



H.-G. Knoch W. Klug

Stimulation of Fracture Healing with Ultrasound

Translated by Terry C. Telger

With 48 Illustrations

Springer-Verlag
Berlin Heidelberg New York
London Paris Tokyo
Hong Kong Barcelona
Budapest

Prof. Dr. Dr. HANS-GEORG KNOCH
Doz. Dr. sc. med. WINFRIED KLUG
Zentrale Hochschulpoliklinik
Medizinische Akademie
„Carl-Gustav-Carus“
Fetscherstraße 74
O-8019 Dresden, FRG

Translator:
TERRY C. TELGER
6112 Waco Way,
Fort Worth,
TX 76133, USA

Translated from the original German edition
Knochenbruchheilung mit Ultraschall
Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 1990

ISBN-13:978-3-540-53674-1 e-ISBN-13:978-3-642-76427-1
DOI: 10.1007/978-3-642-76427-1

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data. Knoch, Hans-Georg. [Knochenbruchheilung mit Ultraschall. English] Stimulation of fracture healing with ultrasound / Hans-Georg Knoch, Winfried Klug. p. cm. . Translation of: Knochenbruchheilung mit Ultraschall. Includes bibliographical references. Includes index. ISBN-13:978-3-540-53674-1

1. Fractures – Treatment. 2. Ultrasonic waves – Therapeutic use. 3. Wound healing. I. Klug, Winfried. II. Title. [DNLM: 1. Fractures – therapy. 2. Ultrasonography. 3. Wound Healing. WE 180 K72k] RD 103.U47K6613 1991 617.1'5 – dc20 DNLM/DLC

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Typesetting: Konrad Tritsch, Graphischer Betrieb, Würzburg
21/3130-543210 – Printed on acid-free-paper

Preface

Every bone fracture requires a certain period of immobilization, sometimes prolonged, in an individual who may otherwise feel completely well. This accounts for the numerous attempts that have been made to accelerate the process of fracture healing. Having worked on this problem for some 25 years, we have found an effective callus-stimulating factor in the piezoelectric effect of ultrasound. Now, thanks to the far-sightedness of Springer-Verlag, we are able to present this clinical experience, backed by experimental data, in book form. We know from the specialized literature that researchers in other countries lately have begun to report on similar experience with ultrasound. Although we have practiced ultrasound therapy in Europe for many years, the political situation has made it impossible for us to publish on the international level. Springer now redresses that situation by enabling our results to be presented to an international readership.

I express thanks to my colleague Dr. med. W. KLUG for the experimental work, to Mrs. CHR. UHLMANN for typing the manuscript, and above all to the reader at Springer-Verlag, Dr. U. HEILMANN, for contacting me at a time when an insurmountable barrier still divided our land. Her constant willingness to help, her promptness, and her congenial cooperation are most gratefully acknowledged.

H.-G. KNOCH

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