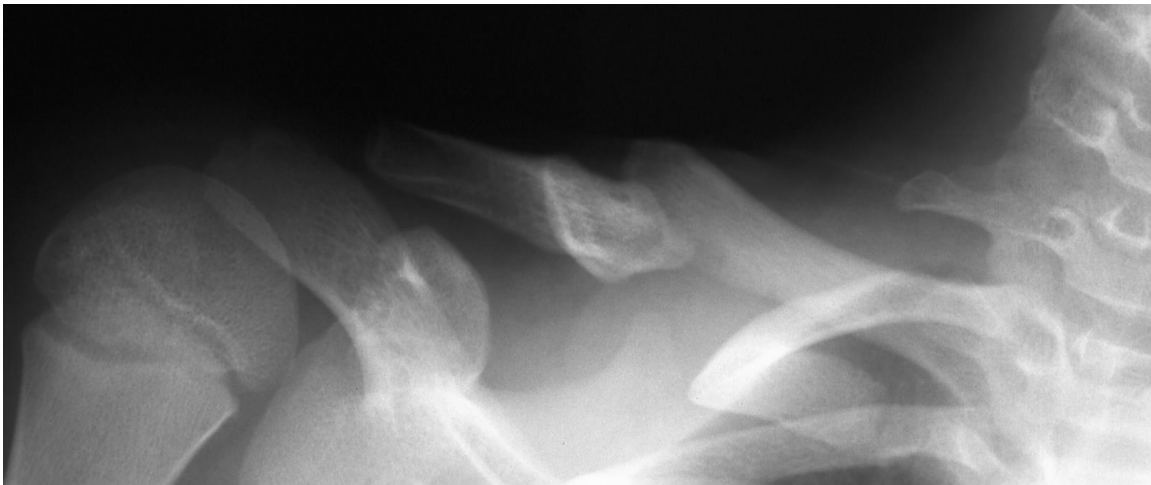
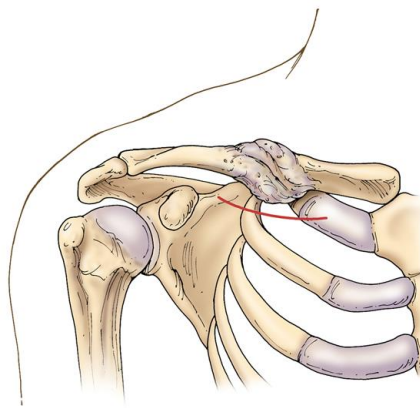


Pseudoarthrosis of Clavicle

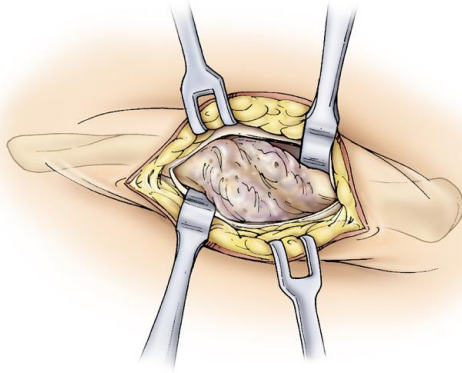


A child may be born with the right clavicle or collarbone in 2 separate pieces. The lump that is felt is a gristle-like material between the two ends of the bones. This is a congenital birth problem and not a birth fracture. The lack of complete formation of the collarbone into a single bone may be considered to be a genetic disorder that could not have been prevented.

Typically, the child will be monitored for years. During that time symptoms of pain or weakness in the shoulder or increasing deformity will be assessed.

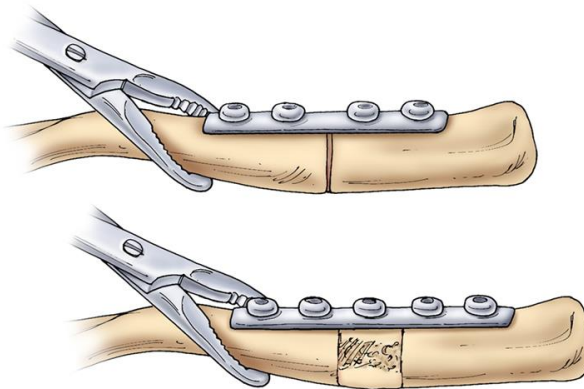


Between 4 and 10 years of age, symptoms may develop that are considered to be significant with pain, weakness, or increasing deformity. Some may improve with rest and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. If the symptoms remain significant, the family may consider the surgical option.



The surgical option involves making an incision and removing the gristle-like material or pseudoarthrosis that separates the 2 ends of the bone.

The ends of the bone are brought together and held in place with a plate and screws. Bone graft material may be added to promote healing of the bone into one solid bone.



The patient will be followed for several additional years after the surgery to determine normal growth of the clavicle. The majority of patients will request that the plate be removed years after healing is complete due to bursitis. It is anticipated that children will be able to return to almost all normal childhood activities.

