TECHNICAL TIPS

An alternative to finger traps in forearm fracture reduction

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We describe an alternative to Chinese finger traps,¹ in gravity-aided reduction of forearm fractures. Sleek™ tape (BSN Medical, PO Box 258, Willerby HU10 6WT, UK) is applied vertically across the palm. The tape is unreeled looping over a drip stand then secured to the dorsum of the hand (Fig. 1). The limb must not be under tension and the only force acting is the axial loading provided by gravity, ensured by keeping the arm at a right angle to the forearm. If additional force is required, weights (dependent on patient parameters) can be suspended from the arm, providing a co-existing injury of the upper limb has been excluded.

Figure 1 Sleek™ tape used to secure gravity-assisted traction.

Reference

1. Carey PJ, Alburger PD, Betz RR, Clancy M, Steel HH. Both-bone forearm fractures in children. *Orthopaedics* 1992; **15**: 1015–9.

Dissect parathyroid adenoma in an easier wayABDOLALI ASSARIAN, RAYMOND CHUNG, PR THOMAS
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During dissection, handling of a parathyroid adenoma can be a troublesome task. No surgical instrument is currently available that can hold the gland, maintain traction and yet preserve an intact specimen, as required for histopathology. We propose a

Figure 1 Aspirator holding the parathyroid adenoma.

Figure 2 Aspirator holding the parathyroid adenoma.