



A fracture of the vertebral body is a common injury of the spine. It is often caused by trauma, such as a fall or a motor vehicle accident. The fracture can be stable or unstable, depending on the extent of the injury. A stable fracture is one in which the bone fragments are still in contact with each other. An unstable fracture is one in which the bone fragments are displaced or comminuted.

The symptoms of a vertebral body fracture include pain, tenderness, and swelling over the fracture site. There may also be a visible deformity of the spine. In some cases, the fracture can compress the spinal cord, leading to neurological deficits.

Treatment of a vertebral body fracture depends on the severity of the injury. Stable fractures may be treated with rest and pain medication. Unstable fractures may require surgery to stabilize the spine and decompress the spinal cord.

Figure 1: Diagram of a vertebral body fracture.

## FACETJUE



A fracture of the facet joint is a less common injury of the spine. It is often caused by trauma, such as a fall or a motor vehicle accident. The fracture can be stable or unstable, depending on the extent of the injury. A stable fracture is one in which the bone fragments are still in contact with each other. An unstable fracture is one in which the bone fragments are displaced or comminuted.

The symptoms of a facet joint fracture include pain, tenderness, and swelling over the fracture site. There may also be a visible deformity of the spine. In some cases, the fracture can compress the spinal cord, leading to neurological deficits.

Treatment of a facet joint fracture depends on the severity of the injury. Stable fractures may be treated with rest and pain medication. Unstable fractures may require surgery to stabilize the spine and decompress the spinal cord.

Figure 2: Diagram of a facet joint fracture.