



*Title*

**PATELLAR FRACTURE AFTER TOTAL KNEE ARTHROPLASTY**

*Authors*

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*Purpose/Premise*

This paper reports on a study conducted to evaluate the causes and various treatments of a series of patellar fractures.

*Material and Methods*

The treatments of 85 patellar fractures were reviewed after a mean follow-up of 3.6 years. The fractures were classified according to the integrity of the extensor mechanism, the fixation status of the patellar component, and the quality of the remaining bone stock. Poor bone stock was defined as bone thickness of less than 10mm.

*Outcomes*

Twelve fractures were due to disruption of the extensor mechanism, while 38 had a stable extensor mechanism. Twenty-eight fractures were due to a loose patellar component and 16 of those were associated with poor bone stock. Fractures were significantly more prevalent among men than women ( $p=0.00004$ ).

*Conclusion/Recommendation*

The authors concluded that patellar fractures were infrequent after TKA, and that fractures associated with a stable implant and an intact exterior mechanism are usually treated successfully with nonoperative means.

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