Techniques of reduction (1)
Direct and indirect reduction

Tasks
Examine bone models; reduce fractures directly or indirectly, according to fracture pattern, location, and surgical approach

Learning objectives
- Differentiate between direct and indirect reduction
- Relate both techniques to specific indications and bone segments

Take-home message

Direct reduction
- Fracture reduction is achieved by direct manipulation with instruments and under direct or C-arm vision

Indirect reduction
- Fracture site is not exposed, reduction is performed by applying corrective forces and moments at a distance from the fracture utilizing distraction with soft tissues such as capsule, ligaments, periosteum, muscles, tendons
- Reduction is checked clinically or using image intensifier, x-rays

Metadiaphyseal segment
Indirect reduction to obtain
- Length
- Axial alignment
- Rotational alignment

A diaphyseal fracture is a black box
- No visualization
- No direct contact

Articular segment
Anatomical reconstruction of the joint surface

Direct reduction

Indirect reduction, ligamentotaxis
Techniques of reduction (1)

Use of reduction clamps

Tasks
1 Examine a variety of reduction clamps/forceps
2 Apply different tools at different anatomical sites

Learning objectives
• Identify the degrees of freedom for each clamp
• Recognize difficulties in the application of the different devices
• Analyze biological advantages and shortcomings of different clamps

Take-home message
Use proper tools according to the anatomical and technical conditions

The term clamps and forceps are sometimes used interchangeably.

Pointed reduction clamps
Pointed reduction clamp (Weber clamp)
Angulated reduction clamp (Matta clamp)

Standard reduction clamp

Plate holding clamp
Compression
Pulling the plate end towards the screw

Other reduction tools
Collinear reduction clamp
Allows direct reduction through a minimally invasive surgical approach
Lamina spreader