

Frequently Asked Questions – Bones of the Upper Limb

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Q1. How many bones are present in one upper limb?

? **32 bones** (Clavicle, Scapula, Humerus, Radius, Ulna, 8 Carpals, 5 Metacarpals, 14 Phalanges, Sesamoids).

Q2. Which is the first bone to ossify in the body?

? **Clavicle** (5th–6th week intrauterine life).

Q3. Which is the last carpal bone to ossify?

? **Pisiform** (10–12 years).

Q4. Why is the clavicle considered a modified long bone?

? Because it:

- Lies horizontally.
 - Has no medullary cavity.
 - Ossifies in membrane.
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Q5. Which fracture is most common in the upper limb?

? **Clavicle fracture** (junction of medial 2/3 and lateral 1/3).

Q6. Which carpal bone is most commonly fractured?

? **Scaphoid** (risk of avascular necrosis).

Q7. Which carpal bone is most commonly dislocated?

? **Lunate**.

Q8. Which nerve is most commonly injured in supracondylar fracture of humerus in children?

? **Median nerve**, along with injury to **brachial artery**.

Q9. Which nerve is most commonly injured in fracture of surgical neck of humerus?

? **Axillary nerve.**

Q10. Which nerve is most commonly injured in midshaft fracture of humerus?

? **Radial nerve** (in spiral groove).

Q11. Which nerve is injured in fracture of medial epicondyle of humerus?

? **Ulnar nerve.**

Q12. What is the clinical importance of the olecranon and epicondyles of humerus in diagnosis of dislocations?

? In extension ? all three in a straight line.

? In flexion ? form an equilateral triangle.

(Disrupted in dislocation).

Q13. What is Colles' fracture?

? Fracture of lower end of radius with dorsal displacement of distal fragment ? produces **dinner fork deformity**.

Q14. What is Smith's fracture?

? Reverse of Colles' fracture; distal radius displaced anteriorly.

Q15. What is Monteggia fracture-dislocation?

? Fracture of proximal ulna with dislocation of radial head.

Q16. What is Boxer's fracture?

? Fracture of neck of 5th metacarpal, usually after punching injury.

Q17. What is Bennett's fracture?

? Fracture-dislocation at base of 1st metacarpal involving carpometacarpal joint of thumb.

Q18. Why are distal phalanges ossified earlier than other phalanges?

? Because they are essential for fingertip development and nail support ? ossification begins as early as **8th week IUL**.

Q19. Which constant sesamoid bone is present in the hand?

? **Pisiform** (sesamoid in tendon of flexor carpi ulnaris).

Q20. Which bone of the upper limb is most important in forensic age estimation?

? **Clavicle** ? because its secondary center (sternal end) fuses last, around **21–22 years**.
