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Pediatric Elbow Injuries

Helen H.R. Kim, Jean-Marc Gauguet



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Title: Pediatric elbow injuries**Authors: Helen HR Kim MD¹, Jean-Marc Gauguet MD PhD¹**

Corresponding author: helen.kim@umassmemorial.org, 508-334-3850

Affiliations/Addresses:

¹Department of Radiology, UMass Memorial Medical Center, 55 N Lake Ave,
Worcester, MA 01655, USA

Abstract

Elbow trauma in children is one of the most commonly encountered musculoskeletal injuries in pediatric radiology. However, elbow injuries in children can be misdiagnosed due to secondary ossification centers unique to pediatric patients. Familiarity of the normal elbow anatomy in children is crucial for an accurate diagnosis. This article seeks to improve diagnostic accuracy of these elbow injuries by reviewing the secondary ossification centers in the elbow in the pediatric population, followed by a discussion of commonly encountered acute and chronic fractures and dislocations. While many elbow injuries are diagnosed with radiographs, there are situations where imaging with computed tomography (CT), ultrasonography (US) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are essential in the diagnosis of these injuries.

Introduction

Conventional radiography is the first modality of choice when it comes to imaging the elbow in the pediatric population. CT, US and MRI can be further utilized to characterize the pathology and for problem-solving. CT is often obtained in a setting of

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