



INSIGHTS IN IMAGES

CLINICAL CHALLENGE

In each issue, *JUCM* will challenge your diagnostic acumen with a glimpse of x-rays, electrocardiograms, and photographs of dermatologic conditions that real urgent care patients have presented with.

If you would like to submit a case for consideration, please email the relevant materials and presenting information to editor@jucm.com.

FIGURE 1



The patient, a 37-year-old woman, presented after a blow to her left hand.

View the image taken (**Figure 1**) and consider what your diagnosis would be.

Resolution of the case is described on the next page.

THE RESOLUTION

FIGURE 2



Diagnosis: The x-ray reveals a fracture at the base of the distal phalanx (arrow), but what is most important is that it is consistent with a mallet deformity of the DIP. If this injury is not properly managed from the beginning, it can lead to serious complications in the future. The finger must be placed in a metal splint with the DIP in hyperextension. Immediate referral to a hand surgeon is needed for this patient.

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