

Classification

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Pelvic ring fractures can be classified into three types, using - the Tile classification (for subtypes and other classifications see Further reading), based on the severity of the fracture (and reflecting the energy required to cause it) (Figure 29.11). However, no fracture pattern can exclude significant haemorrhage. Type A are the most common fractures and are completely stable. They result from lateral compression, which causes compression fractures of the pubic rami or compression fracture of the sacrum posteriorly . Type B These fractures are partially stable, and there is disruption of the anterior pelvis and partial disruption of the posterior pelvis. The pelvis can open and close 'like a book', but because the sacroiliac ligaments remain intact there is no vertical displacement. Internal or external stabilisation is required. Blood loss can be significant. Type C This fracture is completely unstable. Both the anterior pelvis and the entire posterior pelvic complexes are disrupted and the disrupted pelvic bones are free to displace horizontally and vertically . In both type B and type C pelvic injuries, there is a high risk of associated abdominal injuries (bowel perforation or mesenteric laceration) and rupture of the diaphragm. Classification

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