Fracture Repair with Intramedullary Pin +/- Kirschner External Fixation

- This time-tested procedure is well suited to many tibial, femoral, and humeral diaphyseal fractures.
- Radial fractures can sometimes be repaired with this technique; they are often best served by other procedures.
- Many fractures can be repaired with minimal invasion. Often small incisions in simple transverse and oblique fractures are all that is necessary to insert the implants and reduce the fracture.
- Complex, comminuted fractures can often be nicely reassembled about the IM pin with carefully placed cerclage wires.
- While structural strength is important, we fully understand the concept that “it is better to be a gardener than a carpenter” in these repairs.
- External fixation with a Kirschner apparatus is very effective in eliminating axial torsion and maintaining bone length until the initial healing does so.
- We will coordinate postoperative aftercare with your hospital. Typical care includes:
  - A 4-5 day postoperative incision check.
  - A 10-12 day suture removal.
  - A 21-28 day postoperative exam, x-ray, and possible Kirschner removal.
  - Intramedullary pin removal in 6 weeks to 6 months, at your hospital or ours, at your preference.
- Please send any preoperative laboratory tests and radiographs.
- Surgery is done daily as needed by each individual case.
- Call ASAP with your request for referral. It is appropriate to call Dr. Martinson after hours to aid in coordinating his schedule.
- Uncomplicated cases typically spend one night in the hospital. Costs are $900 to $1200 [January 2011]. Difficult cases will be representatively more. Ask for an estimate.