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| STEP |  |  |
| 1 | -clip surgical site | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_1.jpg |
| 2 | -scrub with bactericidal soap | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_2.jpg |
| 3 | -Inject local anaesthesia to desensitize the skin and subcutaneous tissues along the incision site | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_3.jpg |
| 4 | -place IV catheter while scrub and local anaesthesia are working. (always on same side as affected limb so it will be facing upward during recovery) | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_4.jpg |
| 5 | -place skin staples to ascertain the specific location of each fragment | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_5.jpg http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_6.jpg |
| 6 | -Place horse under general anaesthesia, and prep and drape the limb. | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_7.jpg |
| 7 | Following incision, locate the distal aspect of the splint bone (the button) | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_8.jpg |
| 8 | -Grasp button with forceps.  -Apply upward traction on the distal bone fragment to expose the interosseous ligament. (between fracture fragment and cannon bone) | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_9.jpg |
| 9 | -Use an osteotome and mallet to transect the interosseous ligament.  -remove distal fragment  - Any other middle fragments are identified and transected in a similar fashion |  |
| 10 | -use scalpel and osteotome to expose the lower end of the proximal (intact) fragment. | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_12.jpg |
| 11 | Resect the lower end of the proximal fragment at an angle to reduce future interference of sharp bone edges with adjacent soft tissues.  -remove the resected fragment. |  |
| 12 | -inspect and clean incision site of persistent haemorrhage, infected soft tissue and any residual debris before closure. | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_15.jpg |
| 13 | Close the wound in two layers.  Subcutaneous tissue and skin should be apposed separately. | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_17.jpg |
| 14 | -Ideally, post -op radiographs should be performed to confirm complete removal of the loose splint bone fragment(s), and proper tapering of the lower end of remaining fragment. | http://www.atlantaequine.com/images/splint_sx_18.jpg |