



Policy for Removal of Internal Fixation Device

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Sultanate of Oman
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Directorate General of Khoula Hospital
Directorate of Orthopedic

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Approval Process

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Orthopedic Department Policy for Removal of internal fixation device

1. Introduction

The removal of orthopedic implants after fracture healing has always been a controversial issue. After fracture union, the implant loses its purpose and continues to exist only as a foreign object inside the patient's body. The question arises whether the implant should be removed, Undisputed however, is the removal of implants which are associated with complications. Clarification to the patient regards such issue help to make a decision whether to keep the implant or remove.

2. Scope

This policy is applied to all orthopedic doctors treating patients who underwent previous orthopedic surgical fixation

3. Purpose

This policy is formulated for the purpose of:

- 3.1. Developing a uniform approach by all orthopedic doctors to minimize confusions
- 3.2. Reduce the surgical load on khoula hospital

4. Definitions:

Internal fixation devices: Orthopedic fixation devices used for internal fixations like screws, plates, Interlocking nails.

5. Policy

It is the policy of the directorate general of khoula hospital to ensure safe and efficient care and management for patients when removing the internal fixation devices. Further to this the following should be implemented:

1. Asymptomatic internal fixation in skeletally mature patients will not be removed.
2. Internal fixation devices can be removed for people planning to join Armed Forces or Royal Police services.



3. Internal fixation device can be removed from skeletally immature patients.
4. Diastases of ankle are exceptions, where internal fixation can be removed when it was planned at the time of index surgery.

6. Responsibilities:

6.1. Head of orthopedic department shall:

6.1.1. Ensure this policy is circulated to all orthopedic doctors.

6.1.2. Ensure doctors are adhere to this policy.

6.2.0 All orthopedic surgeons shall:

6.2.1. Aware and adhere to this policy.

6.2.2. Follow this policy



7. Document History and Version Control

Document History and Version Control			
Version	Description of Amendment	Author	Review Date
01	Initial Release		
02			
03			
04			
05			
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