

Acetabular fracture reduction quality: protocol for a scoping review

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**Support** - No external funding was received.**Review Stage at time of this submission** - Preliminary searches.**Conflicts of interest** - None declared.**INPLASY registration number:** INPLASY2026100105**Amendments** - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 26 October 2026 and was last updated on 26 October 2026.**INTRODUCTION**

Review question / Objective To map the existing literature on how the quality of reduction is defined, measured and reported after surgical fixation of acetabular fractures, and which outcomes are reported with it.

Condition being studied Acetabular fractures treated surgically, and the quality of fracture reduction after surgery.

METHODS

Participant or population Adults (16 years or older) with acetabular fractures treated surgically (open reduction or percutaneous fixation).

Intervention Surgical fixation of an acetabular fracture with any assessment of the quality of reduction after surgery (for example Matta criteria, CT gap or step-off, or other grading systems), on any imaging method.

Comparator Not applicable.

Study designs to be included Original clinical studies (clinical trials, cohorts studies, case series with at least 10 patients.).

Eligibility criteria The review will include original clinical studies in adults with surgically treated acetabular fractures that report how reduction quality is assessed after surgery. Studies on children, periprosthetic fractures or non-surgical treatment will be excluded. Studies published in the last 10 years (2016-2026) and in English will be considered. Two reviewers will select studies independently and in a blinded way; a third reviewer will solve disagreements.

Information sources PubMed/MEDLINE, Cochrane Library, Scopus. Supplementary source: manual cross-referencing of the included studies.

Main outcome(s) Not strictly applicable. Main data categories to be mapped: definitions and classifications of reduction quality, thresholds,

imaging methods, timing and observers of the assessment, reported reliability, and the outcomes reported with reduction (post-traumatic arthritis, conversion to total hip arthroplasty, function).

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis Not planned at this stage.

Strategy of data synthesis Narrative synthesis, supported by summary tables and graphical representations. No meta-analysis is planned. Reporting will follow the PRISMA-ScR checklist, with a flow diagram of the identified records, duplicates removed, records screened, full texts assessed and studies included, and the reasons for full-text exclusion. Agreement between reviewers will be reported with Cohen's kappa.

Subgroup analysis Not applicable.

Sensitivity analysis Not applicable.

Language restriction English.

Country(ies) involved Romania.

Keywords Acetabular fracture; reduction quality; Matta criteria; anatomical reduction; internal fixation; scoping review.

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