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Supplementary Table 1. Bone placement of external fixator

Bone placement of external fixator	Total Cohort (n=241)	Primary Closure (n=123)	Secondary wound healing (n=118)
Upper extremity			
Humerus, n (%)	6 (2.5)	3 (2.4)	3 (2.5)
Radius, n (%)	36 (14.9)	18 (14.6)	18 (15.3)
Ulna, n (%)	6 (2.5)	3 (2.4)	3 (2.5)
Metacarpal II, n (%)	35 (14.5)	18 (14.6)	17 (14.4)
Lower extremity			
Femur, n (%)	16 (6.6)	8 (6.5)	8 (6.8)
Tibia, n (%)	106 (44)	54 (43.9)	52 (44.1)
Metatarsal I, n (%)	19 (7.9)	8 (6.5)	11 (9.3)
Metatarsal II, n (%)	2 (0.8)	1 (0.8)	1 (0.8)
Metatarsal IV, n (%)	3 (1.2)	2 (1.6)	1 (0.8)
Metatarsal V, n (%)	12 (5)	8 (6.5)	4 (3.4)

Supplementary material table 2. All data per outpatient clinic visit

Outcomes per outpatient clinic visit				
	Follow-up (n=at follow-up)	Primary closure	Secondary wound healing	P-value
VAS pain, mean ± sd	2wk n=102/95	1.63 ± 1.2 1 (1-2)	1.71±1.3 1 (1-2)	.607
Median (IQR)	6wk n=109/102	1.42 ± 0.8 1 (1-2)	1.54 ± 1.1 1 (1-2)	.752
	12wk n=101/95	1.58 ± 1.2 1 (1-2)	1.51 ± 1.2 1 (1-1)	.389
	24wk n=92/86	1.49 ± 1.2 1 (1-1)	1.72 ± 1.5 1 (1-1)	.440
	52wk n=97/92	1.26 ± 0.8 1 (1-1)	1.47 ± 1.4 1 (1-1)	.940
Vancouver, mean ± sd	2wk n=102/95	2.37 ± 2.6 1 (0-4)	2.67 ± 2.5 2 (1-4)	.258
Median (IQR)	6wk n=109/102	2.52 ± 2.5 2 (0-4)	2.663 ± 2.6 2 (0-4)	.833

	12wk n=101/95	2.25 ±2.4 2 (0-4)	2.41 ±2.7 2 (0-4)	.976
	24wk n=92/86	1.65 ±2 1 (1-3)	2 ±2 2 (0-3)	.164
	52wk n=97/92	1.27 ±1.8 0 (0-2)	1.32 ±1.8 0 (0-2)	.722
Wound healing	2wk n=102/95	79 (82)	55 (61)	0.001
	6wk n=109/102	96 (90)	89 (89)	.867
	12wk n=101/95	100 (99)	95 (100)	.331
	24wk n=92/86	92 (100)	86 (100)	-
	52wk n=97/92	97 (100)	92 (100)	-
Patients most satisfactory pin site	2wk n=102/95	121 (61)	76 (39)	.558
	6wk n=109/102	104 (50)	103 (50)	.579
	12wk n=101/95	102 (52)	94 (48)	.931
	24wk n=92/86	107 (60)	71 (40)	.446
	52wk n=97/92	101 (53)	88 (47)	.384