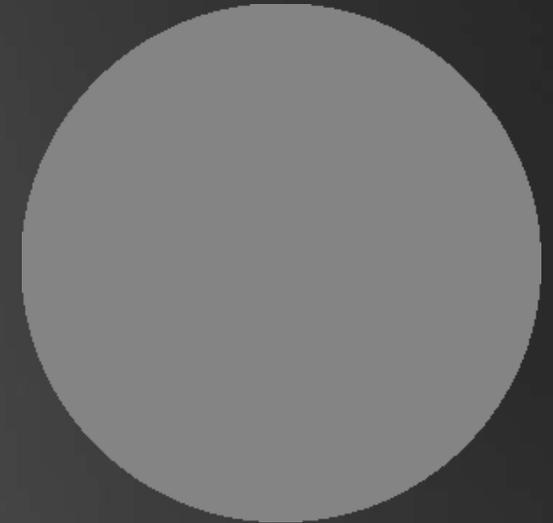
# Classification of methods of Maxillary Fracture Fixation

## A) Internal Fixation-

1. Suspension Wires
2. Direct Osteosynthesis

## B) External Fixation-

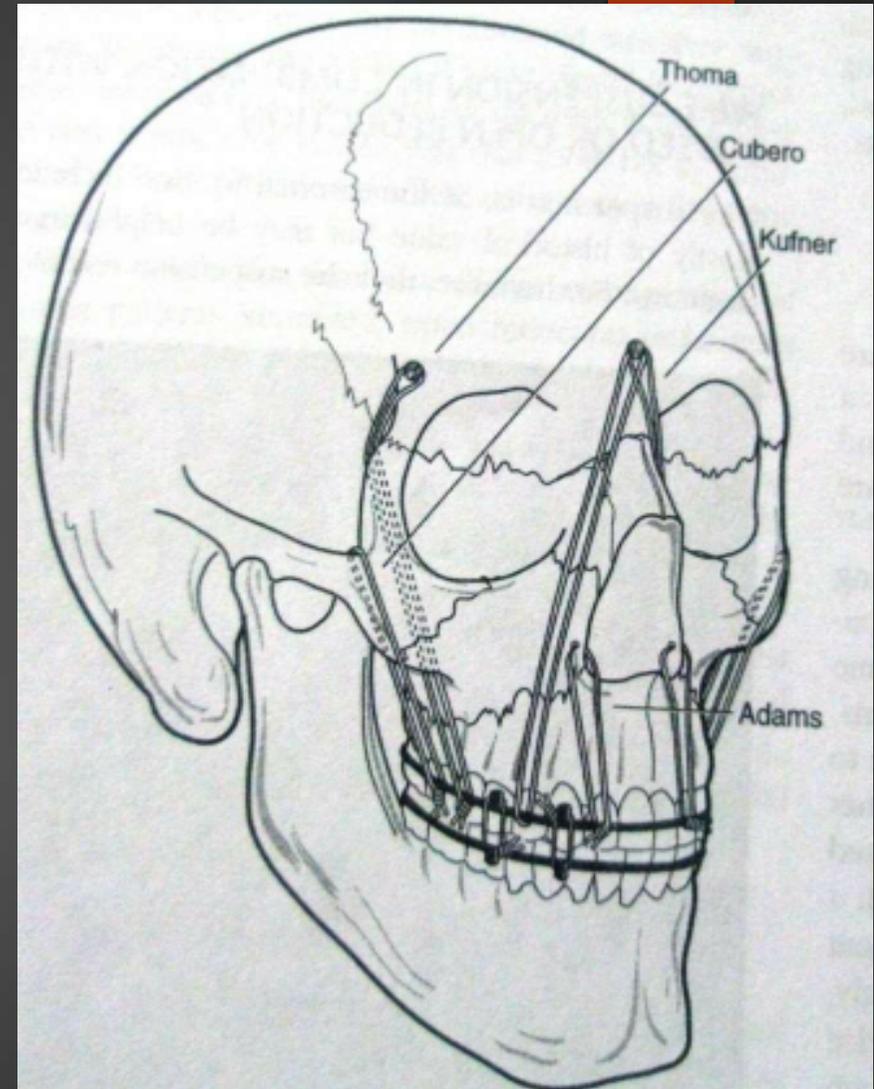
1. Craniomandibular
2. Craniomaxillary



# Internal Fixation

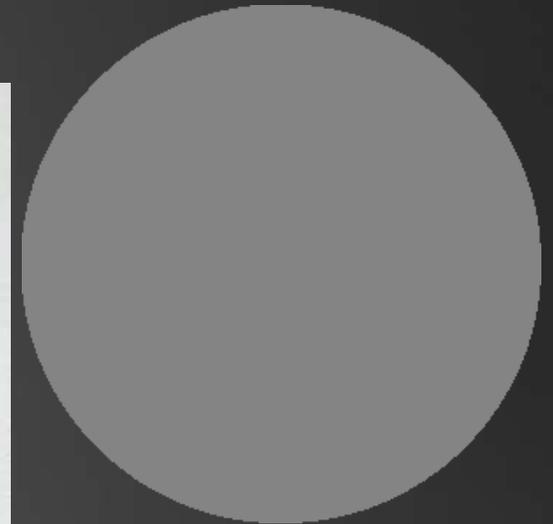
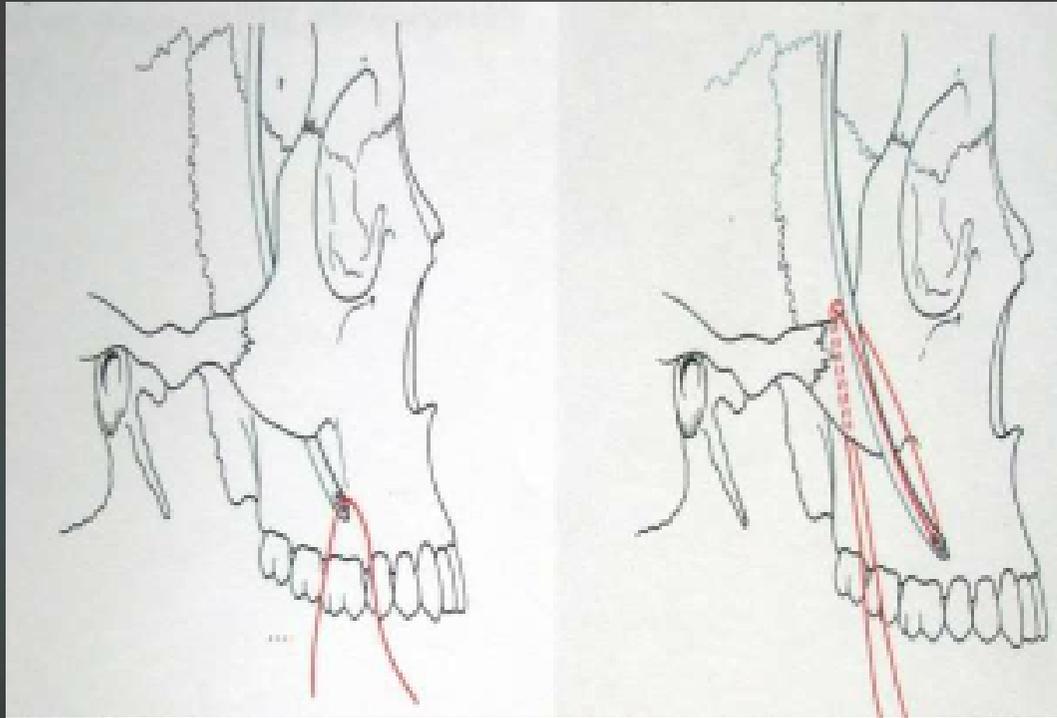
## Suspension Wires – non-rigid osteosynthesis -

- i. Frontal-central or laterally placed
- ii. Circumzygomatic
- iii. Zygomatic
- iv. Circumpalatal/palatal screw
- v. Infraorbital
- vi. Piriform Aperture
- vii. Peralveolar



# Internal Fixation

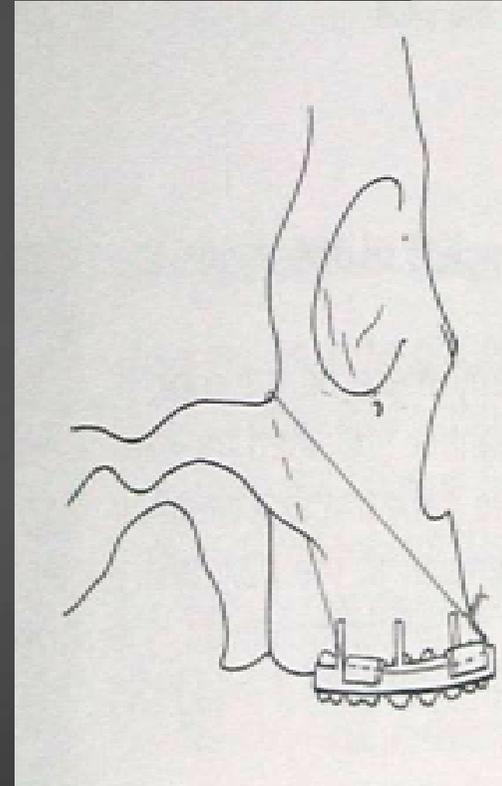
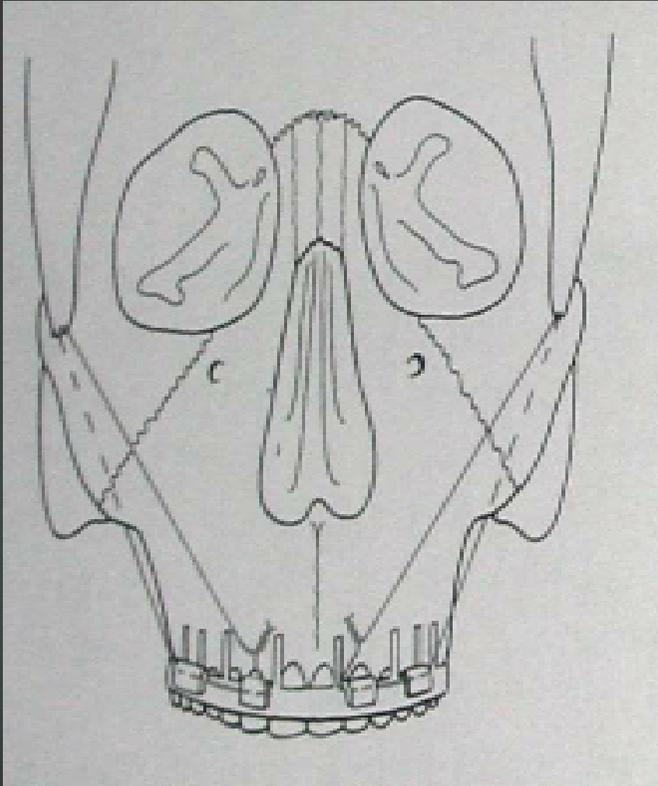
Suspension Wires- *Circumzygomatic wiring by Obwegeser.*



Suspension Wires-

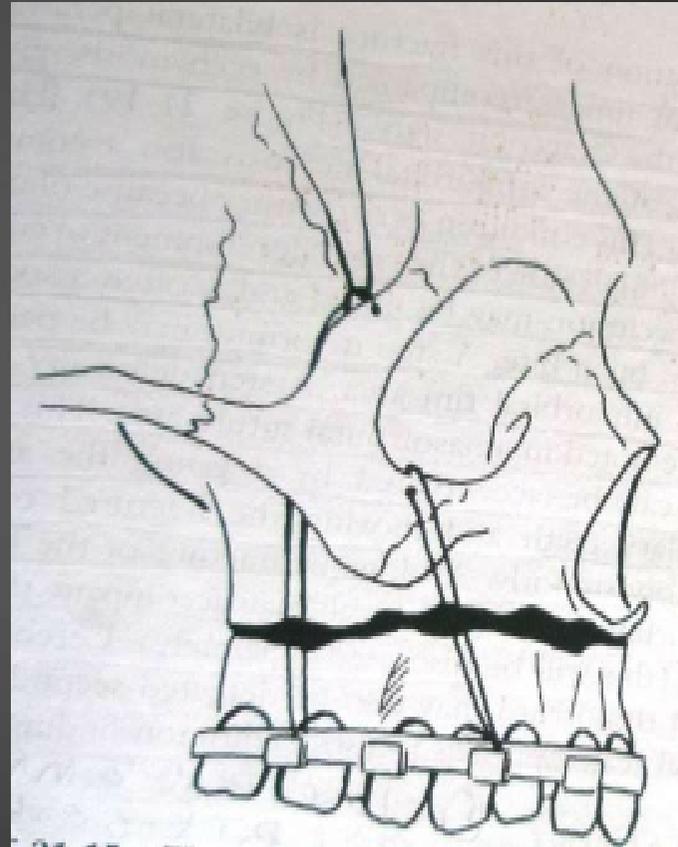
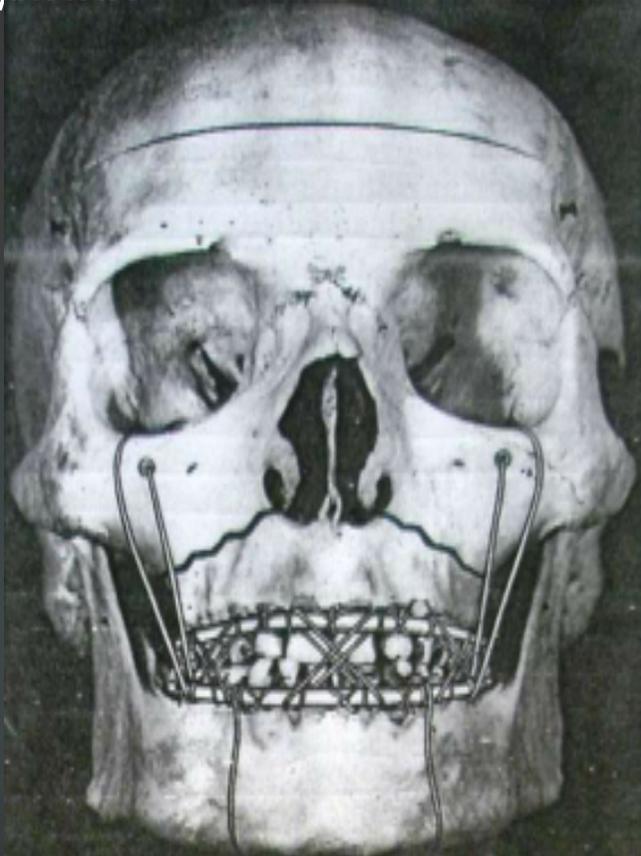
Internal  
Fixation

*Circumzygomatic wiring by  
Obwegeser*



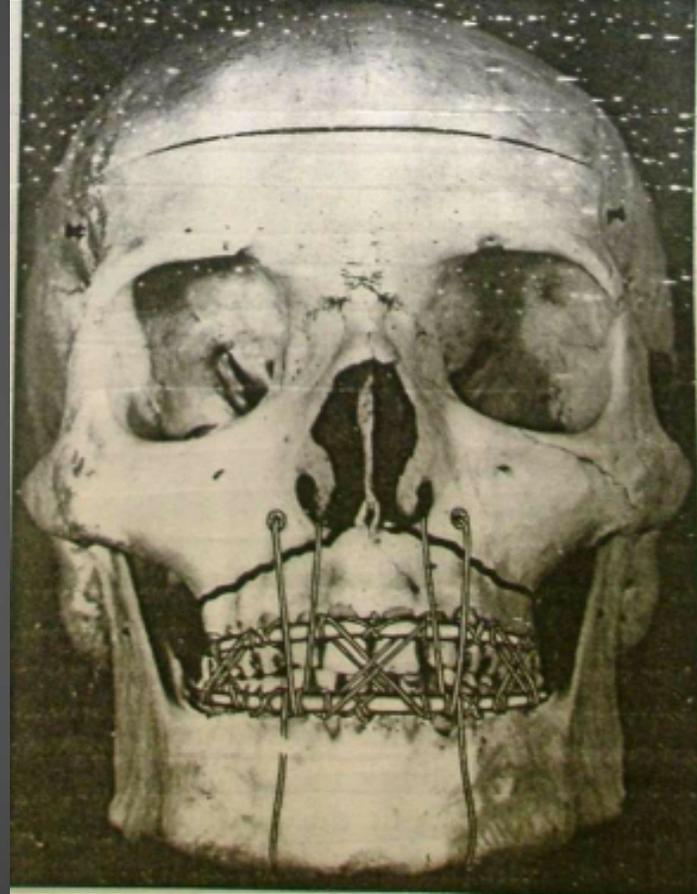
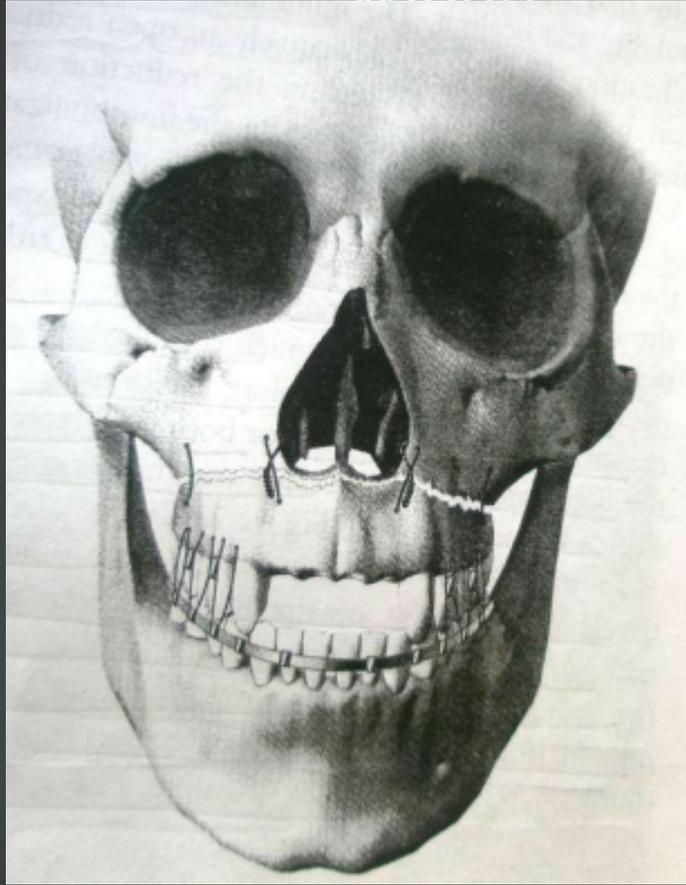
# Internal Fixation

Suspension Wires- Orbital rim  
wiring



Suspension  
Wires-

Piriform aperture  
wiring



# Summary of Suspension wiring according to fracture site

Type of Suspension Wire	Type of Le Fort Fracture
1. Frontal	
a. Central	Le Fort III & II
b. Lateral	Le Fort III & II
2. Circumzygomatic	Le Fort I & II
3. Zygomatic	Le Fort I
4. Infraorbital	Le Fort I
5. Piriform Aperture	Le Fort I

## Disadvantages of Suspension Wiring

- ⊠ Incomplete fixation of fractured fragments
- ⊠ Insufficient visualization of fractures by closed reduction
- ⊠ Compression against the cranial base
- ⊠ No 3-dimensional stability
- ⊠ Patients dislike intra-oral splints as it hinders oral hygiene maintenance.



## Internal Fixation

### Direct Osteosynthesis -

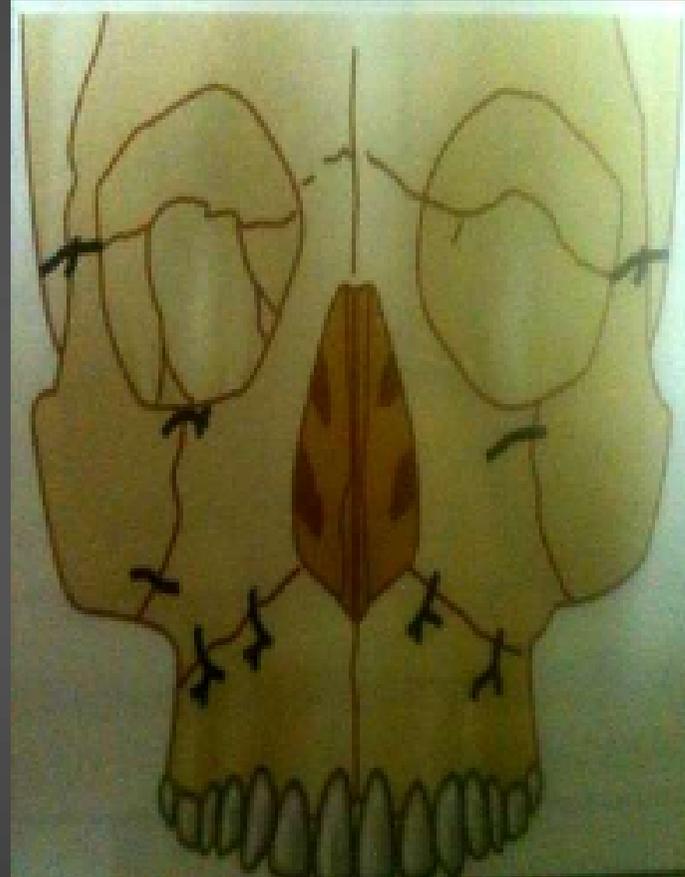
1. Interosseous Wires.
2. Plates and Screws.



# Direct osteosynthesis

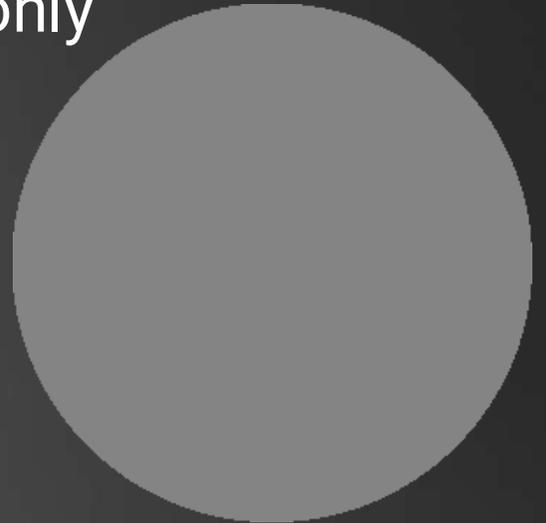
## Intraosseous Wires-

1. Maxillary (Lefort -I )
2. Zygomaticomaxillary (Lefort - II)
3. Frontonasal (LeFort -II &III)
4. Zygomaticofrontal (Lefort III)
5. Zygomatic bone (comminuted)



## Disadvantages

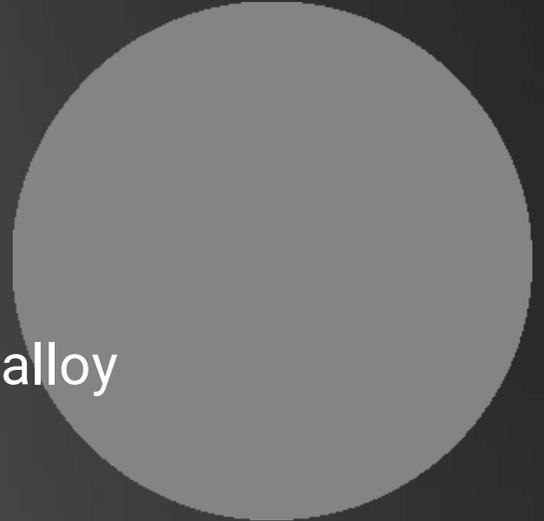
- Non rigid type of osteosynthesis
- No 3 dimensional stability, it provides only monoplane traction.
- IMF is always needed
- Interfragmentary pressure can not be controlled.
- Under functional stress, wire loses rigidity, direction control and surface contact.
- Delayed healing because of micromovement at fracture site.



# Direct osteosynthesis-

## 2. Plates & Screws for midface fractures -

- Stainless steel mini-plating system
- Titanium mini-plating system
- Vitallium, Cobalt chromium, molybdenum alloy plates
- Bioresorbable plating system.



## Miniplates and screws

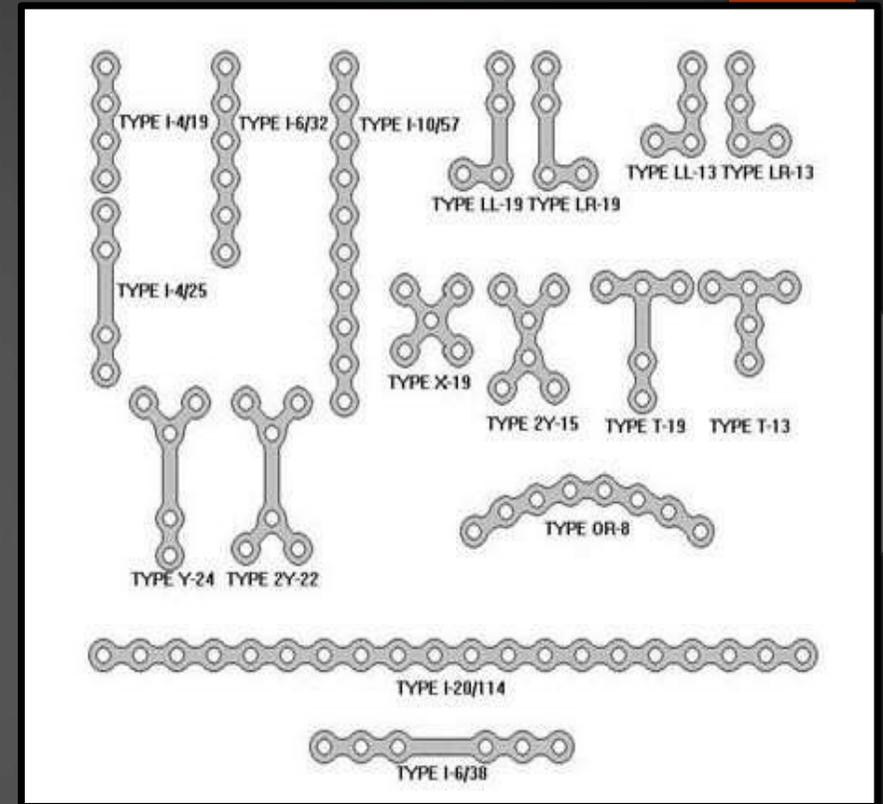
These are monocortical, semi-rigid fixation device which provide 3D stability.

Designs: X, H, L, T, Y

Thickness: 0.6-1 mm

Type of metals: Stainless steel, Titanium, Vitallium

Advantages: Easily adaptable,  
Monocortical, Functional stability,  
Reduced surgical access



## Micro plates

Harle & duker(1975;Luhr(1979) 0.3 – 0.6 mm

Used for : FN region ,Frontal bone,Frontal process of maxilla

Sites of application:Linear/T/Y plate at FN region,Long curve plate for frontal process of maxilla or frontal bone

Mesh fixation Used for retention and alignment of small fragments or bone grafts.

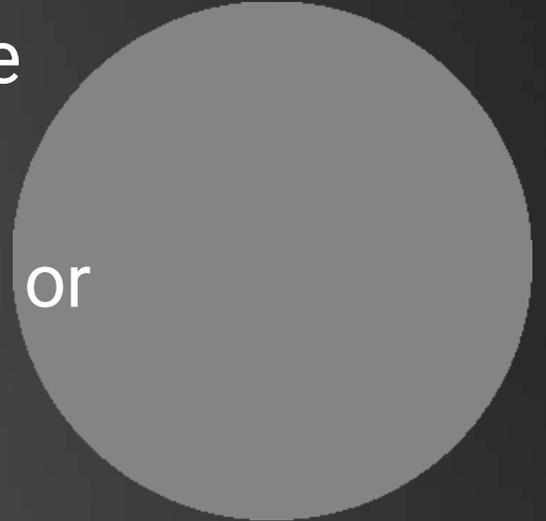
Sites of application: Anterior and lateral wall of maxilla and Anterior table of frontal bone



# Bone plate osteosynthesis

## Advantages –

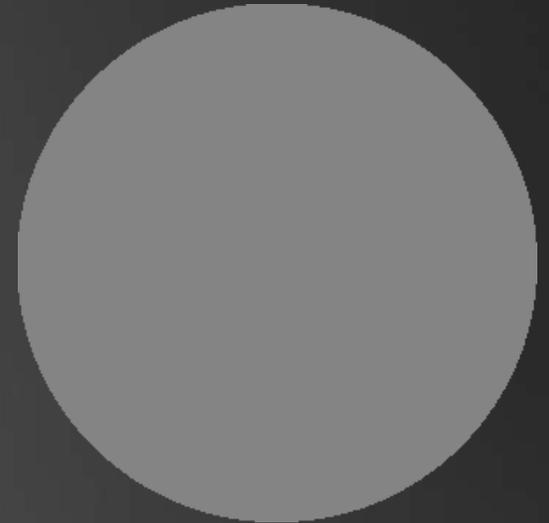
1. Simple & less intraoperative time
2. Intraoral approach is sufficient
3. Postoperative IMF is not needed or period of IMF is reduced.
4. Three dimensional stability and early return of function.





## ☒ **STAGE III. DEFINITIVE TREATMENT**

- **LEFORT I FRACTURE**
- **LEFORT II FRACTURE**
- **LEFORT III FRACTURE**

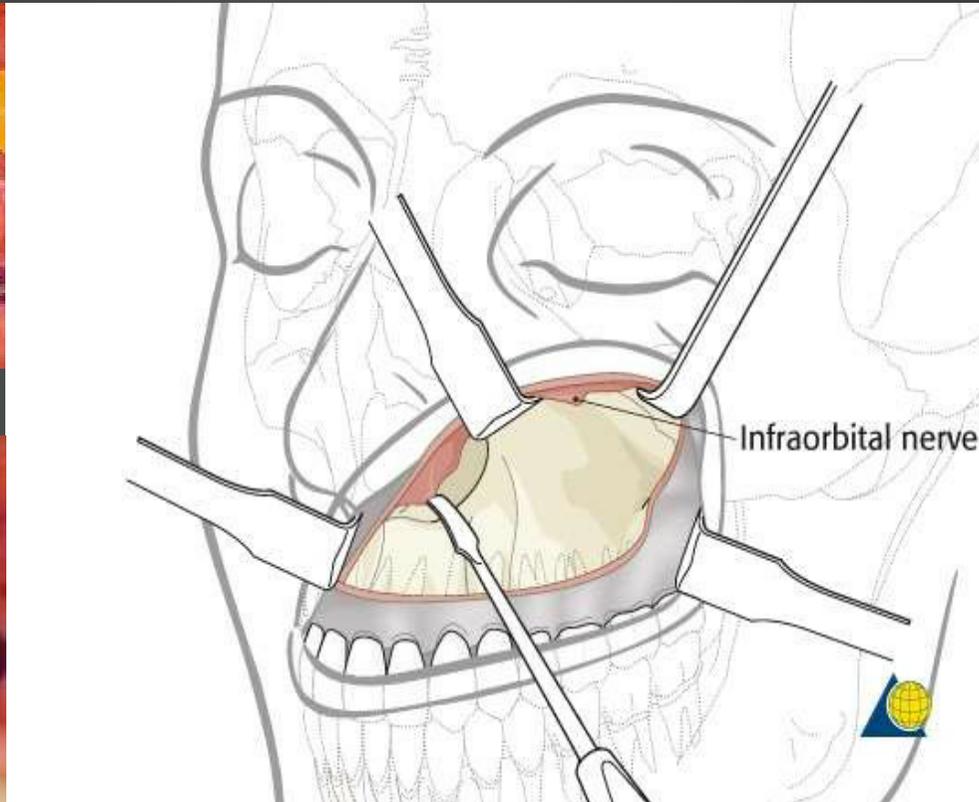




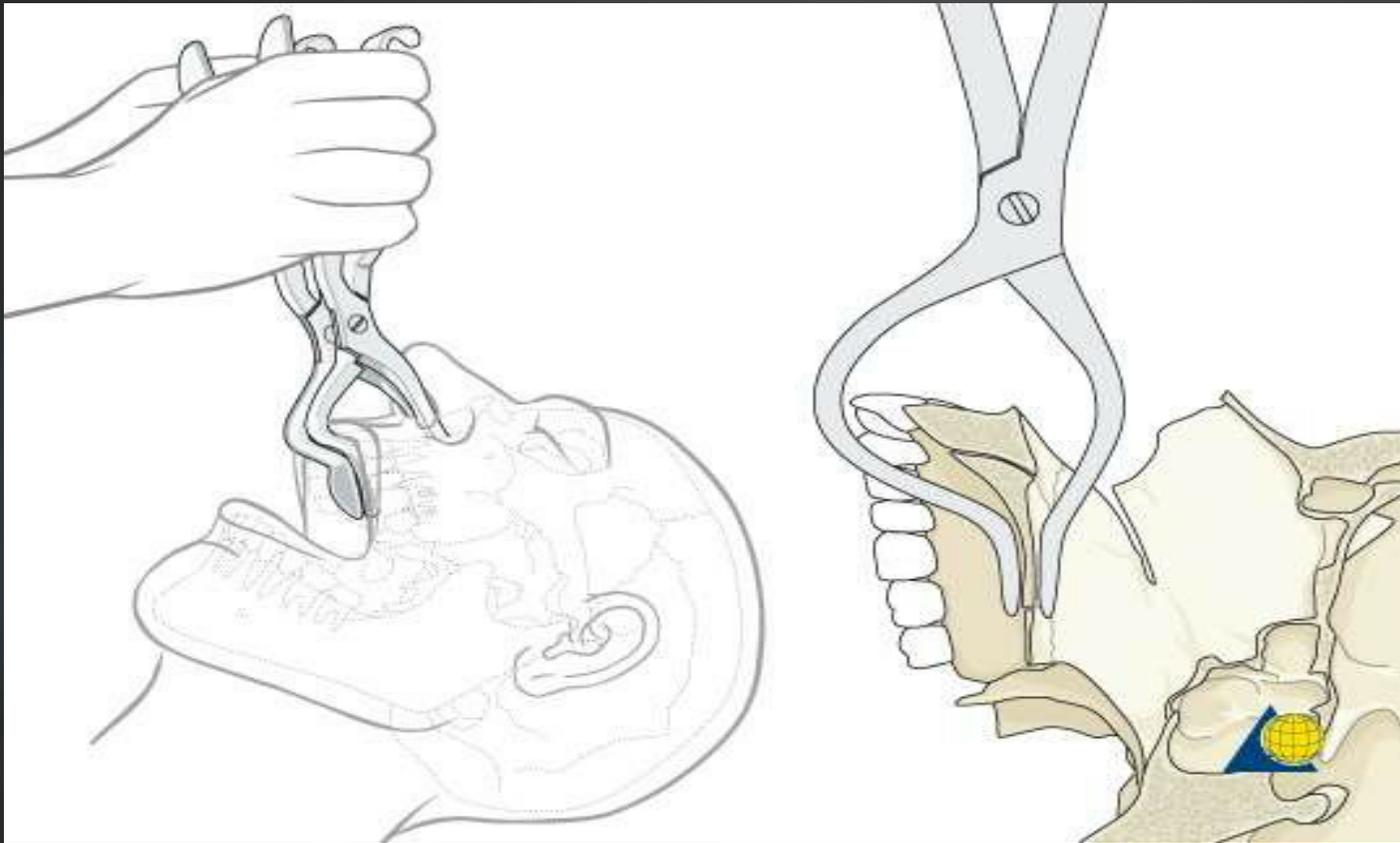
# STAGE III. DEFINITIVE TREATMENT

## LEFORT I FRACTURE

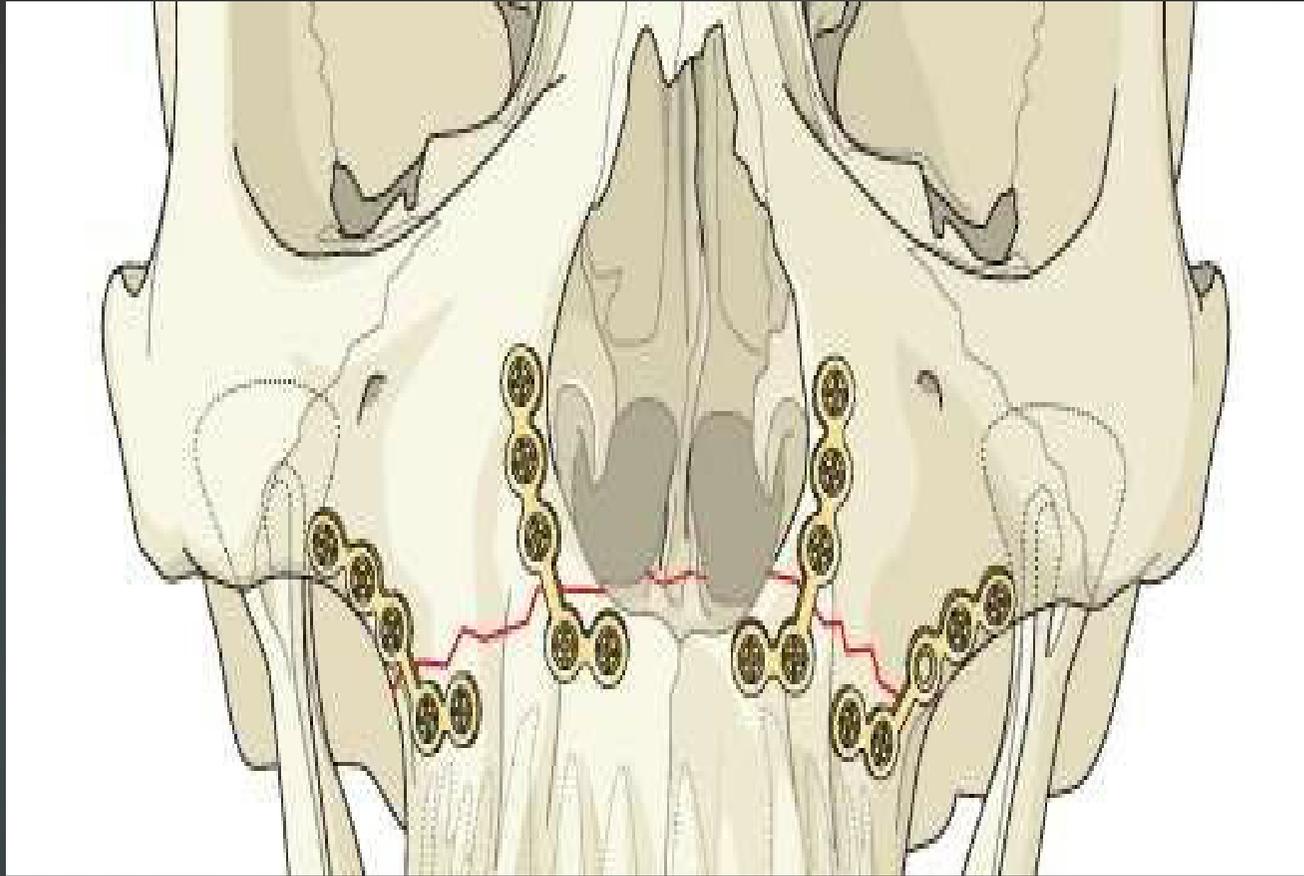
### SURGICAL APPROACH- MAXILLARY VESTIBULAR



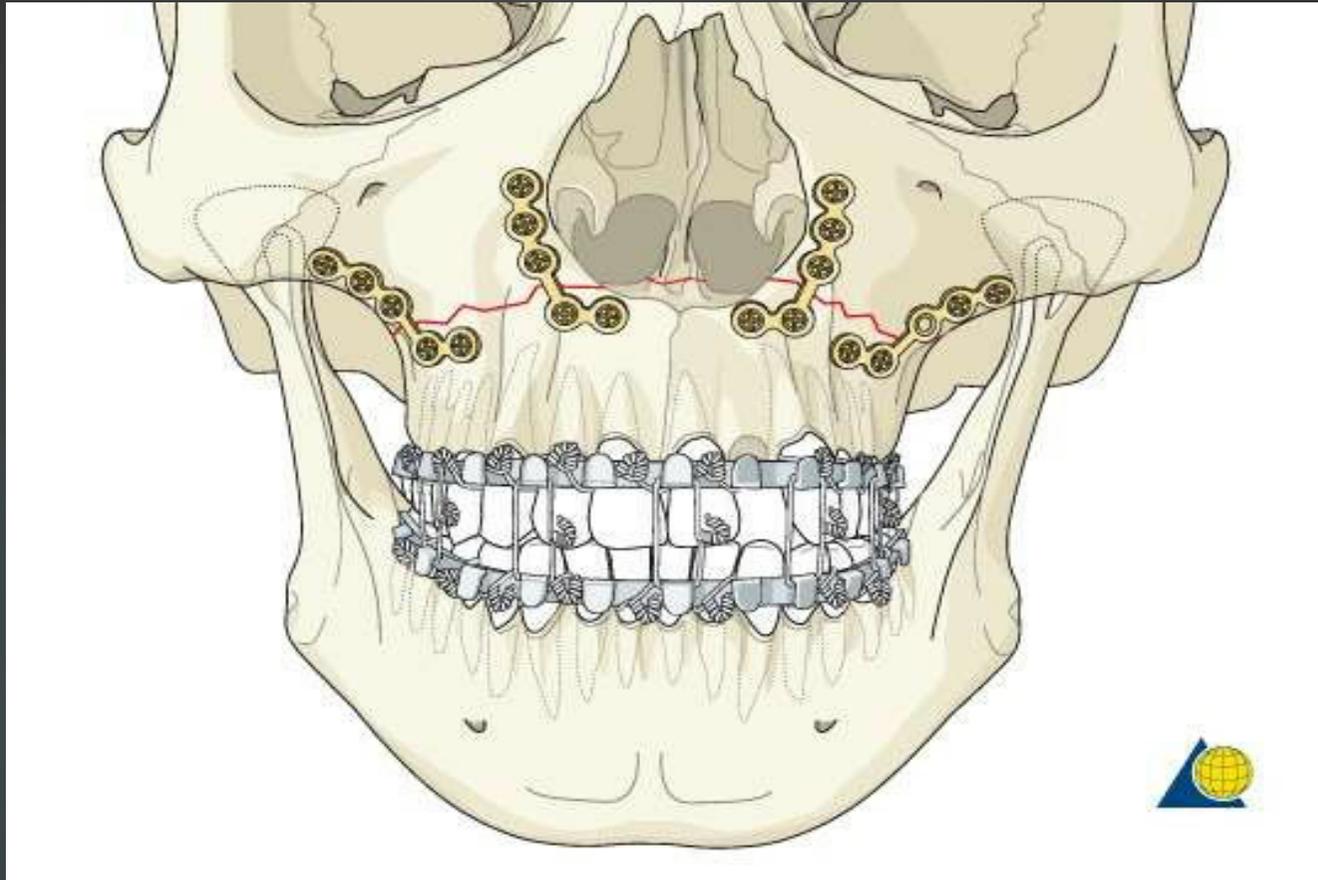
# REDUCTION- ROWE OR HAYTON WILLIAMS FORCEP



# FIXATION- 4-point fixation with MINIPLATE.

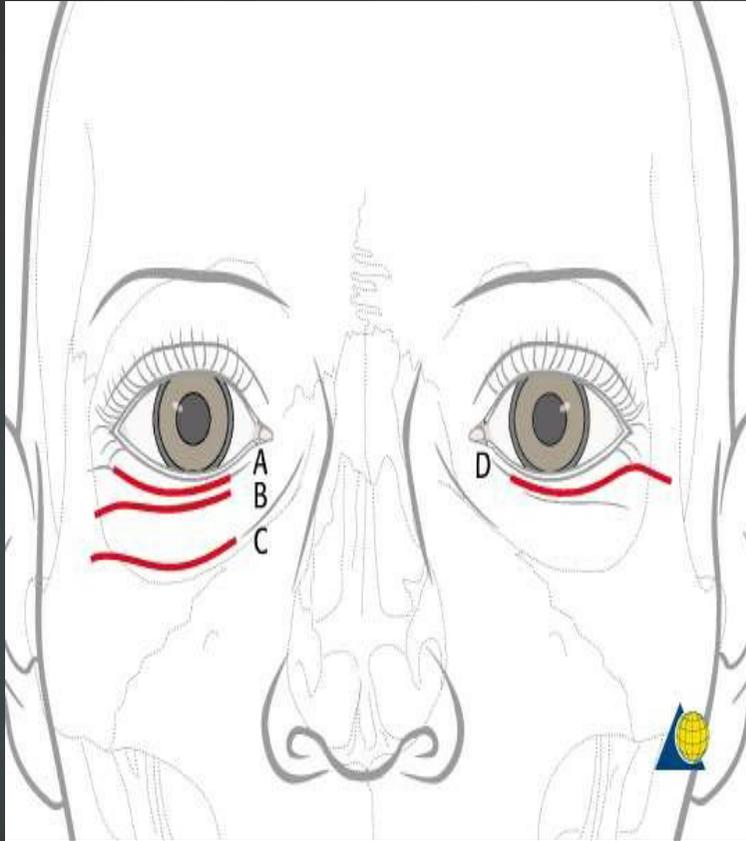


# IMMOBILISATION- MAXILLOMANDIBULAR FIXATION(MMF)



## LEFORT II FRACTURE

### ➤ SURGICAL APPROACH-



A – Subciliary incision

B – Sub tarsal incision

C - Infraorbital incision

D - Extension of

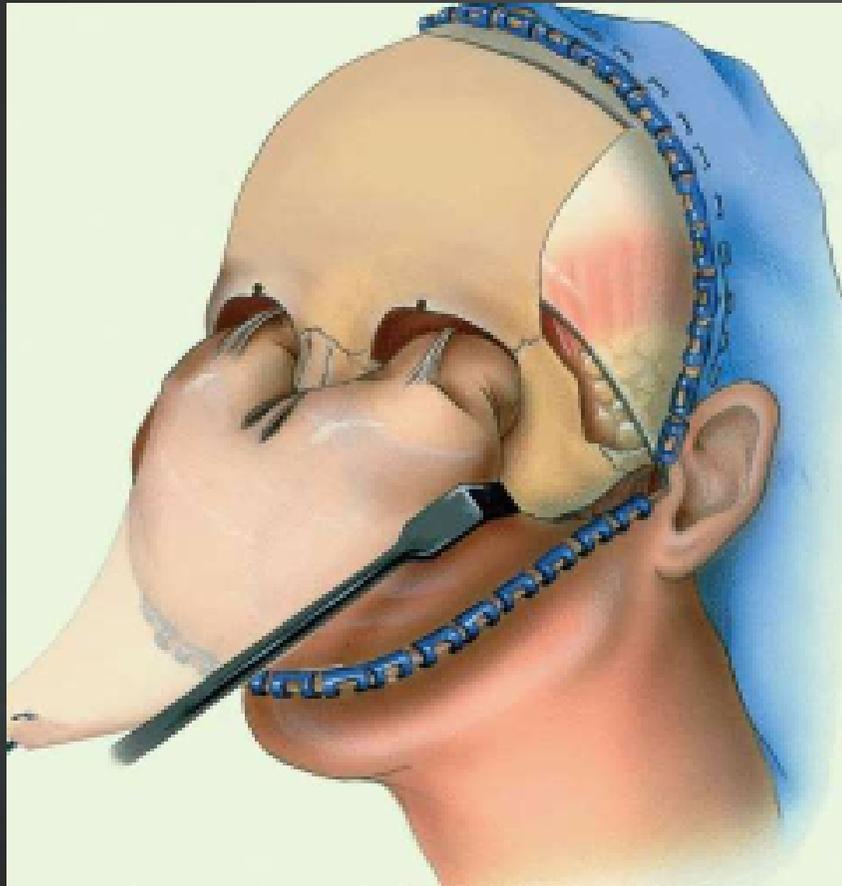
Subciliary incision



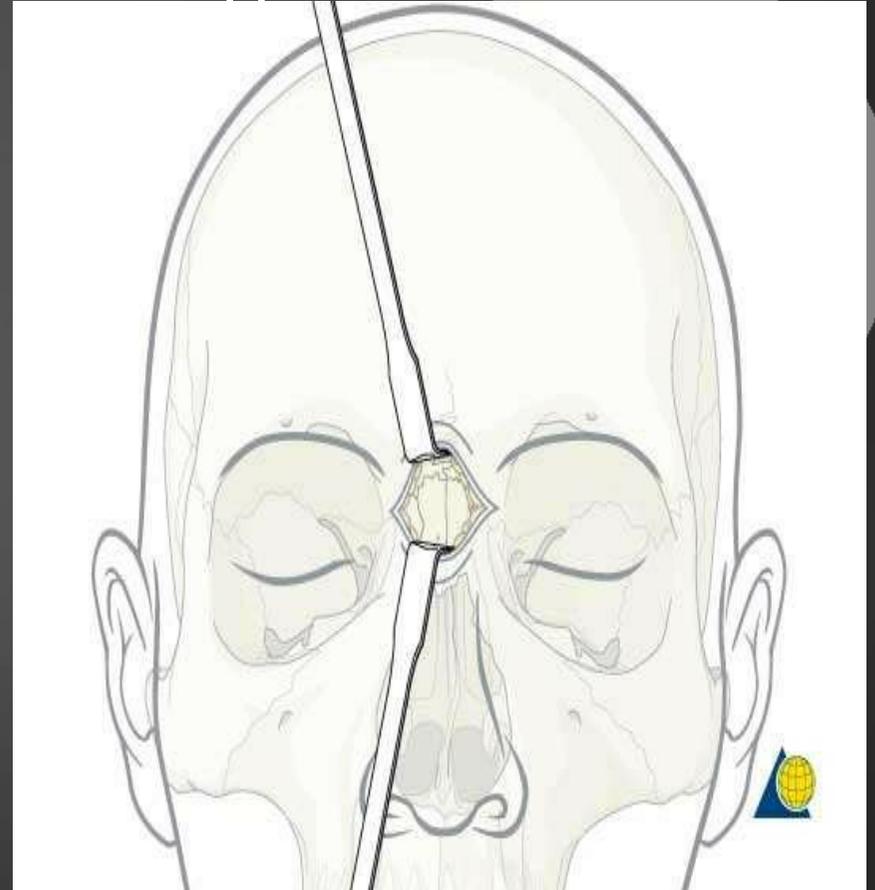
## Existing Laceration

Maxillary vestibular approach can also be taken for LeFort II fracture

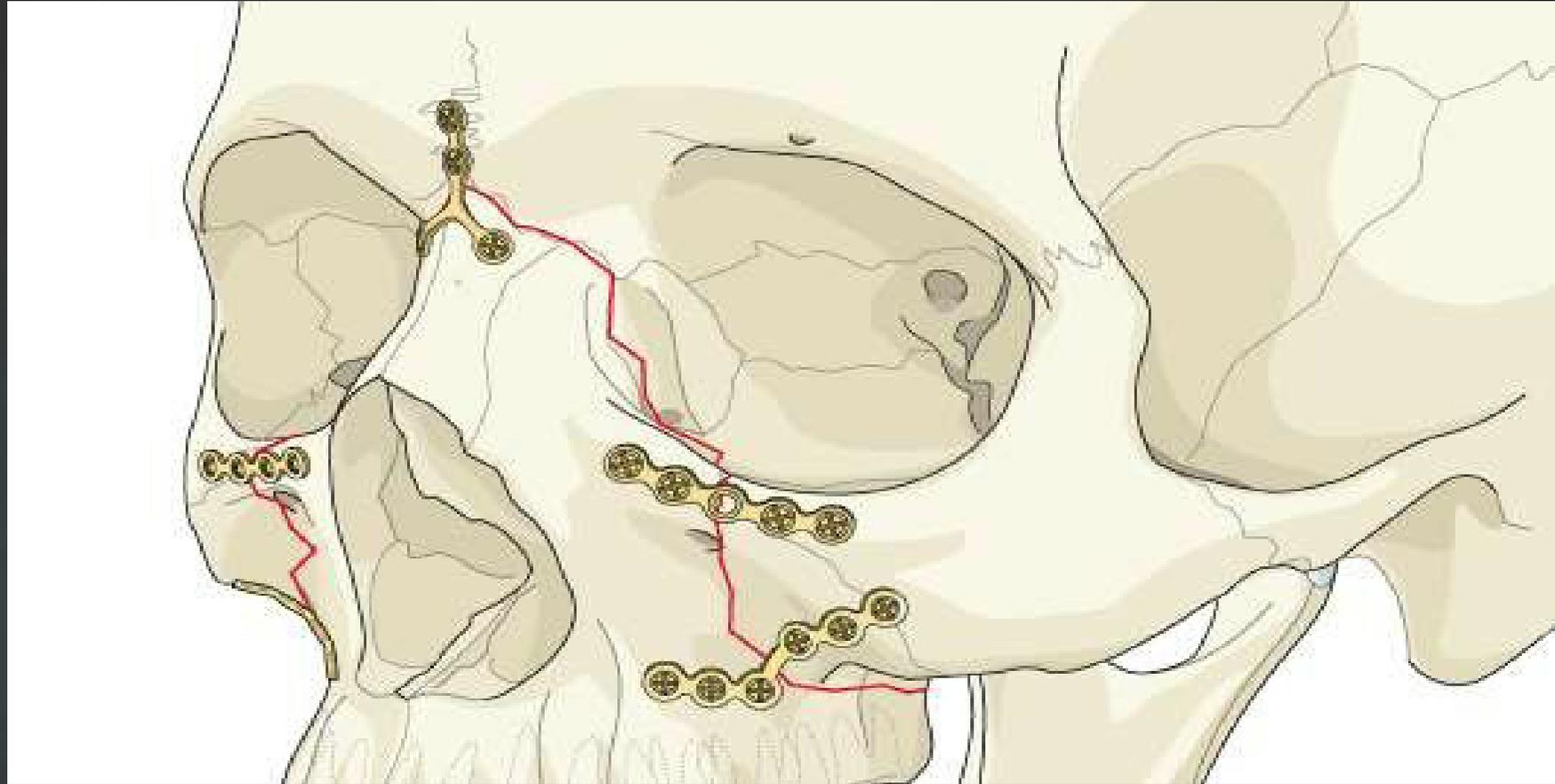
# CORONAL APPROACH



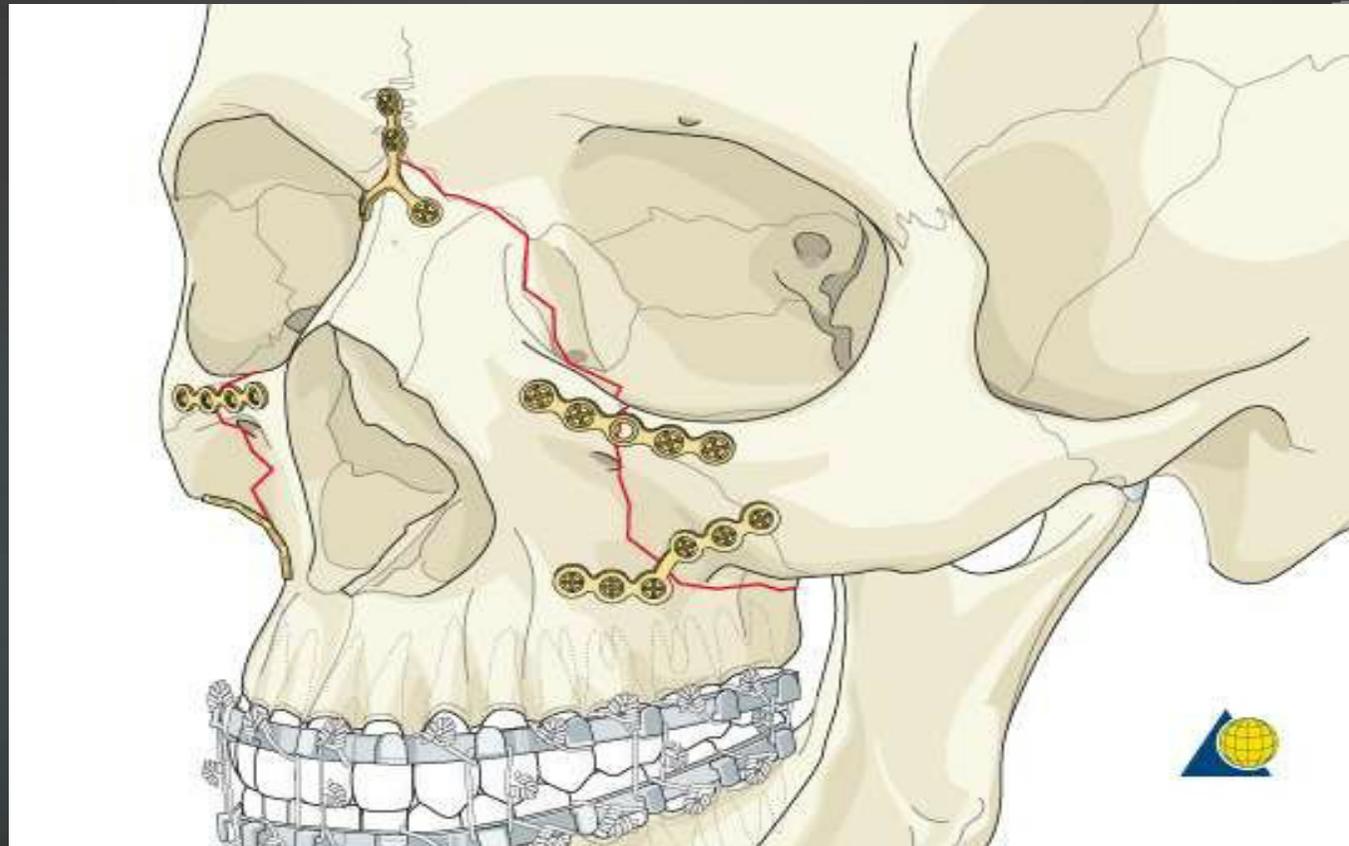
# GLABELL APPROACH



➤ FIXATION- 3-POINT  
fixation



## IMMOBILISATION- MAXILLOMANDIBULAR FIXATION



⊠ STAGE III. DEFINITIVE TREATMENT

LEFORT III FRACTURE-

➤ SURGICAL APPROACH-

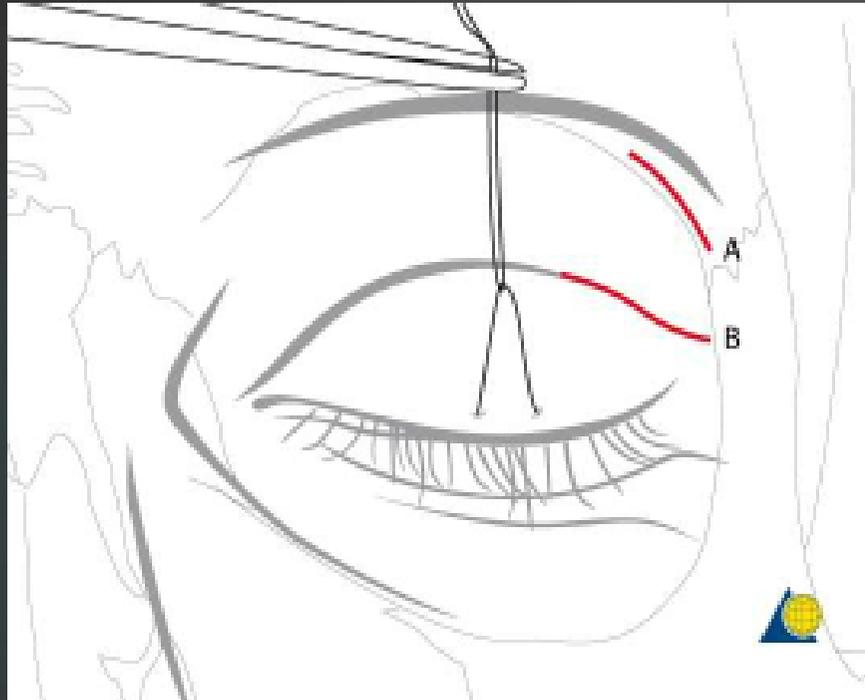


Existing Laceration

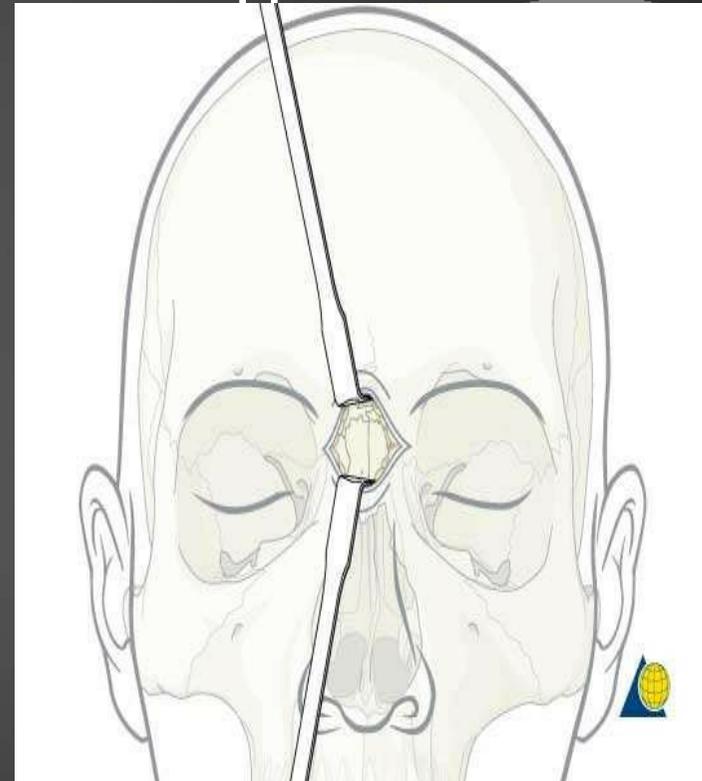


A . Lateral eyebrow approach

B. Upper-eyelid approach

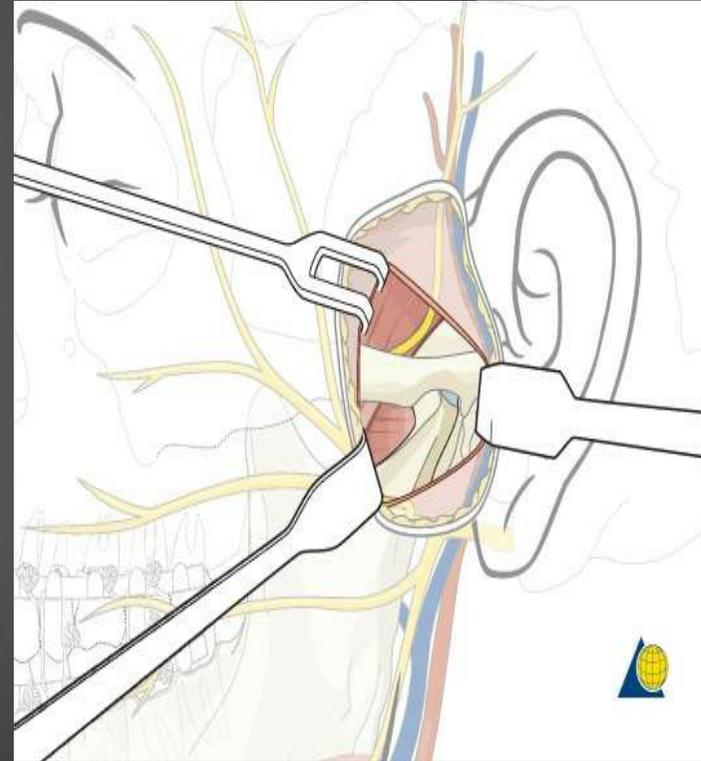
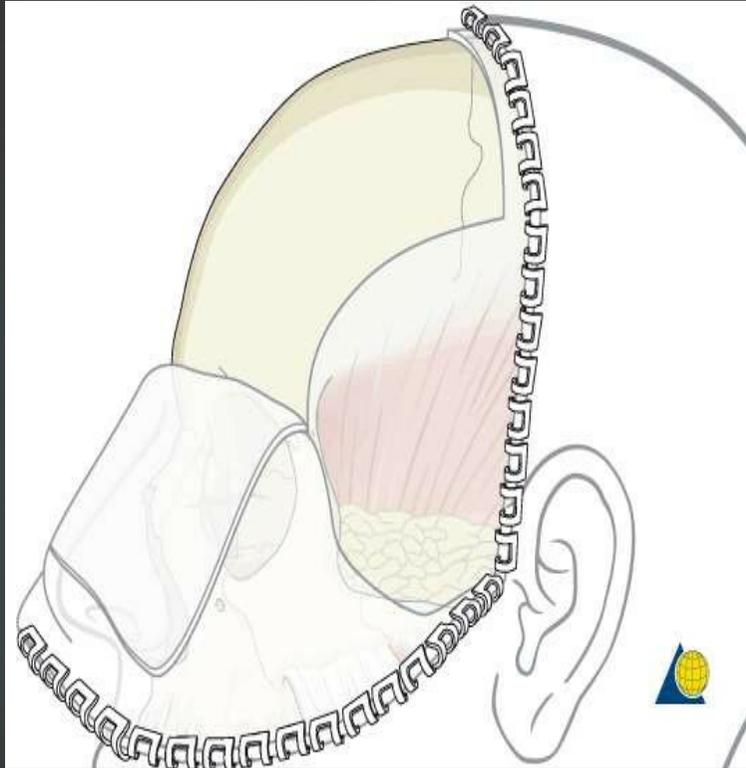


GLABELL  
APPROAC  
H

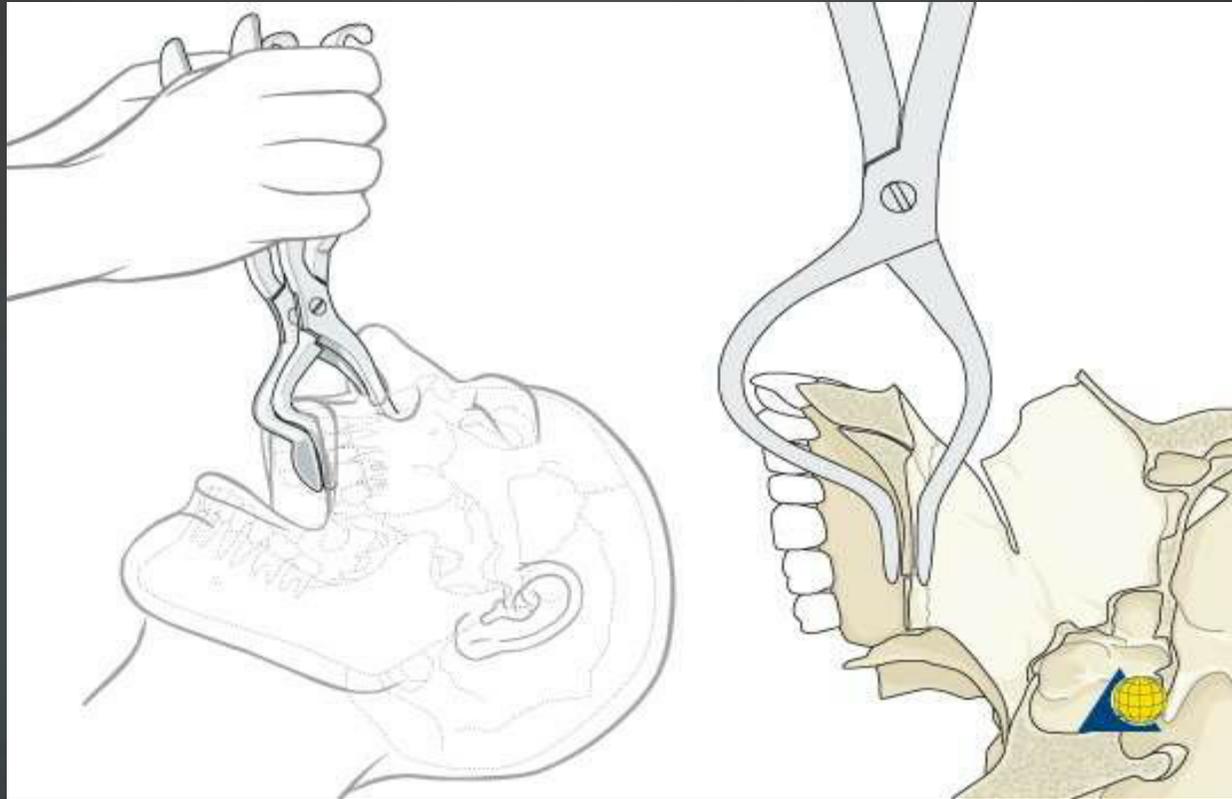


# Coronal approach -

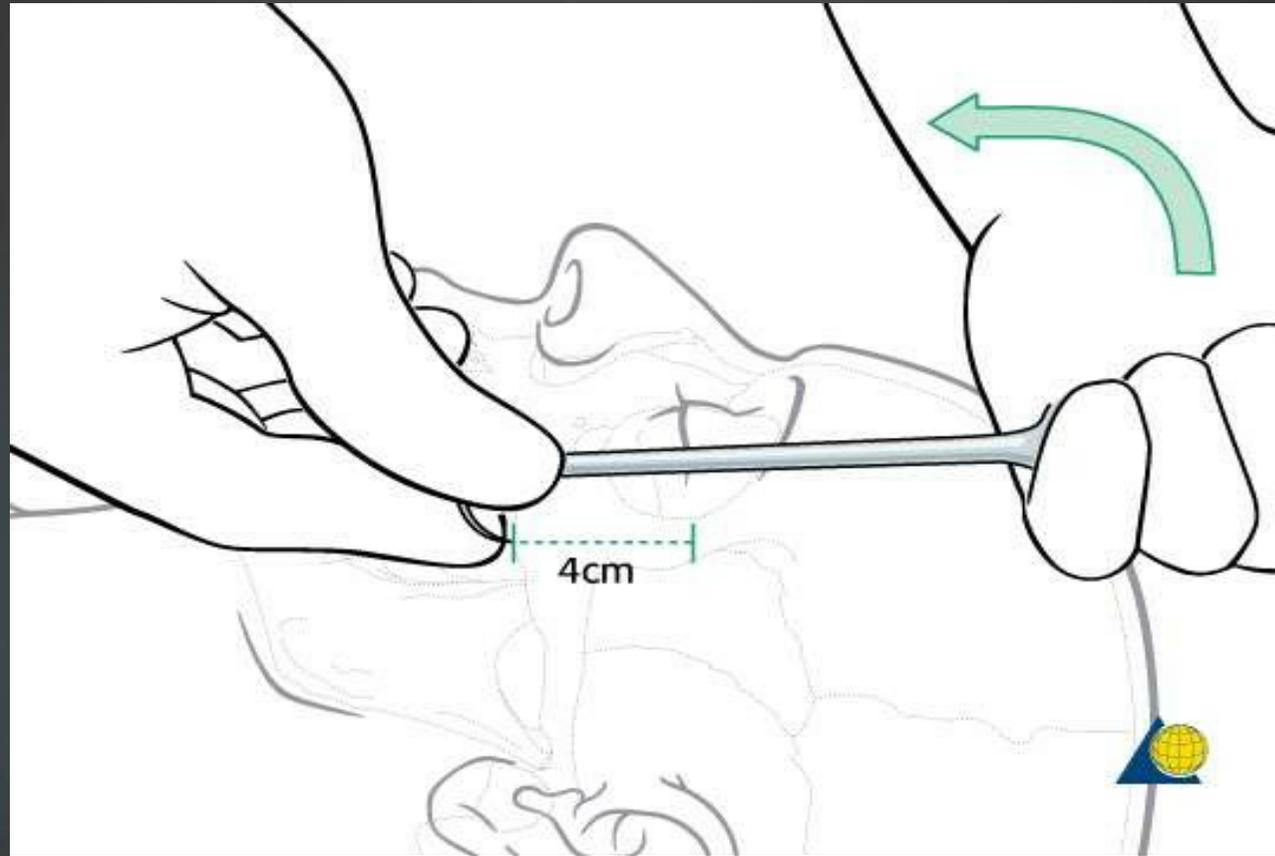
## PREAURICULAR APPROACH



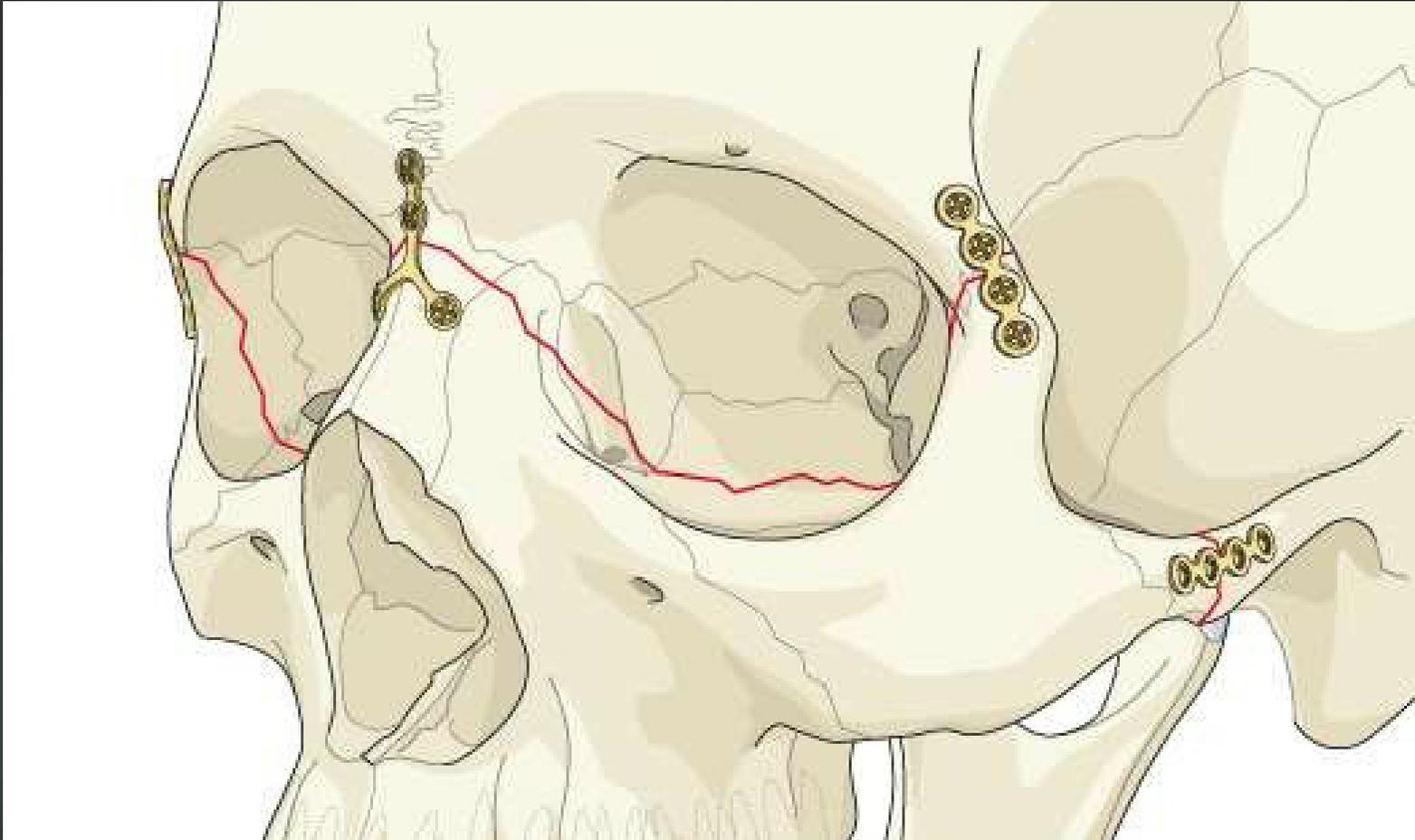
## REDUCTION- ROWE OR HAYTON WILLIAMS FORCEP



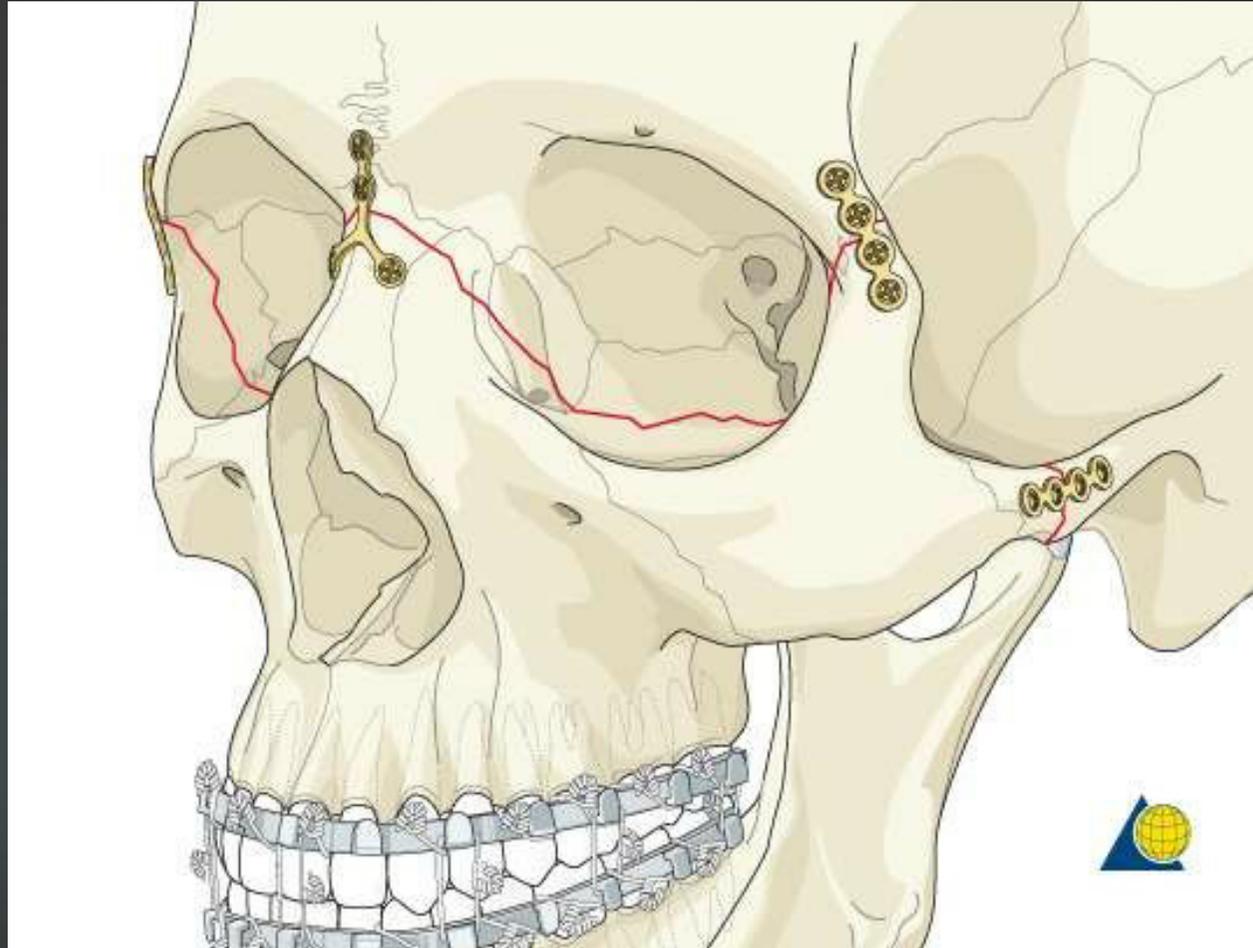
# Zygoma hook



➤ FIXATION- 3-point fixation

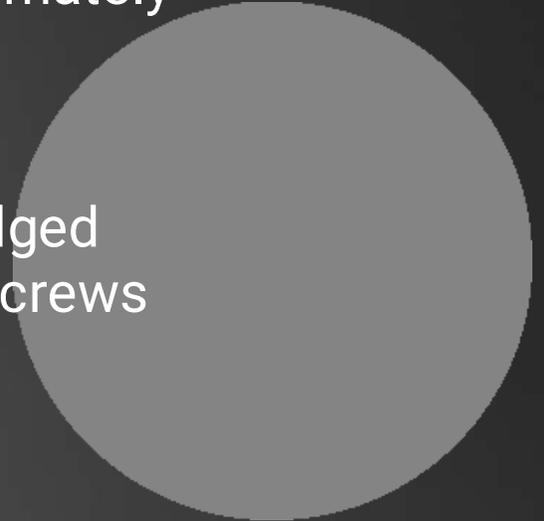


⊠ IMMOBILISATION- MAXILLOMANDIBULAR FIXATION if required



## Principles of Maxillary Reconstruction

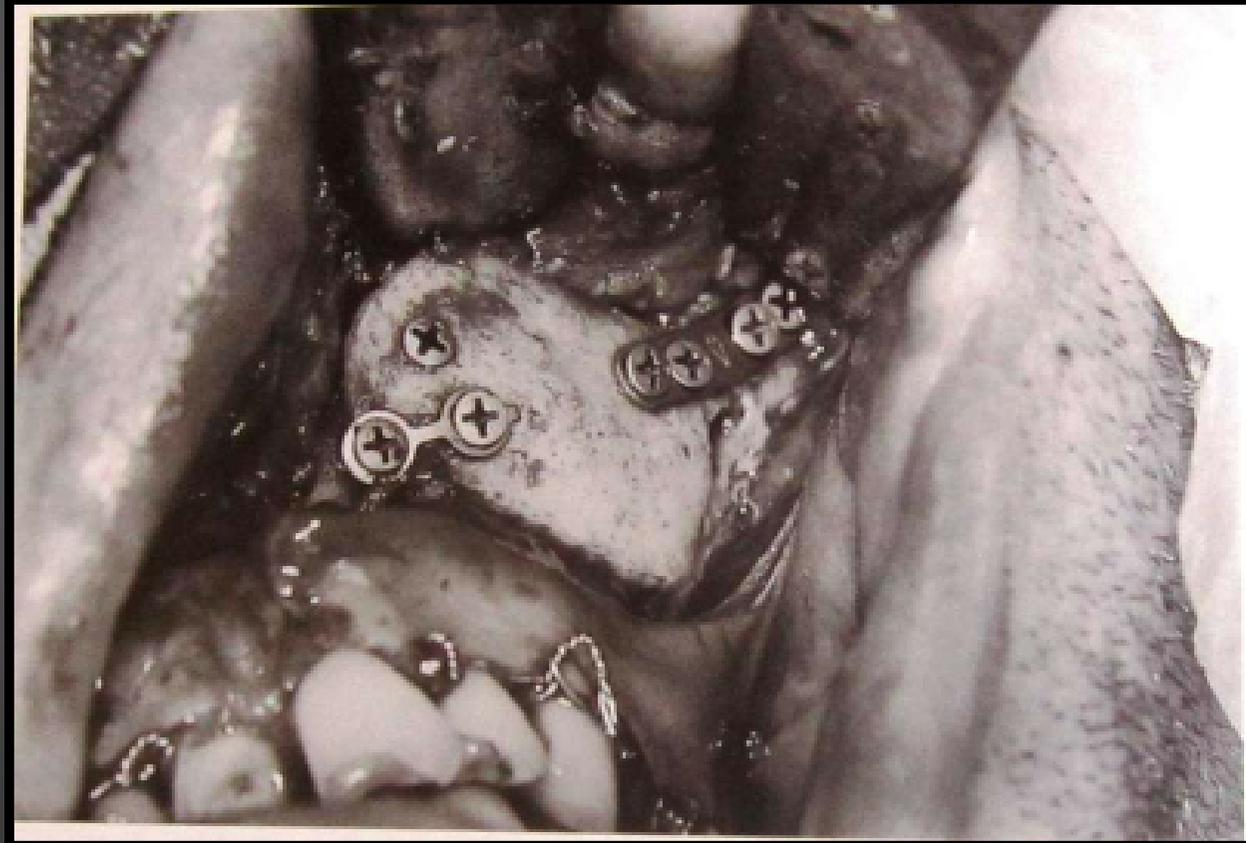
- ⊠ Miniplates can bridge gaps of up to approximately 0.5cms
- ⊠ Gaps >0.5cms – bone grafts
- ⊠ Bone grafts bridging the gap should be wedged underneath the plate & held in place with screws fixed from plate directly into the graft.



## Immediate Bone Grafting

Buttress reinforcement retained by plates or screws can assist in restoring maxillary height & preventing Contour deficiencies.

- ⊠ Rib graft
- ⊠ Iliac crest
- ⊠ Calvaria
- ⊠ Mandibular bone graft
- ⊠ Alloplastic bone graft



## CONCLUSION:

**Le fort fractures** are common in the trauma patient. They require accurate radiologic diagnosis and surgical management to prevent severe functional debilities and cosmetic deformity.

A thorough understanding of the anatomy, craniofacial buttresses and treatment options will give the maxillofacial surgeon the optimal tools for achieving a successful result.

THANK YOU