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161, rue Lavoisier 38334 Montbonnot - Saint-Ismier Cedex France

Tél.: 33 (0)4 76 61 35 00 Fax: 33 (0)4 76 61 35 33 www.tornier.com





calcaneal fracture repair Without the flap.

The WAVE Concept

Tornier is proud to introduce the WAVE calcaneal fracture plating system – a first of its kind in ORIF management of calcaneus fractures. The plate is designed specifically for use with a less invasive soft tissue approach. When considering that the reported complication rate associated with the large extensile open approach is as high as 33%*, the WAVE brings a welcome advancement in surgical treatment of this complex fracture.

* A. Koski, H. Kuokkanen, E. Tukiainen Helsinki University Central Hospital, Department of Plastic Surgery, Helsinki, Finland, POSTOPERATIVE WOUND COMPLICATIONS AFTER INTERNAL FIXATION OF CLOSED CALCANEAL FRACTURES: A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS OF 126 CONSECUTIVE PATIENTS WITH 148 FRACTURES; Scandinavian Journal of Surgery 94: 243–245, 2005

Fracture Types Addressed by the WAVE

Fracture Type I

Nondisplaced fracture. This is typically a two part fracture with little comminution.

Fracture Type II

This fracture has two parts and can be displaced and intra-articular.

Fracture Type III

This fracture has three parts, and can be displaced and intra-articular.

Fracture Type IV

This fracture has at least four parts, and is highly comminuted.





- Designed to accommodate a less invasive soft tissue approach
- Anatomic contour developed after extensive CT and cadaver studies of over 50 unique anatomies
- Non-locking apex hole allows for optimal lag reduction to the sustentaculum tali

- Each additional hole allows for a locking and non-locking option
- Stainless steel offers strength of construct, optimal locking and a tissue-friendly implant
- Reduction instrumentation included in the set for tuberosity manipulation





The incision is a small 5-8 cm incision over the subtalar joint. This provides direct visualization of the posterior facet and anterior process. A smaller secondary incision can be made posteriorly for screw insertion on the posterior leg of the plate.



Reduction is achieved with percutaneous manipulation using the T-handle and Schanz pin and fragment reduction using guide wires for stabilization and subsequent fixation of the plate.



Post-op x-rays demonstrate an anatomically reduced fracture, utilizing the WAVE calcaneal plate system.