

# SUCCESS STORY



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## Distal Femoral Salter–Harris Fracture in a Young Dog Treated With Physis-Sparing Fixation Using the LeiCOM Headless Compression Screw

by Dr. Mark Besancon

### Case Overview

Salter–Harris fractures are a key consideration when treating skeletal injuries in immature patients, as they involve the physis (growth plate) and may impact future bone development. The distal femoral physis contributes significantly to overall femoral growth, making injuries in this region especially critical. Meticulous planning is essential to help minimize the risk of growth disturbance.

In this case, Bella, an 11-week-old Anatolian Shepherd Mix, sustained a right distal femoral Salter–Harris fracture.



### Surgical Approach

The fracture was surgically repaired by Dr. Mark Besancon using a minimally invasive technique, prioritizing preservation of the biological envelope and protection of the growth plate.



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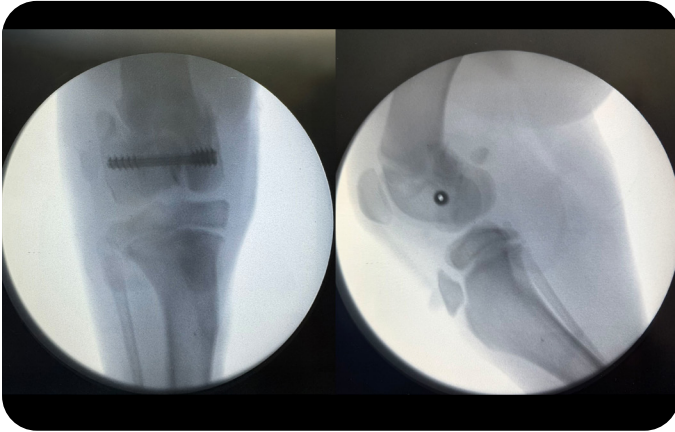


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## Key Surgical Principles

- **Precision Planning:** Preoperative fracture classification and detailed surgical planning.
- **Intraoperative Guidance:** C-arm-guided reduction and fixation to confirm alignment and implant placement.
- **Implant Selection:** Placement of a Rita Leibinger Medical – Headless Compression Screw distal to the physis.
- **Stability:** Cross pins to provide rotational stability while avoiding penetration of the growth plate.



## Why This Construct?

This fixation strategy was selected to provide stable fracture repair while supporting continued physeal growth. By avoiding disruption of the physis, the team reduced the risk of angular deformity or limb length discrepancy, ensuring a better long-term functional outcome. Overall, cases like this highlight the importance of combining sound orthopedic fundamentals, advanced intraoperative imaging, and surgical precision when managing complex physeal fractures in young patients.

**Surgery by:** Mark Besançon, DVM

**Implant System Used:** LeiCOM – Headless Compression Screws

**Manufacturer:** Rita Leibinger Medical

## About Dr. Mark Vet – Advancing Veterinary Medicine

DrMark.Vet is a multidisciplinary veterinary organization founded by Mark Besançon, DVM, with a singular mission:

To advance veterinary medicine through innovation, clinical excellence, and professional education – improving outcomes for animals and elevating standards of care across the profession.

Built by a practicing veterinarian, DrMark.Vet was created to bridge the gap between hands-on clinical practice, meaningful innovation, and practical education. Every initiative within the organization is grounded in real-world veterinary experience and driven by the needs of patients, practitioners, and the profession as a whole.

Website: [www.drmark.vet/](http://www.drmark.vet/)



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