AO Foundation

AO Surgery Reference

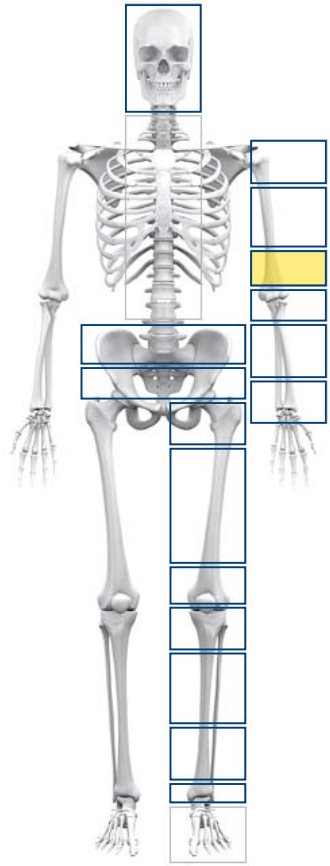
- Hundreds of surgical procedures
- Evidence and decision making support
- Studies and journal articles
- Graphics, videos, animations, charts
- Easy to use internet-solution

The comprehensive online reference in your daily clinical life

AO Surgery Reference:
For the benefit of residents and surgeons.
Traumatology today encompasses such a vast wealth of knowledge that no single surgeon can cope with all this information. And daily clinical life hardly leaves any time for academic research.
That's exactly where the AO Surgery Reference steps in: Here you'll find all the specialized knowledge you might need in your daily clinical life, accessible online from any office, library or operating room – wherever there is Internet access.

How to access AO Surgery Reference
Simply go to www.aosurgery.org

The authors
More than sixty of the world's most renowned surgeons from 20 countries are contributing to this project, making sure that the AO principles are followed while keeping in mind local realities.



Start page
On the start page of the AO Surgery Reference you'll see a skeleton. The anatomical areas available now are highlighted. New anatomical areas are being added continuously at 2-month intervals.
A click on the anatomical area of your interest will take you directly to a website dedicated exclusively to that anatomical region.

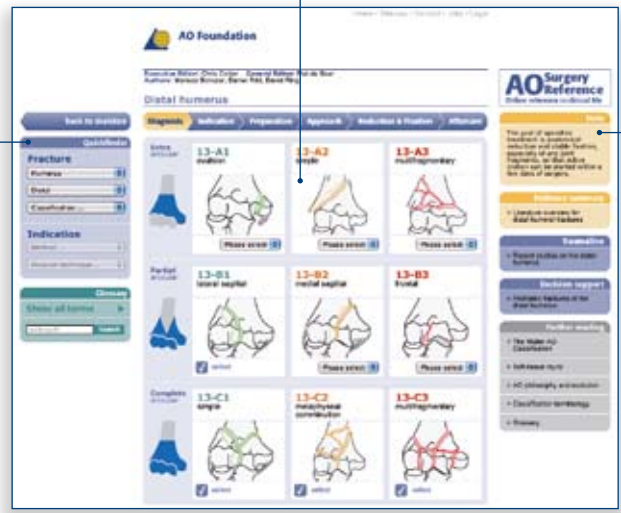
AO Surgery Reference
To understand the AO Surgery Reference, think of a huge online library where you can find quick answers to clinical questions.
Hundreds of surgical procedures are described in text and images. Approaches and patient positionings are shown, and decision making is supported with a huge evidence base containing the literature of the last decade.
You not only find in-depth information in the form of text, graphics and videos, AO Surgery Reference also helps you make the right decisions.

Diagnosis | Indication | Preparation | Approach | Reduction & Fixation | Aftercare

Surgical management process
Go step by step through the process.

Information
Here, in the middle and largest section of the page, you'll find what is most relevant to know in a particular clinical situation.

The page layout
For better use and understanding the information on each page is structured similarly.

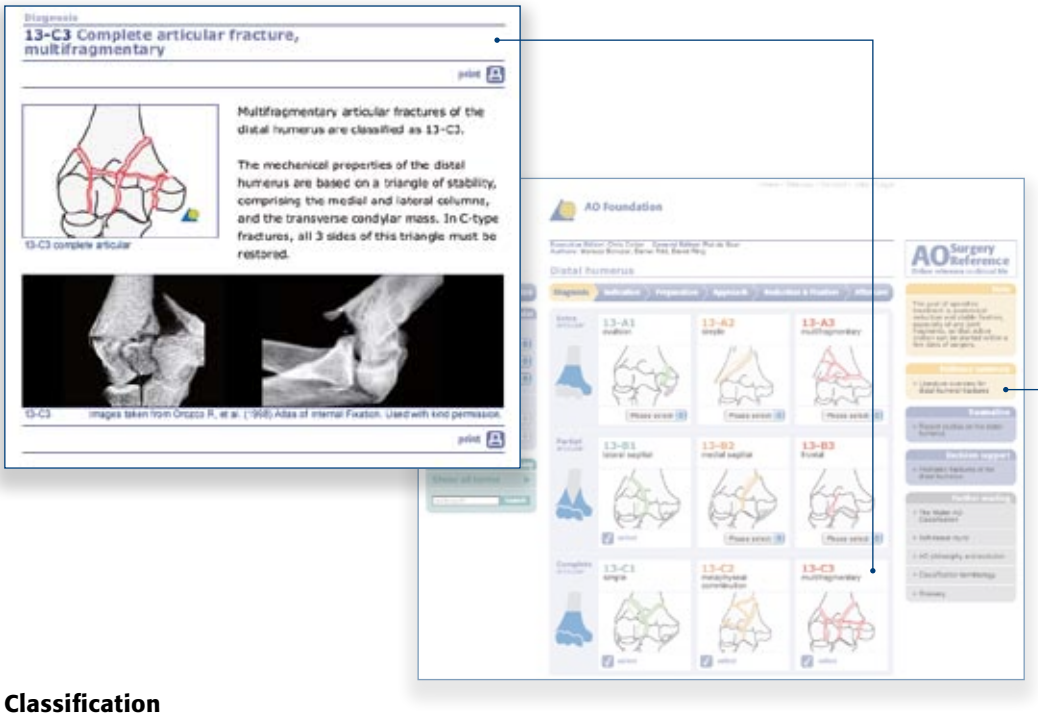


Quickfinder
If you have chosen to go step by step and would like to change the diagnosis, treatment method, or the fixation device while in the process, use the Quickfinder to quickly change your settings without going through the whole process again.

Support
On the right-hand side of each screen there are boxes containing links to relevant videos, studies, journal articles and book chapters.
Much of this information can be used in a clinical situation (videos, decision making support). The links collected under "Further reading" lead to more academic material with generally longer texts.

Surgical management process

With the surgical management process there are two ways of finding information:
1. Step by step: Let yourself be guided through the whole surgical management process: Start by selecting a diagnosis. You will then be shown all indication options available for your choice. Then select a method of treatment and a fixation device. You will be guided through the appropriate patient preparation, approach and surgical procedure.
2. Direct information: Just jump into anything you're interested in. Click on "Approach" to see all approaches, or go to "Reduction and Fixation" to see all available surgical procedures.



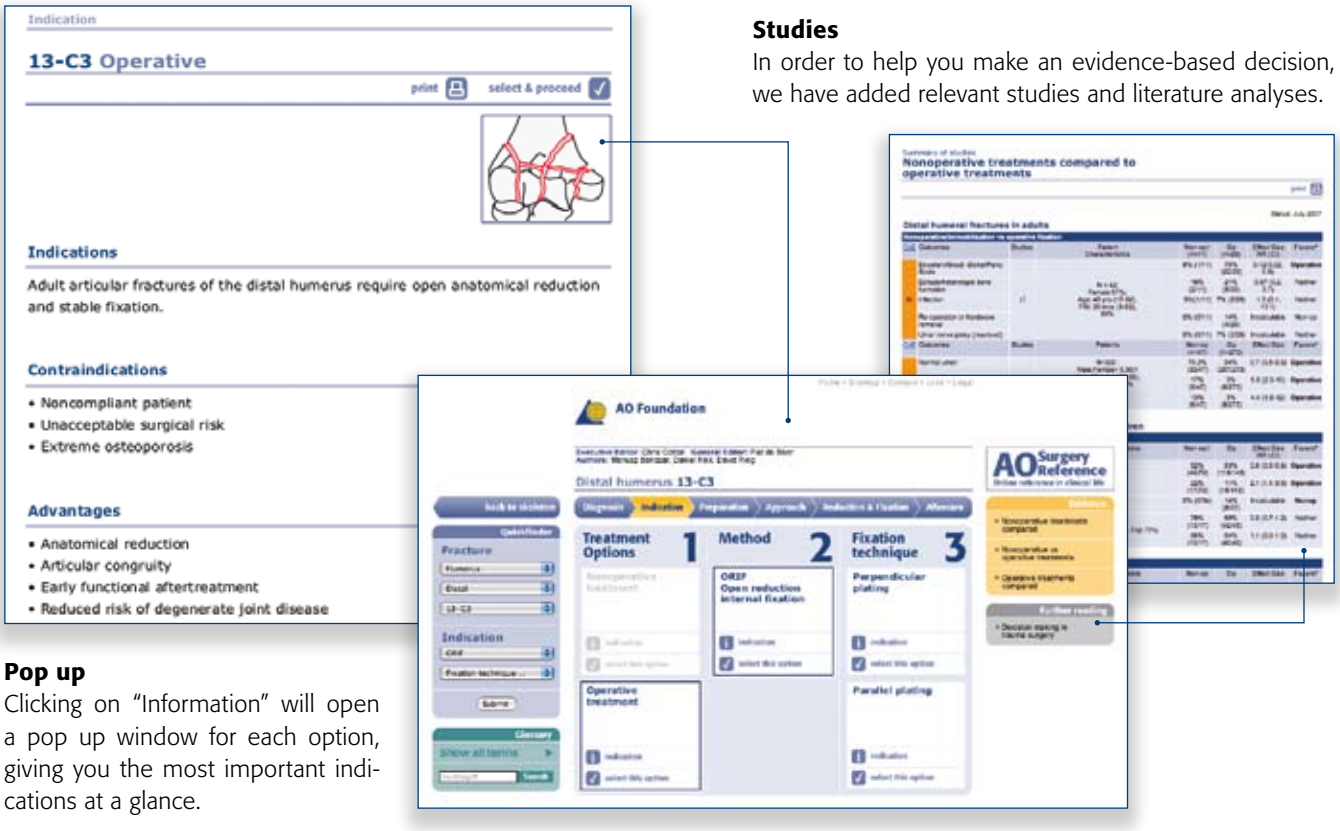
Classification
To learn more about a specific fracture, click on the image. In the pop-up window which opens after clicking, the fractures of this classification are then explained in detail.

Additional information
Find additional information related to diagnosis in "Evidence", "Decision support" and "Further reading."

Diagnosis

This screen will help with making a good diagnosis based on the Müller/AO classification. Each fracture type is explained in text, drawings and x-rays. Our Evidence summary gives an overview of the epidemiology of these fractures, therapy, and prognosis, as reported in the literature of the past decade.

Having made a selection, the system takes you directly to the next stage.



Studies
In order to help you make an evidence-based decision, we have added relevant studies and literature analyses.

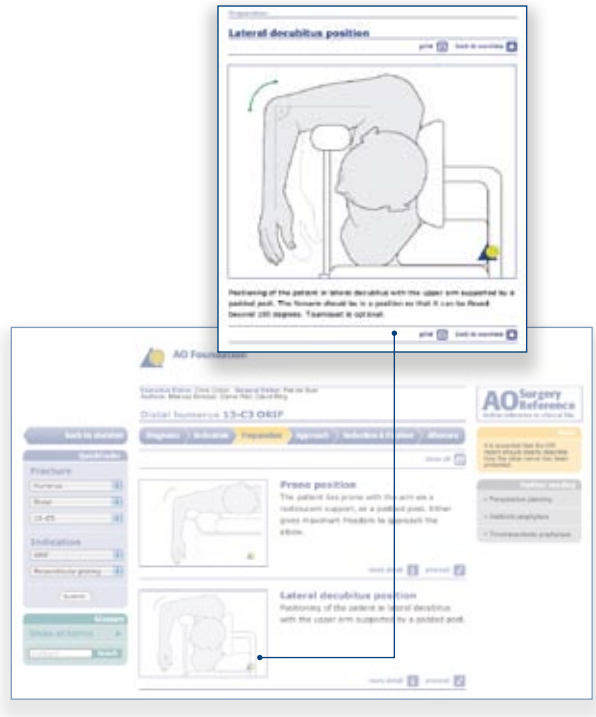
Pop up
Clicking on "Information" will open a pop up window for each option, giving you the most important indications at a glance.

Indication

After diagnosing a fracture, three decisions need to be taken:

1. Is surgical treatment required or will nonoperative therapy suffice?
2. Which surgical method is appropriate?
3. Which implant/fixation device should be employed?

The "Indication" page gives help with these questions. For all possible options indications are given along with contraindications, advantages and disadvantages. On the right-hand side of the screen, studies and literature analyses provide a sound basis for evidence-based decision making.

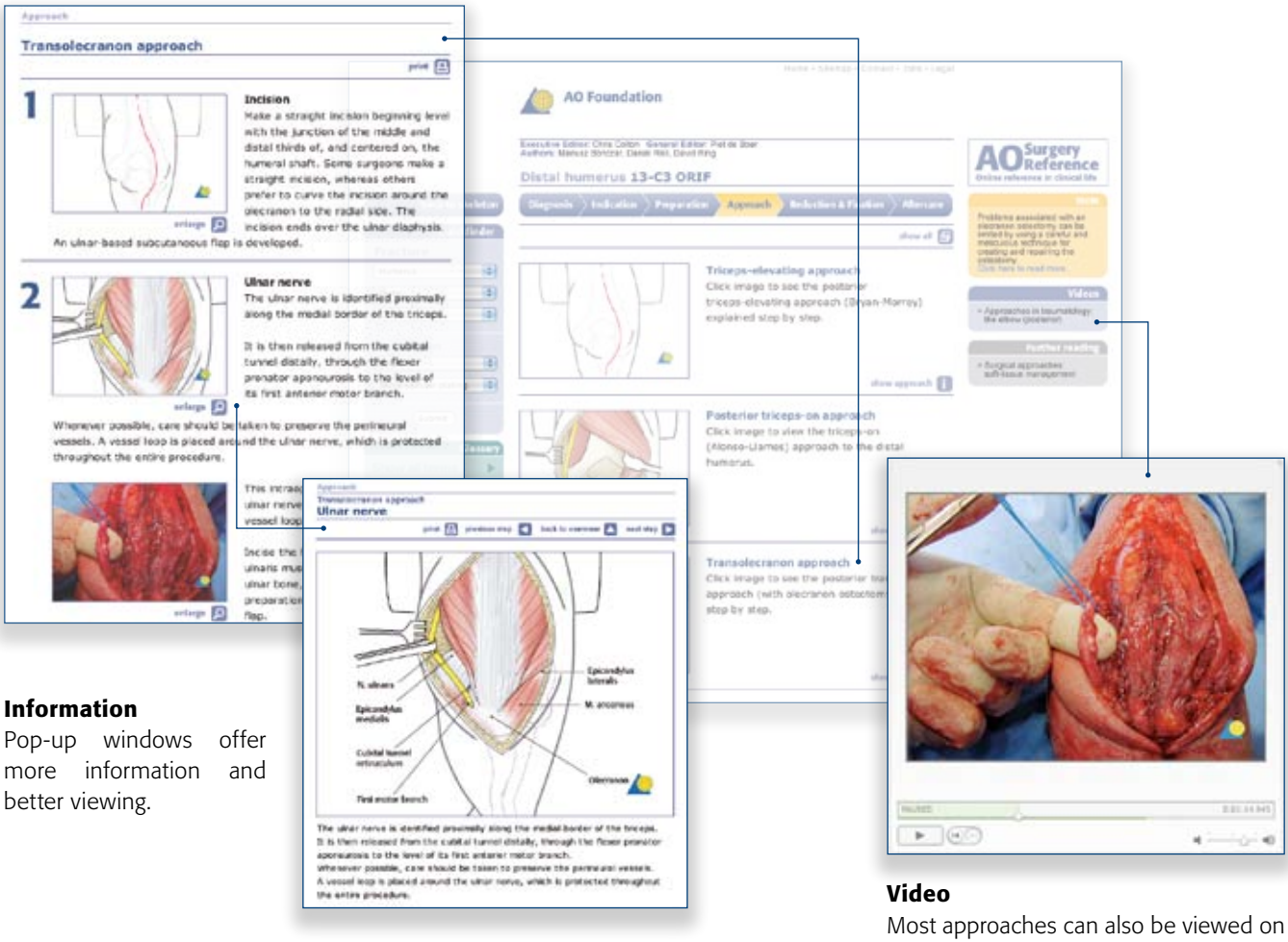


Evidence

Evidence-based decision making is difficult in clinical situations. Searching through the literature takes a long time, and evaluating and appraising studies even more. We have appraised most of the literature published in the past years and aggregated the most important studies. The result will help with quick, evidence-based clinical decisions.

Preparation

Once you have decided on a particular treatment, "Preparation" shows the correct positioning of the patient. The images can be enlarged for detailed viewing. In addition, the comprehensive chapters about antibiotic and thromboembolic prophylaxis from the AO Principles book, preoperative planning, etc are available for online reading.



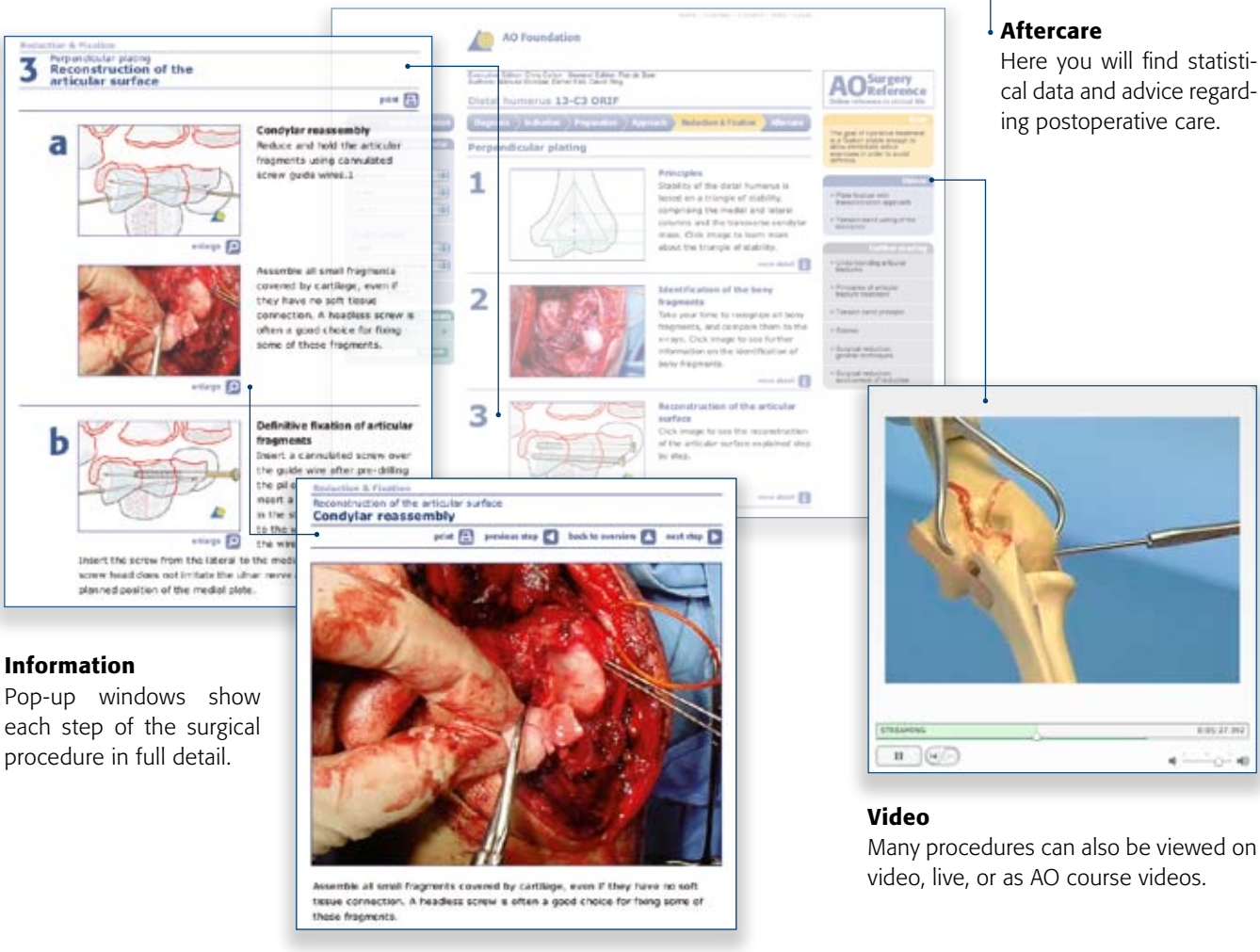
Information
Pop-up windows offer more information and better viewing.

Video
Most approaches can also be viewed on video in several formats.

Approach

This section shows all regularly practiced approaches. After having selected a treatment option, the recommended approach for this method is displayed. When no selection has been made, or when the "show all" button is clicked, all recommended approaches to the anatomical segment are shown.

Each approach is explained on a step-by-step basis with enlargeable images.



Aftercare
Here you will find statistical data and advice regarding postoperative care.

Information
Pop-up windows show each step of the surgical procedure in full detail.

Video
Many procedures can also be viewed on video, live, or as AO course videos.

Reduction & Fixation

Reduction and Fixation explains the different surgical procedures of treating fractures. When a selection has been made in Indication, the selected procedure is shown here step by step, often augmented by video, animations or additional chapters from AO books.
When no previous selection has been made, all available procedures are shown in a list. All of the procedures shown here were compiled by teams of renowned AO surgeons who draw from many years of specialized experience, making the "pitfalls and pearls" described useful even to the experienced surgeon.

Quick online reference in clinical life

AO Foundation
Clavadelerstrasse 8
7270 Davos
Switzerland

Phone +41 (0) 81 414 28 01
Fax +41 (0) 81 414 22 80
E-mail foundation@aofoundation.org
Web www.aosurgery.org

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