



## INSIGHTS IN IMAGES

# CASE REPORT

This patient, a 34-year-old male whose pre- and post-reduction x-rays are shown here (**Figure 1** and **Figure 2**), presented to urgent care after sustaining an axial injury to his fourth left finger while playing a weekend game of football.

Reduction proved physically challenging to more than one practitioner. A physician who happened to be on site tried unsuccessfully to reduce the dislocation at the time it occurred, then recommended the patient seek urgent care.

Once the images had been evaluated, a digital block was applied and reduction was attempted by the urgent care physician. Again, the injury proved resistant to reduction.

The patient, a plumber by trade, suggested using a high-end pair of pliers from his toolbox—an offer declined by staff. Instead, after several more attempts, the physician donned surgical gloves in the hope of improving his grip. The increased friction afforded by the dry glove allowed sufficient traction to reduce the dislocation with relative ease.

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