

# **RADIOLOGICAL FEATURES OF FACIALM BONES FRACTURES**

Facial fractures are commonly caused by blunt or penetrating trauma at moderate or high levels of force. Such injuries may be sustained during a fall,

physical assault

motor vehicle collision

gunshot wound

The <u>facial bones</u> are thin and relatively fragile, making them susceptible to injury.

# **Epidemiology**

Males are affected more commonly than females, and facial fractures are most common in the third decade, i.e. 20-30 years 4.

## <u>Types</u>

Advances in surgical technique enable surgeons to consider reduction, stabilization, and reconstruction of complex midfacial fractures according to five midface subunits <sup>5</sup>:

- <u>nasoseptal fractures</u>
- naso-orbitoethmoid (NOE) complex fractures
- orbital fractures
- zygomaticomaxillary complex (ZMC) fractures
  - o isolated zygomatic arch fractures / zygomatic arch fractures
- occlusion-bearing maxillary fractures
  - alveolar process fractures

Beyond the midface, other clinically significant fractures of the facial area include:

- frontal sinus fracture
- paranasal sinus fractures
- mandibular fracture

#### Occipito-Mental (OM30) view - Normal

Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



#### Occipito-Mental (OM30) view - Normal

- This view is acquired at 30° from horizontal with the patient in the same position as for the OM view
- Each infra-orbital canal is part of the floor of the orbit these carry the maxillary division of the trigeminal nerve which can be injured as the result of fracture
- Note that each maxillary antrum is clear (black)
- Other visible structures include the mandible and the odontoid peg

#### **McGrigor-Campbell lines**



# Isolated zygomatic arch fracture Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



## Isolated zygomatic arch fracture

- Disruption of the middle McGrigor-Campbell line is due to a comminuted fracture of the right zygomatic arch
- Following the upper and lower lines shows no fracture

#### Maxillary antrum fluid level

tutorials/inusculoskeletal/x-ray\_trading\_spinol/x-ray\_isec\_.

Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



### Maxillary antrum fluid level

 A fluid level of blood seen in the maxillary antrum may be the only obvious sign of fracture

### 'Tripod' fracture

- A Widened zygomatico-frontal suture
- B Zygomatic arch fracture
- ◆ C Orbital floor fracture
- D Lateral maxillary antrum wall fracture

#### Note

- The zygomatico-frontal suture (A) has a variable normal appearance
- Widening of the suture if seen alone does not indicate a fracture



Click image to align with top of page

Mandible anatomy parts are

Body

symphysis

Angle of the mandible

Mandibular foramen

Ramus

Neck

Head or condyle

**Coronoid process** 

The mandible is the largest bone of the facial skeleton

Besides the <u>bones</u> of the <u>middle ear</u>, the mandible is the only mobile bone in the <u>skull</u>. Unlike other bones of the skull,

the mandible doesn't articulate with the surrounding bones via <u>sutures</u>, but rather via a <u>synovial joint</u> called the <u>temporomandibular joint</u>.

This joint allows the mandible to be attached to the skull while at the same time being capable of producing various translatory and rotatory movements. These <u>movements</u> allow complex actions like chewing and speaking.

The mandible consists of two main parts: a body and two rami.

The body of mandible is its horizontal portion. It consists of two parts:

- The alveolar part
- The base of mandible
- •
- <u>The mandibular symphysis</u>: Fibrous tissue in the midline of the mandibular body, which ossifies by the first year of life. It unites the left and right halves of the mandible in order to form a single, symmetrical bone.

<u>The mental foramen</u>: An opening located inferior to the second mandibular <u>premolar</u> <u>tooth</u> which provides the passage for the <u>mental nerve</u> and vessels.

The ramus is the vertical part of the mandible. The point at which it unites with the body is called the angle of mandible

The superior part of the ramus consists of two processes:

the <u>coronoid process</u> (anterior process) and the <mark>condylar process</mark> (posterior process).

The incisure between them is called the <u>mandibular notch</u> and it is crossed by the <mark>masseteric</mark> nerve and vessels.

<u>The coronoid process</u> features the temporal crest, which serves as an attachment point for the temporalis muscle.

<u>The condylar process</u> has an articular surface (the condyle), via which the mandible articulates with the articular tubercle of the <u>temporal bone</u> to form the <u>temporomandibular joint</u>.







# Zygomatic arch

the zygomatic arch, or cheek bone, is a part of the <u>skull</u> formed by the <u>zygomatic process</u> of the <u>temporal bone</u> (a bone extending forward from the side of the skull, over the opening of the ear) and the temporal <u>process</u> of the <u>zygomatic bone</u> (the side of the cheekbone), the two being united by an oblique <u>suture</u> (the <u>zygomaticotemporal suture</u>) the <u>tendon</u> of the <u>temporal muscle</u> passes medial to (i.e. through the middle of) the arch, to gain insertion into the <u>coronoid process of the mandible</u> (jawbone).

#### **Boundaries**

The anterosuperior (orbital) border is concave and smooth. It is the border between the lateral and orbital surfaces of the zygomatic bone.

The anteroinferior (maxillary) border is the articular surface for the zygomaticomaxillary suture





# Normal temporomandibular joint - OPG (detail)

Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



#### Normal mandible - Mandibular view

Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



## Normal mandible - Mandibular view

Follow the cortical edge all the way around the

# Mandible fracture - Mandibular view

Hover on/off image to show/hide findings



## Mandible fracture - Mandibular view

- (Same patient as image above)
- On this view the right condylar fracture is more easily seen



