

Smith's Fracture



This is a fracture of the distal radius with volar displacement and angulation. It is caused by a fall onto a flexed wrist.

Radiographic features include volar displacement and angulation and a shortened radius.

This fracture is unstable and requires operative reduction – immobilise & refer to orthopaedics.

Barton and Reverse-Barton Fractures



Barton's fracture, or dorsal type Barton's fracture (above left), is an intra-articular fracture involving the dorsal portion of the radius.

Reverse-Barton's fracture, or volar type Barton's fracture (above right), is also an intra-articular fracture but it involves the volar portion of radius.

This fracture is unstable and requires operative reduction – immobilise & discuss with orthopaedics.