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TROCHANTERIC SIDE TRACTION FOR ACETABULAR FRACTURES—A PIN-HOLDING DEVICE

By

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Since many years trochanteric side traction has been used in different ways to reduce a central dislocation of the femoral head in certain cases of acetabular fractures (1, 3, 4, 5). In one method two pins are inserted percutaneously into the subtrochanteric bone, crossing each other outside the skin in a point where the traction is applied. This method has been used by *Lipscomb* (3) and is described in Scandinavia by *Lidström* (2). The disadvantage has been a tendency for the crossing point to slide outwards until the traction application is lost from the pins (4 mm Steinman type has been used) and slow loosening of the bone-hold, allowing the insertion angle to change if the pins have not been drilled well through both the cortices.

By a simple angle-fixating device this disadvantage has been overcome. The possibility for the pins to slip out of the bone is reduced. The problem of maintaining the attachment for the traction string is solved. The device consists of an aluminium block $50 \times 30 \times 15$ mm with holes for the two pins, passing through at an angle of 70° . After the drilling of the first pin the block is passed on and the second pin is guided through at the angle given. This fixation geometrically gives stability to the traction "triangle". The case illustrated was tested with more than 20 kilos during reduction without failing. The block will be manufactured by Stille-Werner AB, Stockholm, Sweden.

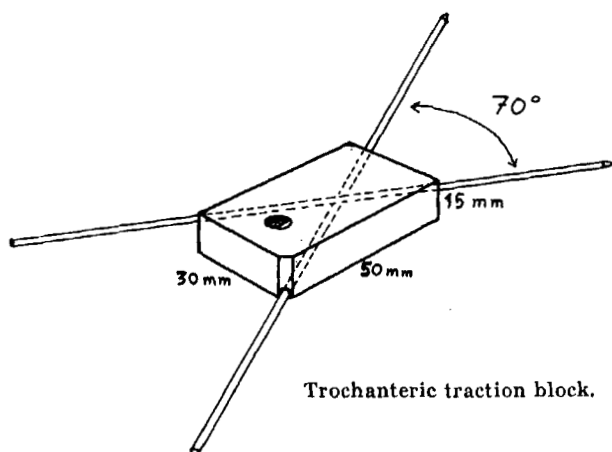
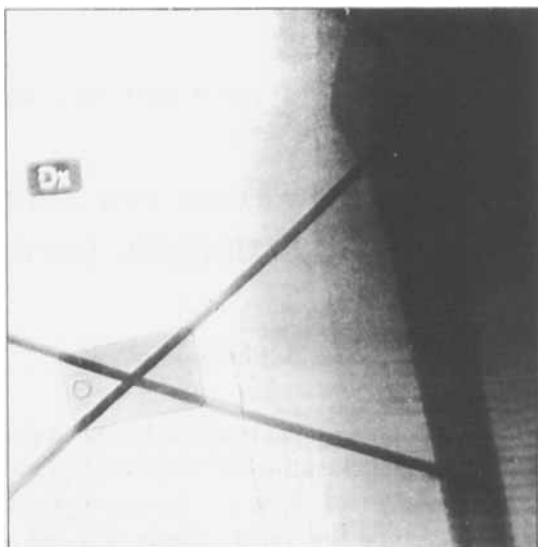


Fig. 1.

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