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ABSTRACT TITLE: Comparing Outcomes for Different Techniques of Clavicle ORIF

INTRODUCTION

Symptomatic hardware frequently leads to reoperation for hardware removal after ORIF of clavicle. Military service members carry heavy back packs of 40lbs or more, which is thought to contribute to a higher rate of hardware removal than the civilian population. Various methods of fixation are thought to mitigate the risk of subsequent surgery, but to our knowledge no studies making a direct comparison exist.

METHODS

We performed a retrospective review of 274 patients who underwent operative fixation of a clavicle fracture at our facility. Our primary outcome was the rate of hardware removal for each fixation techniques with a secondary outcome of time to removal. The outcomes Active Duty Service members were compared to other patients eligible for care at our facility.

RESULTS

We expect to report lower rates of hardware removal in patients who underwent intramedullary fixation of the clavicle and no difference between anterior, superior or dual plating. Other complications will not be different either.

DISCUSSION

This study represents the largest cohort of patients undergoing intramedullary clavicle fixation reported in the literature.