

Thumb metacarpophalangeal ulnar collateral ligament

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Injury to the thumb metacarpal ulnar collateral ligament is a unique injury often termed 'gamekeeper's thumb' or 'skier's thumb'. Owing to the unique anatomical arrangement of adductor pollicis, if the ligament undergoes complete rupture the aponeurosis may become interposed, inhibiting the

(ai) (a) (ii) (b) (c) (d) Figure 32.21 Scaphoid fracture. (a) Anteroposterior (i) and lateral (ii) views in which the injury is difficult to see; (b, c) oblique views with the fracture line highlighted; (d) in this case of a young patient, the fracture was treated with early fixation.

Cap Rad Lun ligament-to-bone healing. A rupture of the ulnar collateral ligament should be suspected when an ulna-directed force is directed across the metacarpophalangeal (MCP) joint. A tender swelling on the ulnar side of the MCP joint may signify the Stener lesion. Increased laxity may be clinically evident; if there is uncertainty, stress radiographs can demonstrate the degree of injury. Complete ruptures with a Stener lesion (interposed aponeurosis) require open reduction of the ligament to restore bone contact, with a suture anchor repair of the associated ulnar collateral ligament.

(b) Figure 32.22 Perilunate dislocation. (a) A plain lateral radiograph of the wrist; (b) the outline of the perilunate dislocation is highlighted. Cap, capitate; Lun, lunate; Rad, radius.

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