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**Unstable Fragility Fractures of the Ankle in the Elderly; Transarticular Steinmann Pin or External Fixation**

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**Highlights**

- Treatment of ankle fractures in the elderly poses unique challenges
- There is no difference in complications between both fixation types
- Return to pre-injury mobilisation may be more common after external fixation
- There is no data available comparing Steinmann pin and external fixation
- Both fixation types show poor results in fracture reduction

**Abstract**

*Introduction:* Because of poor skin conditions and comorbidity open reduction and internal fixation in ankle fractures is frequently contra-indicated in the elderly. This study reports the results of two temporary fixation types in fragility fractures in the older patient: transarticular Steinmann pin fixation and external fixation.

*Methods:* Patients aged over 60 treated with a Steinmann pin or external fixation were retrospectively included. Patient, fracture and treatment characteristics were collected.

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