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# Delayed union of multifragmentary diaphyseal fractures after bridge-plate fixation.

Galal Z. Said, Osama Farouk, Hatem G. Z. Said

## Abstract:

Despite recent developments in fracture treatment, cases of non-union after long bone fractures are still encountered. This work aims at evaluating the active management of delayed union after the bridge-plate fixation of multifragmentary diaphyseal fractures by a limited surgical interference. Nineteen patients were included. All had revision surgery for delayed union of multifragmentary diaphyseal fractures after bridge-plate fixation. The period between primary and revision surgery was 12-20 weeks. Increasing stability was performed by adding more screws in all cases. Interfragmentary compression was performed in 16 patients. Axial compression of the fracture was applied in two patients, while one patient had the plate exchanged for a longer one. Bone grafting was added in nine patients. Union was achieved in all patients 8-16 weeks after re-operation. This work is a message for timely surgical interference in delayed union after bridgeplate fixation by a limited surgical procedure, before complete failure of the fracture stabilisation or non-union.

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