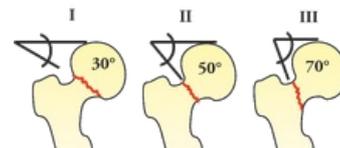


# Pauwels classification

The **Pauwel's classification ( I-III )** describes **femoral neck fractures according to the angle of the fracture line**. It only applies to subcapital fractures and **reflects the instability of the fracture**.

- **I** - the fracture line with the horizontal forms **an angle of up to 30 °** , relatively stable wedged, abduction fractures (compressive forces prevail)
- **II** - the fracture line forms **an angle of 30-50 °** with the horizontal , relatively stable (compression and shear forces in balance)
- **III** - the fracture line with the horizontal makes **an angle above 50 °** , least stable, risk of avascular necrosis of the head (shearing forces prevail)



Pauwel's classification - scheme

## Links

### Related articles

- Femoral neck fractures
- Femur
- Pipkin's classification
- Garden's classification

### References

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