Fractures, Hip

**Diagnosis of Pelvic Fracture**

**Clinical**
- Palpation of the pelvis
- Intraperitoneal or retroperitoneal hematomas
- Suspected underlying trauma

**Imaging**
- Pelvic X-rays (AP, inlet, outlet)
- CT scan
- MRI

**Special Concerns**

1. **Acetabular Fractures**
2. **Lateral Compression Fractures**
3. **Transverse Fractures**

**Types of pelvic fractures**

Type **A** are caused by a direct force to the front of the pelvis, resulting in a type 1 fracture.

Type **B** injuries are caused by either external or internal rotational forces resulting in partial disruption of the SI joint capsule. They may be associated with the pelvic ring displacement, either type 1 or type 2 (grade I, II, or III). Complete disruption is seen in a type 3 injury.

**Open Book Fracture**

- Complete SI joint disruption with lateral displacement and disruption of the anterior SI, sacrotuberous, and sacrospinous ligaments.

**Closed Book Fracture**

- Associated widening of the SI joint caused by disruption of the anterior SI, sacrotuberous, and sacrospinous ligaments.

**Clinical Implications**

- **Urethral Injury**
- **Genital Fracture**
- **Knee Flexion Injuries**
- **Vascular Injury**

**Therapeutic**

- **Drug Therapy**
  - Oxycodone and aspirin (Percodan, Roxiprin)
  - COX-2 inhibitors

**Evidence-Based Practice**

- **Phenothiazines** may decrease analgesic effects; CNS depressants or tricyclic antidepressants increase toxicity.

**Pediatric**

- **>12 years**: 325-650 mg PO q4h; not to exceed 5 doses/d

**Complications**

- **Hypersensitivity**
- **Hypotension**
- **Potentially compromised airway**
- **Urinary retention**

**Fentanyl**

- **1-3 mcg/kg IV then titrate to pain relief**

- **Avoid movement of the pelvis**.

**Disclosure**

Michelle Ervin, MD is a member of the following medical societies: American Academy of Emergency Medicine, American College of Emergency Physicians, American Medical Association, Society for Academic Emergency Medicine, Phi Beta Kappa, and Society for Academic Emergency Medicine.

**Conflict of Interest**

Michelle Ervin, MD has disclosed no financial relationships relevant to this article.

**Additional References**

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  - **Clinical**
  - **Imaging**
  - **Special Concerns**
  - **Therapeutic**
  - **Complications**
  - **Disclosure**
  - **Additional References**