

Types of Traction in orthopedics

Traction is a set of mechanisms for straightening broken bones or relieving pressure on the spine and skeletal system.

There are two major types of traction: **skin traction** and **skeletal traction**. They can also be classified to as either fixed, pulp, or balanced tractions

Types of traction

Fixed traction

Here the traction is attached to a stationary point e.g. Thomas splint

Pulp traction

Used in the management of fracture of the fingers and toes;

To correct the shape of fingers

A suture passes through a pulp(bone) of the fingers then fastened to an extension piece in cooperated in the P.O.P applied to a hand or foot

Balanced traction

Composed of two opposing forces that are separated by a raised structure e.g. elevated bed to balance the forces.