

OIRF of a T type acetabular fracture through an anterior intrapelvic approach. Surgical technique video

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The anterior intrapelvic approach (AIP) has evolved and gained popularity to address anterior based fractures of the acetabulum and also certain fractures involving both columns of the acetabulum.

The approach provides access to the acetabulum from the medial side enabling reduction and instrumentation of both columns of the acetabulum directly including the quadrilateral plate.

Addition of a lateral window of the Ilioinguinal approach to the AIP approach helps address cranial anterior column fracture lines, interspinous region and also instrument the posterior column using antegrade screws

Structures of importance that have to be protected through the approach include the Corona mortis, urinary bladder, obturator neuromuscular structures and the external iliac vessels.

Fractures can be stabilised using a combination of supra and infrapectineal plates to address multiple fracture components. With the AIP approach, the posterior column is addressed with supra-acetabular (through lateral window) and infra-acetabular screws or a posterior column plate positioned from inside depending on the fracture pattern.

The surgical technique video demonstrates the exposure, handling of important structures, reduction and instrumentation of a T type fracture of the acetabulum through the AIP approach in combination with a lateral window