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Emergency Department Discharge Advice



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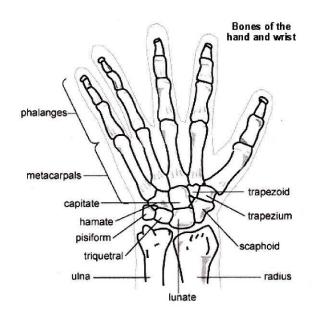
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Scaphoid Wrist Fracture

The scaphoid bone is one of the small bones in your hand close to your wrist. It is the most common of these bones to break (fracture).

A scaphoid fracture is usually caused by a fall on to an outstretched hand. Symptoms can include pain and swelling around the wrist.



How is a scaphoid fracture diagnosed?

Diagnosis of a scaphoid fracture can sometimes be difficult, as not all show up on X-rays.

In some cases, a scaphoid fracture will not show up on an X-ray until around 10 to 14 days after the initial injury. At this time, the healing process will have started, which will help the fracture site to show up.

So if a scaphoid fracture is suspected but not confirmed on an initial X-ray, you will usually be treated as if you have a scaphoid fracture and a repeat X-ray may be suggested after 10 to 14 days.

You will be given a splint to wear until your fracture clinic appointment.

Regular pain relief can be taken as directed.

See your GP if your hand becomes more swollen and painful.



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